

CHILLI

THE
VAMPIRE
OPOSSUM



THE COMPLETE
2ND SEASON

ISSUES #13-#28

CHILLI

THE VAMPIRE OPOSSUM

#13-16: Third Option

#17: Deadbark

#18-21: Witches & Weapons

#22-24: Keylime's Sublime Parade

#25-28: Red Meat

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chill:thevampireopossum.neocities.org



#13

SEASON
PREMIERE

CHILI

THE VAMPIRE OPOSSUM



"THIRD OPTION"
PART ONE

tw:

blood

bright colors

death

death threats

fighting

guns

gunshot

mention of car crash

mention of killing

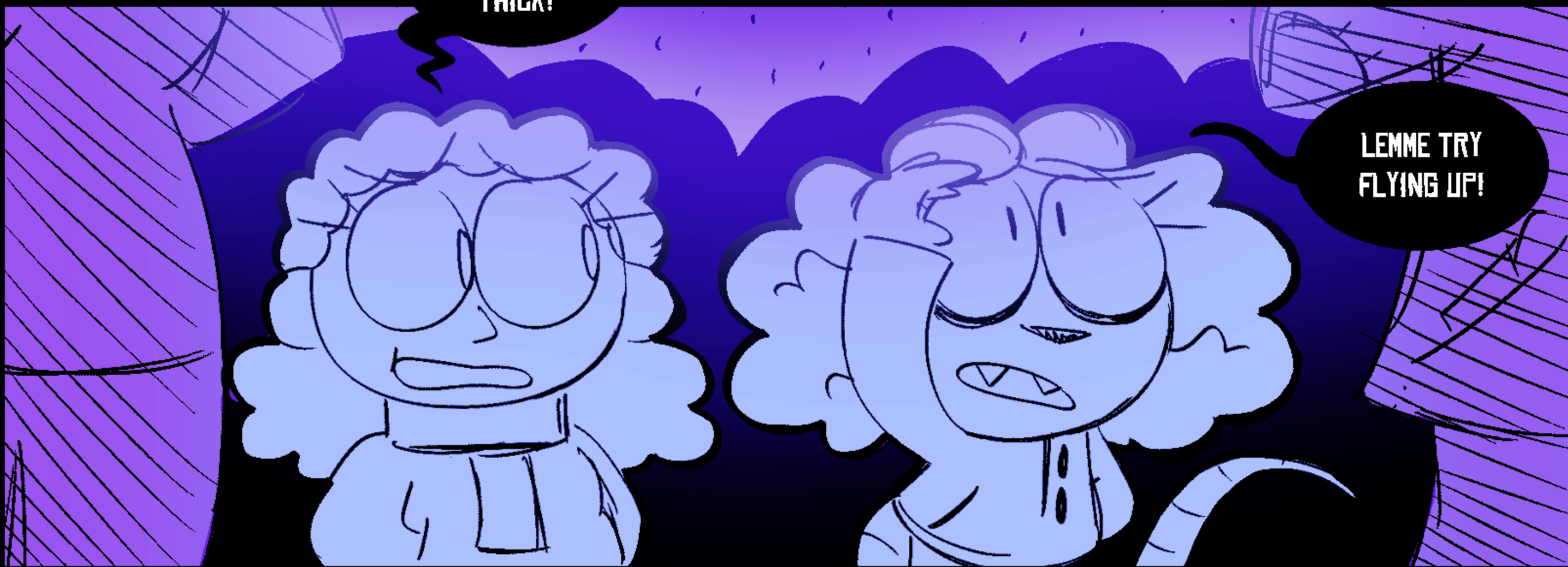
trauma



3 years ago...

WHERE IS SHE?
I CAN'T SEE HER...

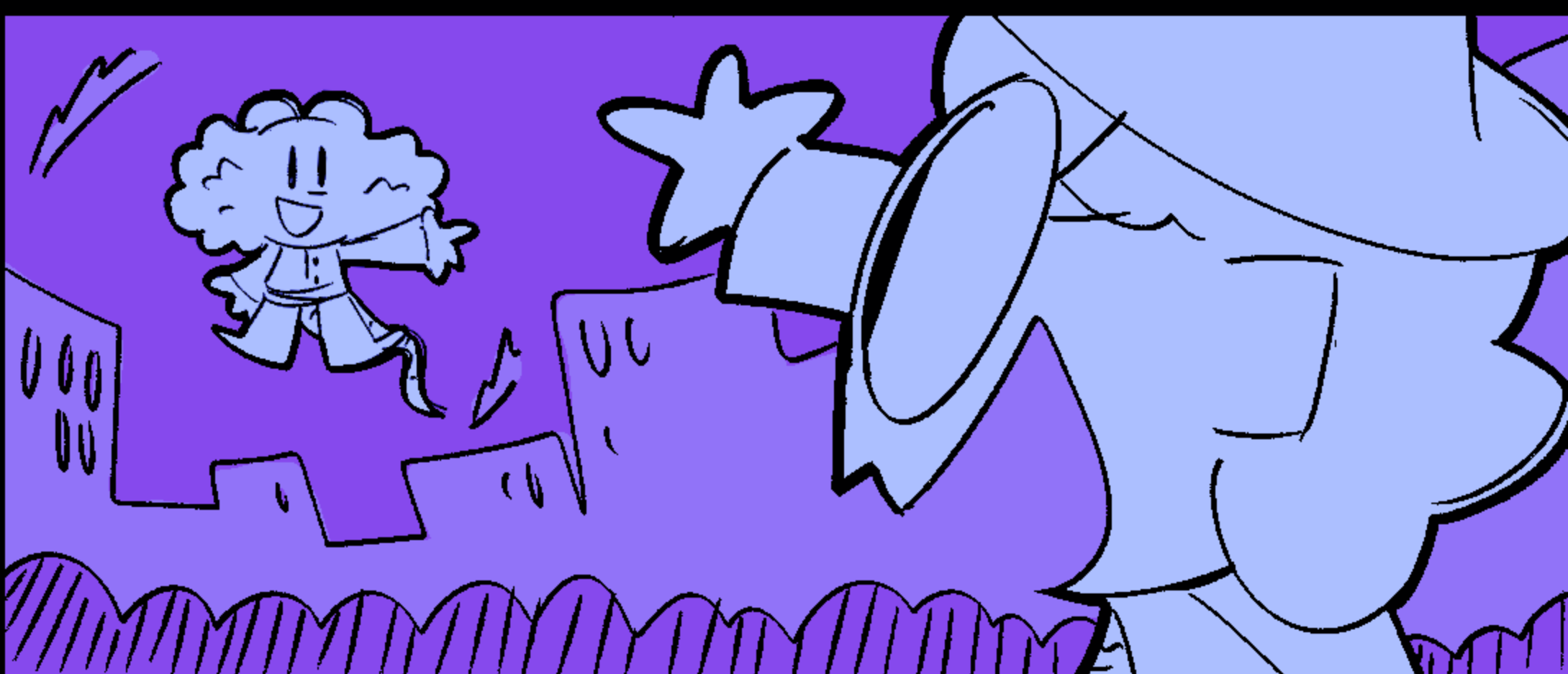
I THINK THE
CROWDS' TOO
THICK!



LEMME TRY
FLYING UP!



AH! I SEE TAMMY!!





ARE YOU WAVING TO
YOUR UH... POSSUM
FRIEND?

HER NAME IS CHILLI.
MISS IVY. I DON'T
KNOW WHAT YOU AND
THE OTHER WITCHES
SEEM TO HAVE AGAINST
HER, BUT-

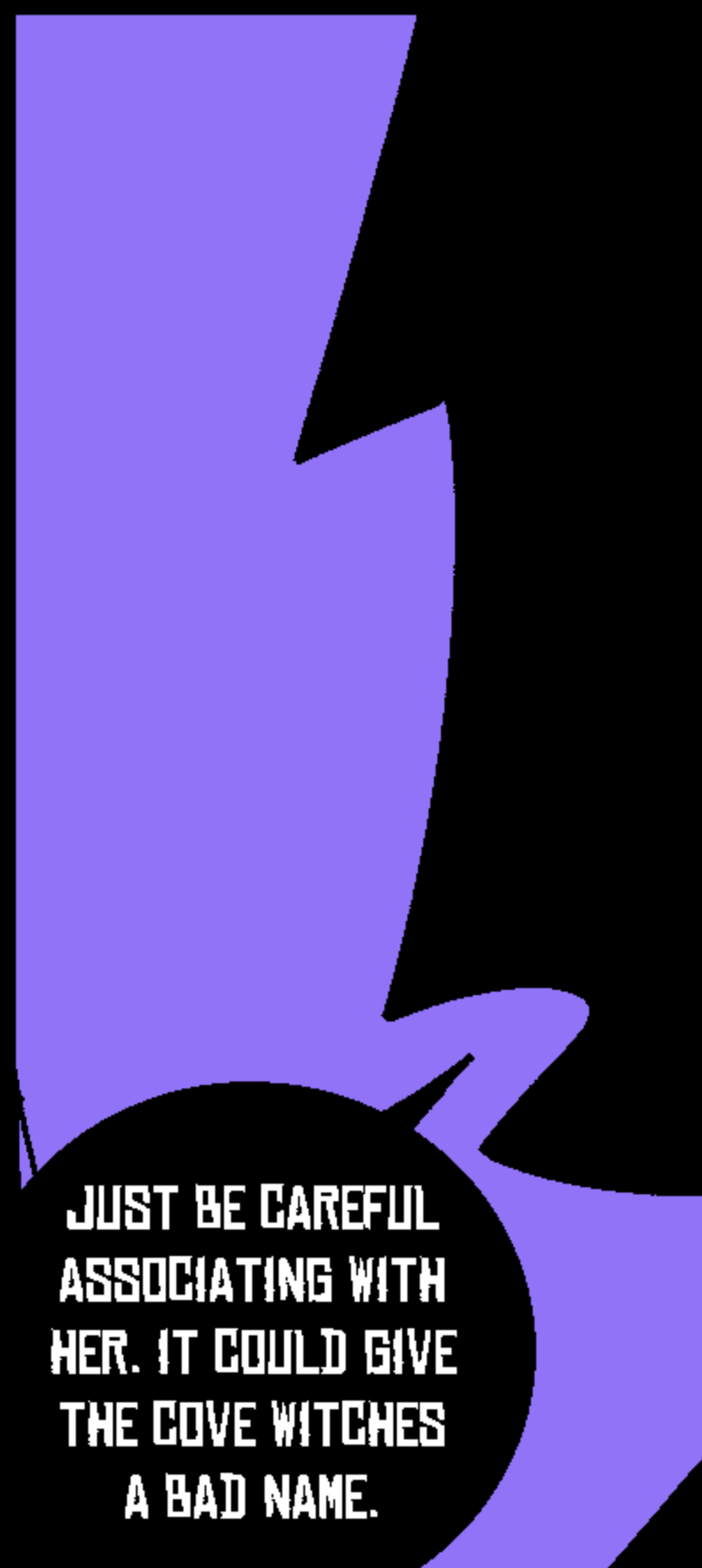
OH GOODNESS NO.
I HAVE NOTHING
AGAINST CHILLI...



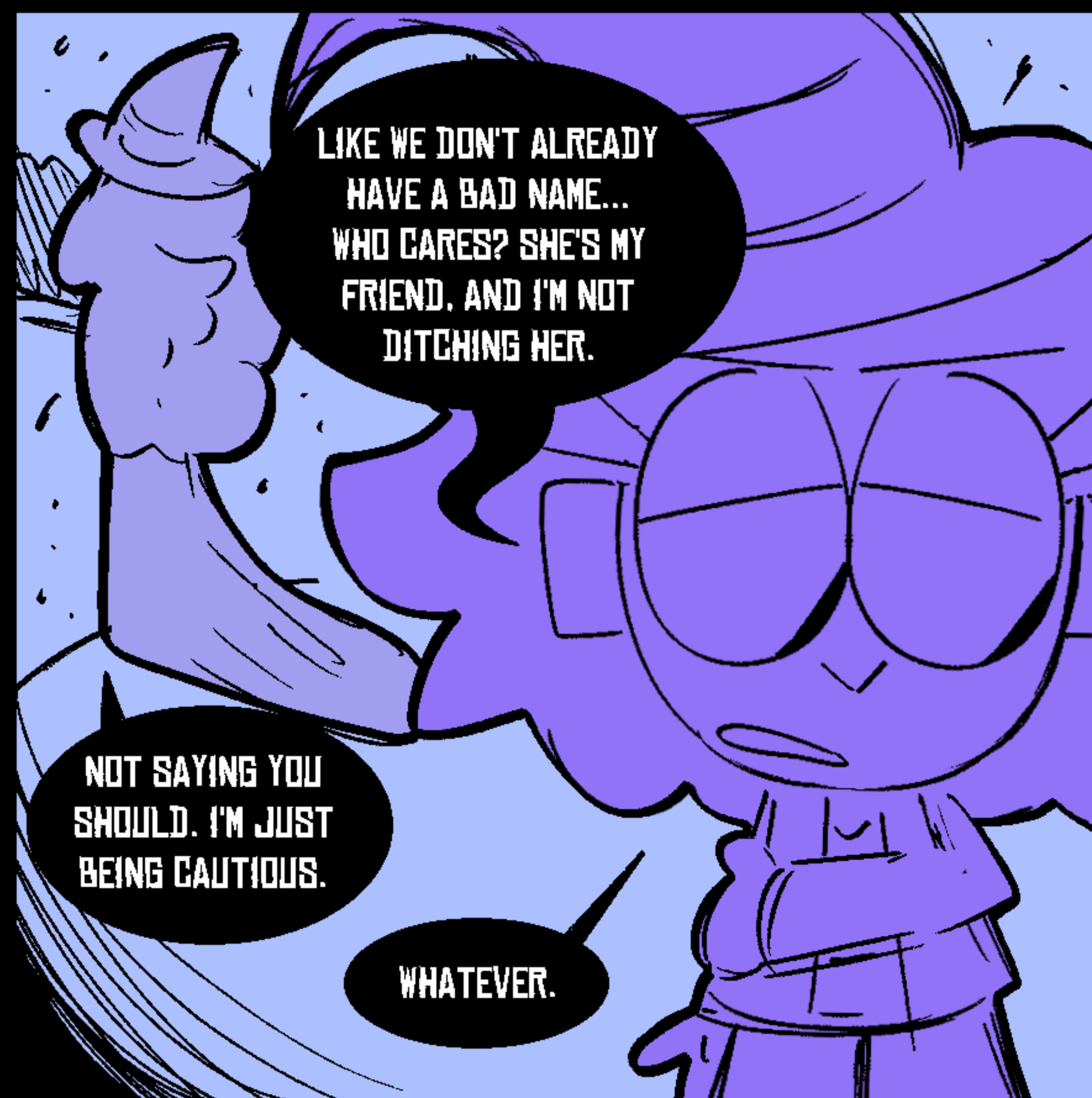
SHE'S JUST A VERY...
POLARIZING FIGURE
RIGHT NOW.

THAT'S NOT HER
FAULT! EVERYONE
IN THIS TOWN SUCKS!

EVEN SO...



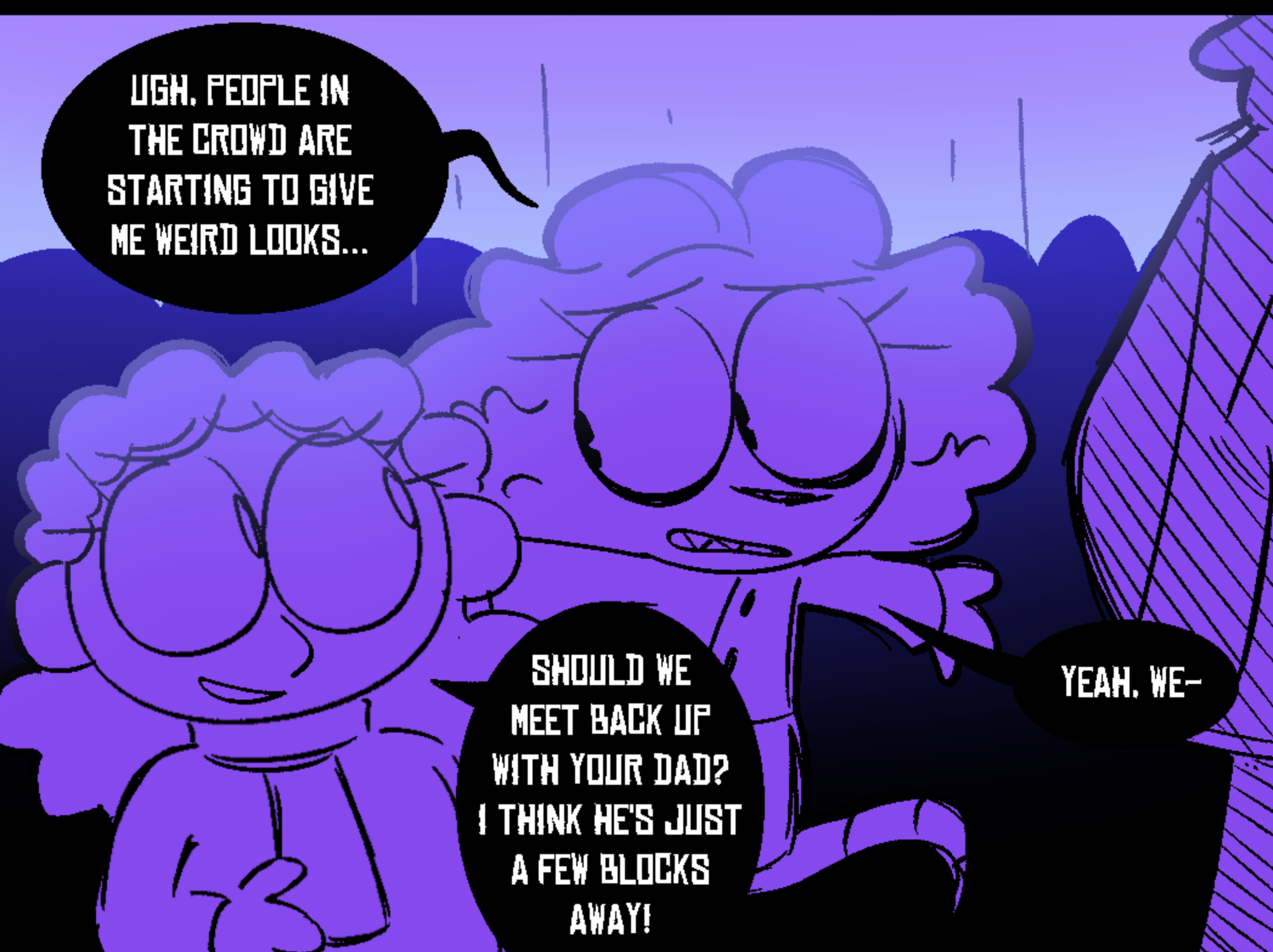
JUST BE CAREFUL
ASSOCIATING WITH
HER. IT COULD GIVE
THE COVE WITCHES
A BAD NAME.



LIKE WE DON'T ALREADY
HAVE A BAD NAME...
WHO CARES? SHE'S MY
FRIEND, AND I'M NOT
DITCHING HER.

NOT SAYING YOU
SHOULD. I'M JUST
BEING CAUTIOUS.

WHATEVER.



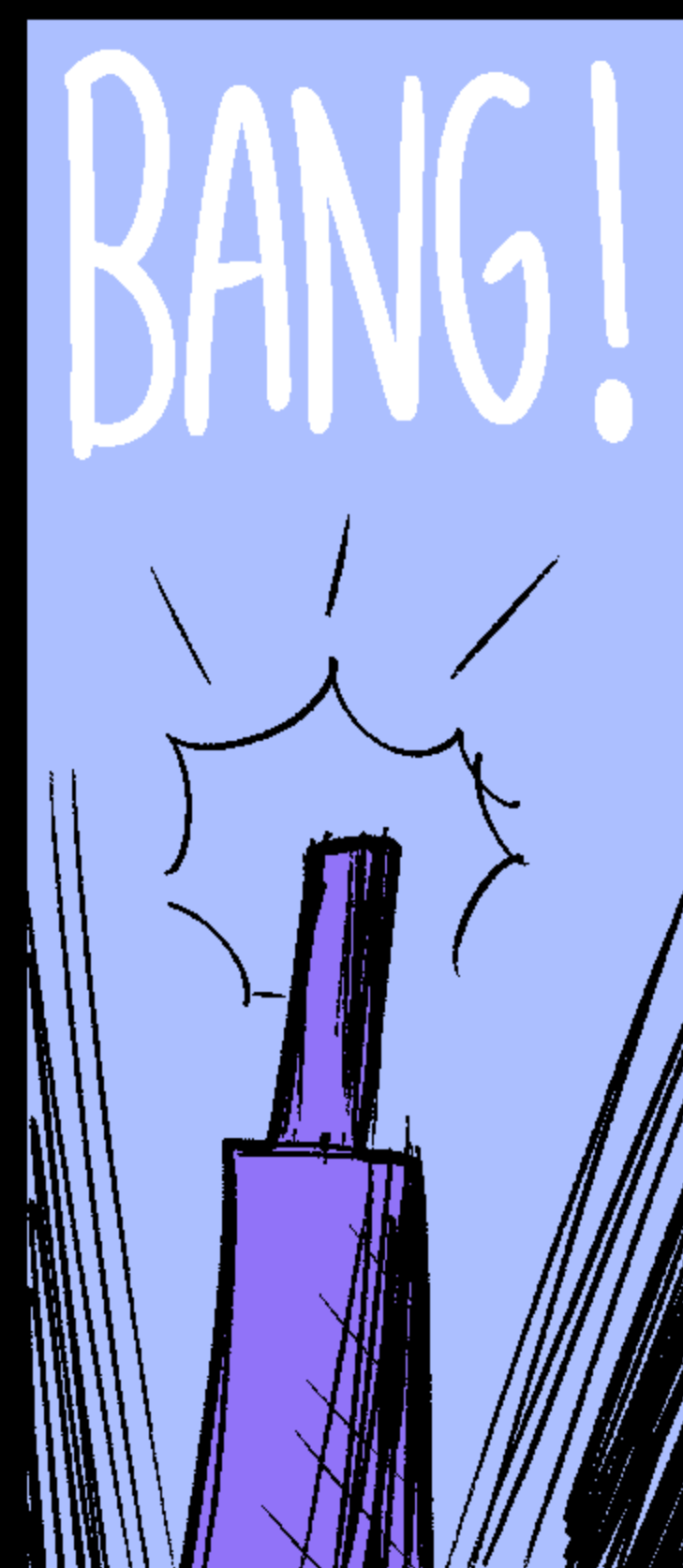
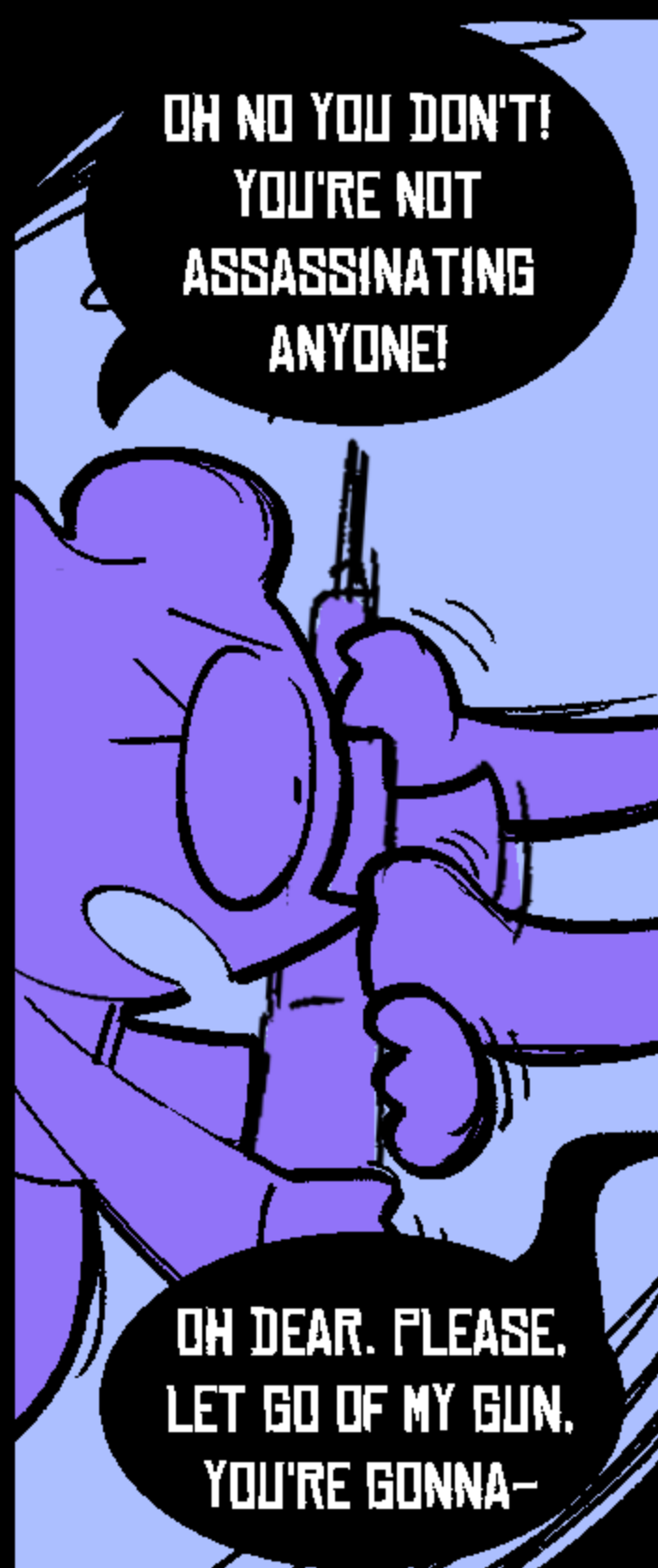
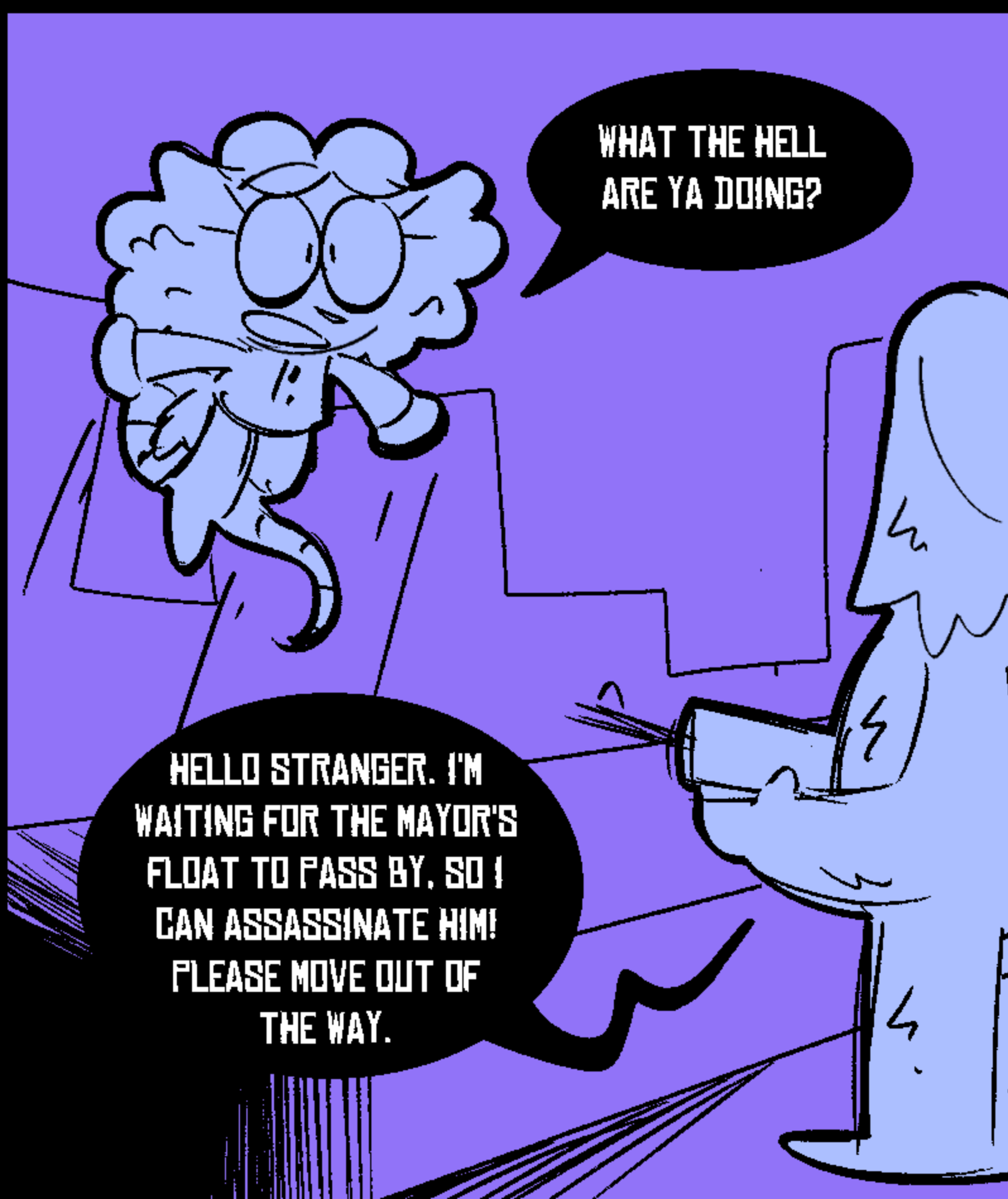
UGH. PEOPLE IN
THE CROWD ARE
STARTING TO GIVE
ME WEIRD LOOKS...

SHOULD WE
MEET BACK UP
WITH YOUR DAD?
I THINK HE'S JUST
A FEW BLOCKS
AWAY!

YEAH. WE-



WOAH. WHAT'S
THAT?!



RINGRINGRINGRINGRINGRINGRINGRINGRINGRING



OW, MY EARS!



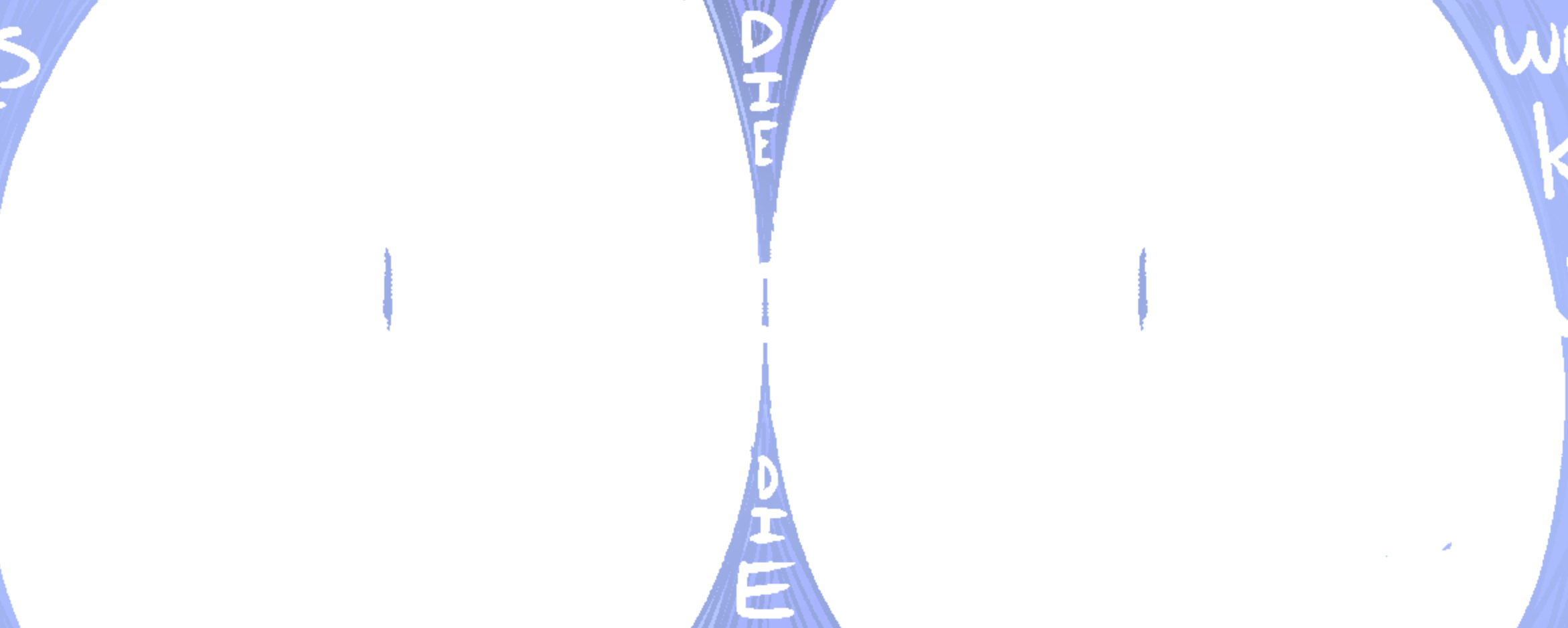
GOODNESS GRACIOUS. YOU MADE ME WASTE A BULLET!



IF YOU DON'T MOVE, I MIGHT HAVE TO FIRE AT YOU.

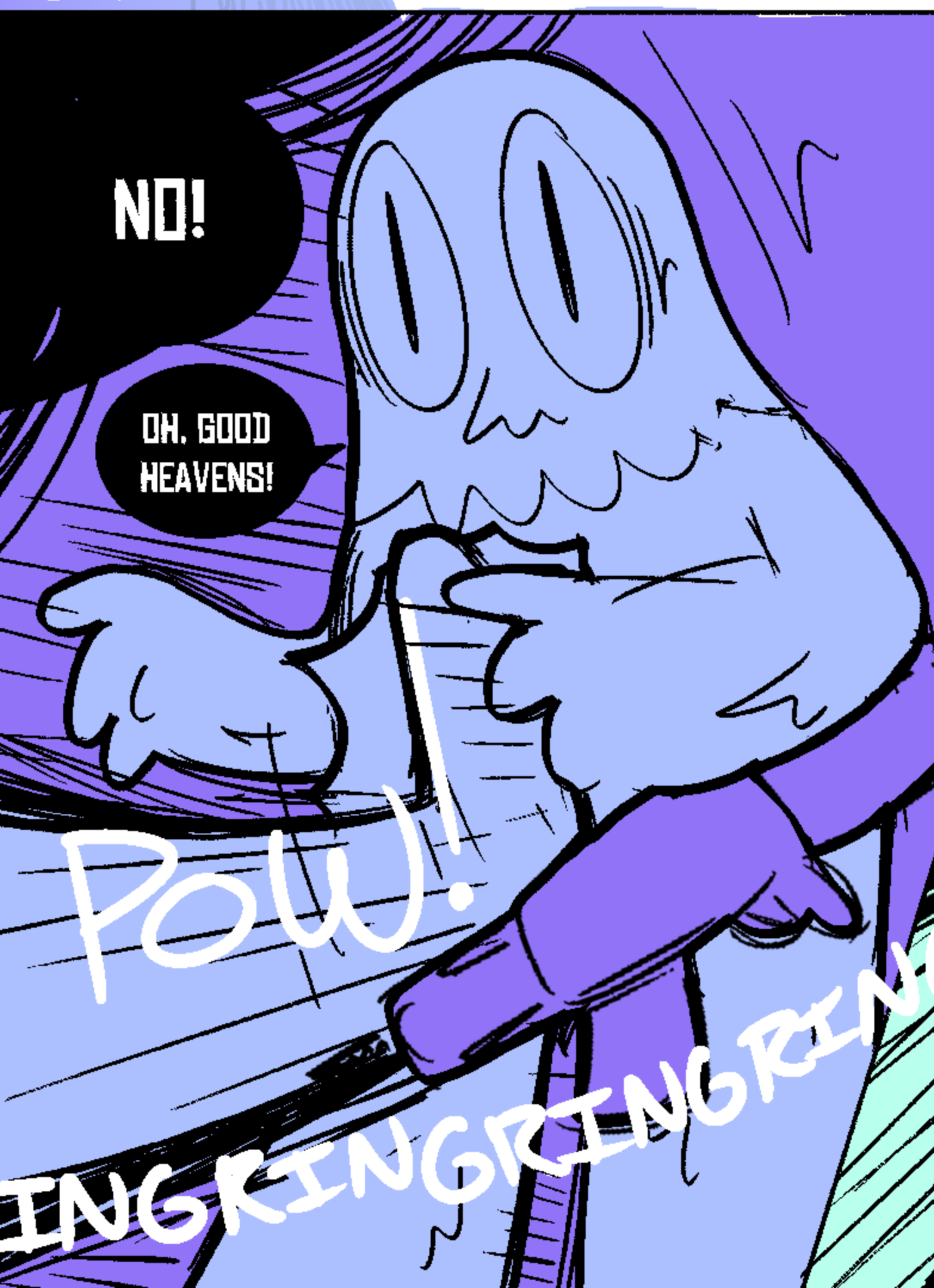
FIRE
FIRE
FIRE
FIRE
FI

BURN AT THE STAKE
BURN AT THE STAKE
BURN AT THE STAKE
BURN AT THE STAKE
BURN AT THE STAKE
BURN AT THE STAKE
BURN AT THE STAKE
BURN AT THE STAKE
BURN AT THE STAKE
BURN AT THE STAKE



DIE
DIE
DIE
DIE
DIE
DIE
DIE
DIE
DIE
DIE

WE NEED TO KILL IT
BEFORE IT KILLS US

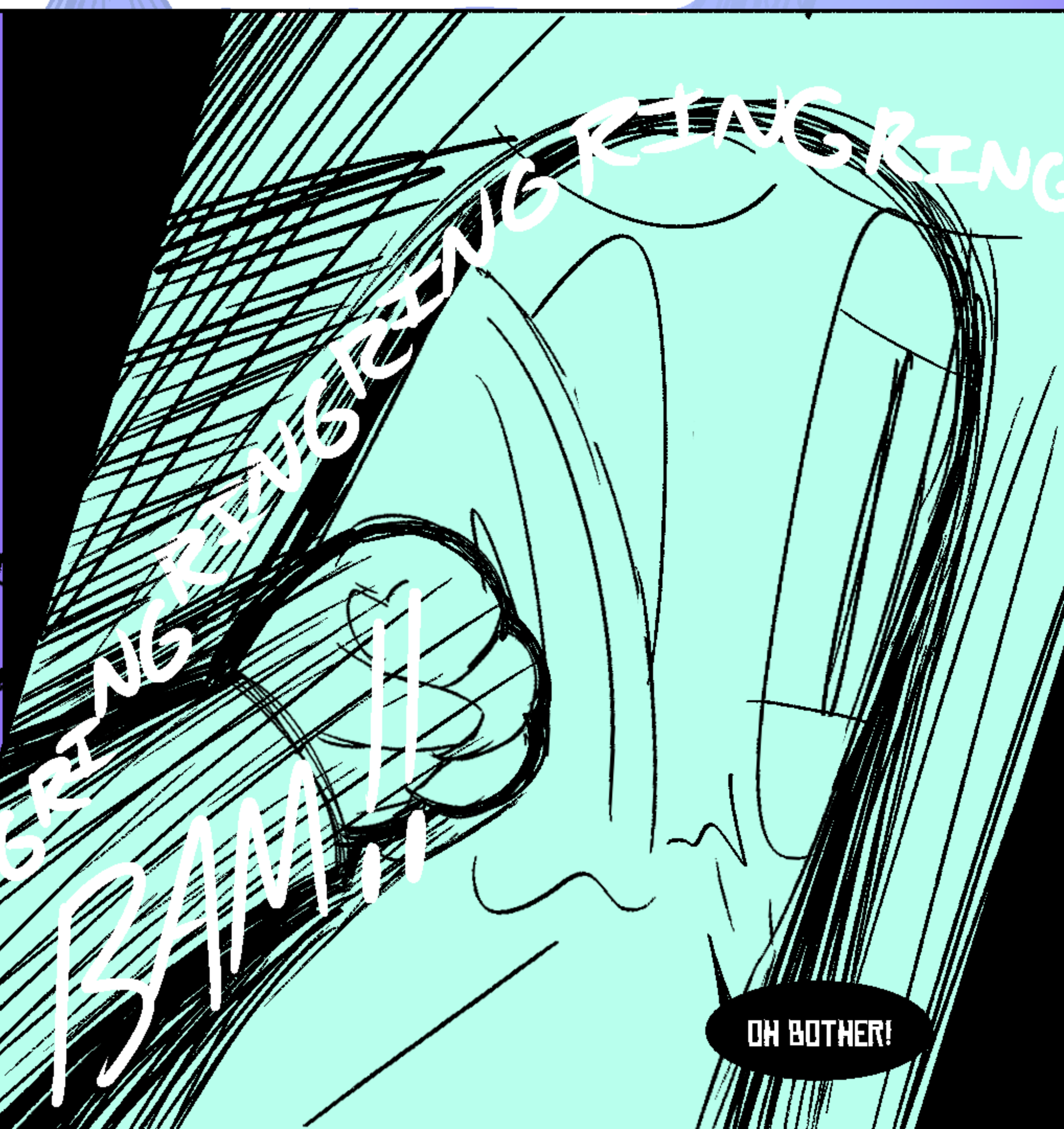


NO!

OH, GOOD HEAVENS!

POW!

RINGRINGRINGRINGRINGRINGRINGRINGRINGRING



RINGRINGRINGRINGRINGRINGRINGRINGRINGRING

OH BOTHER!

A comic strip with a blue and black color scheme. The first panel shows a large, dark, shadowy figure with a speech bubble saying "OWCH. MY POOR HEAD!". Above it, the word "WOAH!!" is written in large, white, hand-drawn letters. The second panel shows a smaller, rounder version of the same figure with a speech bubble saying "OWCH!". The third panel shows a small, white, cloud-like character with a speech bubble saying "OH MY GOD... D- DID I ACTUALLY DO THAT?". The fourth panel shows the same character with a speech bubble saying "WHO- WH- WHO ARE YOU. ODD STANGER?". The fifth panel shows the character with a speech bubble saying "CHILL!". The sixth panel shows the character with a speech bubble saying "THE VAMPIRE OPOSSUM.". The background of the first two panels is a dark, textured blue. The background of the remaining panels is a solid light blue. The text "RINGRINGRINGRINGRINGRING" is written in a white, hand-drawn font across the top of the first two panels and the left side of the third panel.

A comic strip with a blue and black color scheme. The first panel shows a large, dark, shadowy figure with a single eye and a wide, toothy grin, with the sound effect 'RING RING RING RING RING RING' at the top. A speech bubble from the figure says 'OWCH. MY POOR HEAD!'. The second panel shows a small, white, cloud-like creature with large, round eyes and a surprised expression, with the sound effect 'OWCH!' written vertically. The third panel shows the creature running away from the shadowy figure, with the sound effect 'RING RING RING RING RING RING' at the top. A speech bubble from the creature says 'OH MY GOD... D- DID I ACTUALLY DO THAT?'. The fourth panel shows the creature looking back over its shoulder at the shadowy figure, with a speech bubble saying 'WHO- WH- WHO ARE YOU, ODD STANGER?'. The fifth panel shows the creature with a determined expression, with a speech bubble saying 'CHILL!'. The sixth panel shows the creature with a smug expression, with a speech bubble saying 'THE VAMPIRE OPOSSUM.'.

A comic strip consisting of seven panels. The top panel shows a large, dark, shadowy figure with a single eye and a wide, toothy grin, reaching out. A speech bubble from the figure says, "OWCH. MY POOR HEAD!". The second panel shows a character with a large, bushy afro hairstyle, wearing a blue shirt and pants, running away from the viewer. A large, stylized "OWCH!" is written over the panel. The third panel shows the character running away, with a speech bubble saying, "OH MY GOD... D- DID I ACTUALLY DO THAT?". The fourth panel shows the character running away, with a speech bubble saying, "WHO- WH- WHO ARE YOU, ODD STANGER?". The fifth panel shows the character running away, with a speech bubble saying, "CHILL!". The sixth panel shows the character running away, with a speech bubble saying, "THE VAMPIRE OPOSSUM.". The seventh panel shows the character running away, with a speech bubble saying, "CHILL!".

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A four-panel comic strip featuring a character named Ringo, who is a vampire opossum.

Panel 1: A large, dark, shadowy figure looms over Ringo. The word "RINGO" is written repeatedly across the top. Ringo says, "WOAH!!". A speech bubble from the shadowy figure says, "OWCH. MY POOR HEAD!".

Panel 2: Ringo is shown in a dynamic pose, possibly running or falling, with the word "OWCH!" written vertically next to him.

Panel 3: Ringo is standing and looking up at the shadowy figure. He says, "OH MY GOD... D- DID I ACTUALLY DO THAT?".

Panel 4: Ringo is still looking up, asking, "WHO- WH- WHO ARE YOU. ODD STANGER?".

Panel 5: A close-up of Ringo's face, showing wide eyes and a surprised expression. The word "RINGO" is visible in the background.

Panel 6: Another close-up of Ringo's face, similar to the previous one.

Panel 7: A close-up of Ringo's face, now with a more serious or determined expression. He says, "CHILLI. THE VAMPIRE OPOSSUM."

[illegible]

A four-panel comic strip featuring a character named Ringo, who is a vampire opossum.

The first panel shows Ringo's head being crushed by a large, dark, circular object. The word "RINGO" is repeated across the top. A speech bubble from the object says, "OWCH. MY POOR HEAD!".

The second panel shows Ringo's head flattened against a wall. The words "OWCH!" are written vertically next to the head.

The third panel shows Ringo standing in a doorway, looking confused. A speech bubble says, "OH MY GOD... D- DID I ACTUALLY DO THAT?". Another speech bubble says, "WHO- WH- WHO ARE YOU. ODD STANGER?".

The fourth panel shows three close-ups of Ringo's face. In the first, he looks shocked with wide eyes. In the second, he looks dazed with heavy-lidded eyes. In the third, he looks calm with closed eyes. A speech bubble says, "CHILLI. THE VAMPIRE OPOSSUM."

A comic strip about a vampire opossum named Ringo. The story starts with Ringo being hit by a car, then being revived by a vampire. He then goes to a bank to get a loan, but the teller is a vampire who recognizes him. Ringo then goes to a restaurant where he is recognized by a vampire waiter. The comic ends with Ringo being recognized by a vampire customer.

RING RING RING RING RING RING

WOAH!!

OWCH. MY POOR HEAD!

OWCH!

RING RING RING RING RING RING

OH MY GOD...
D- DID I ACTUALLY
DO THAT?

WHO-
WH- WHO
ARE YOU.
ODD
STANGER?

RING RING RING RING RING RING

CHILL.

THE
VAMPIRE
OPPOSSUM.

RING RING RING RING RING RING

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RING RING RING RING RING RING

WOAH!!

OWCH. MY POOR HEAD!

OWCH!

RING RING RING RING RING RING

OH MY GOD...
D- DID I ACTUALLY
DO THAT?

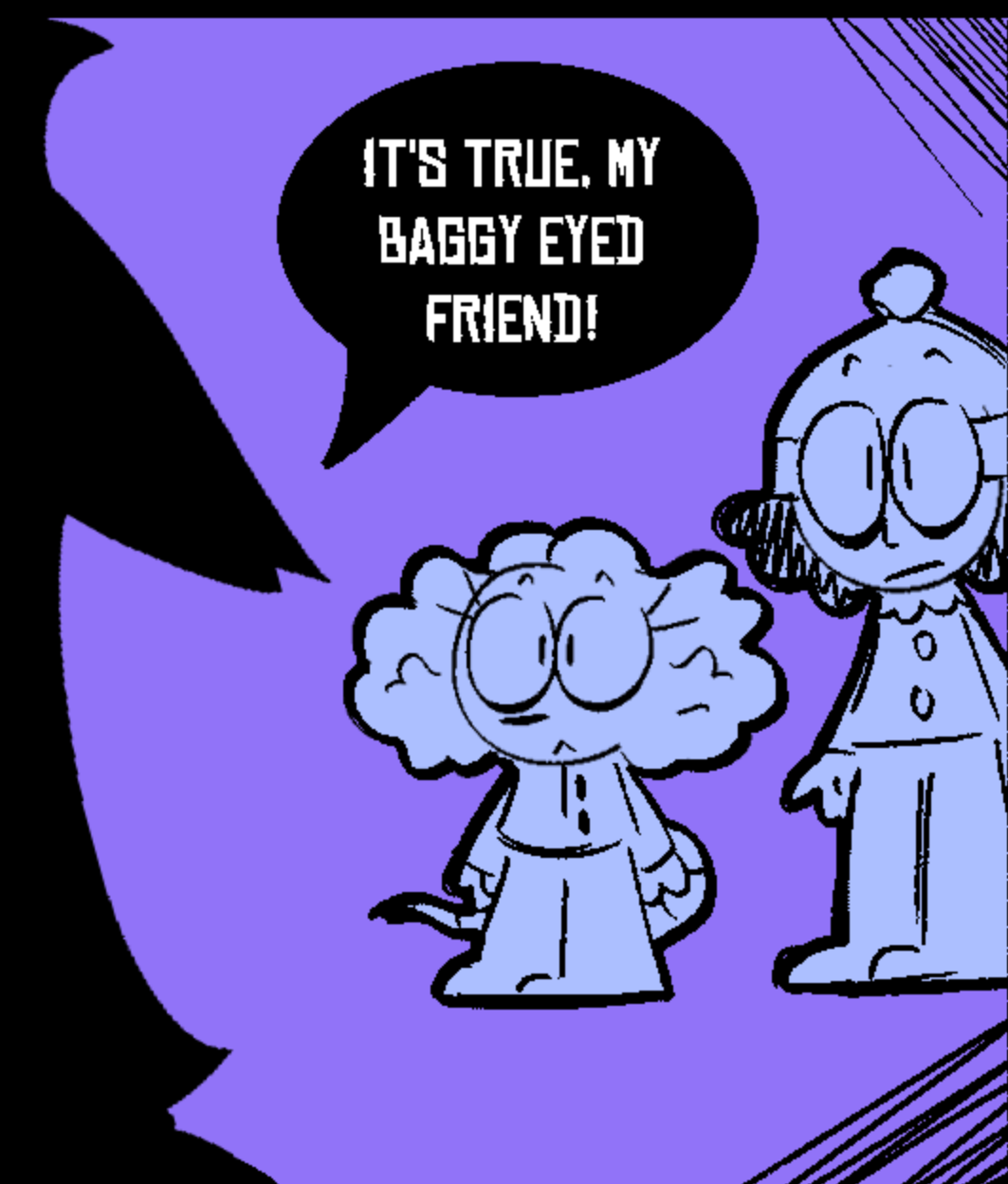
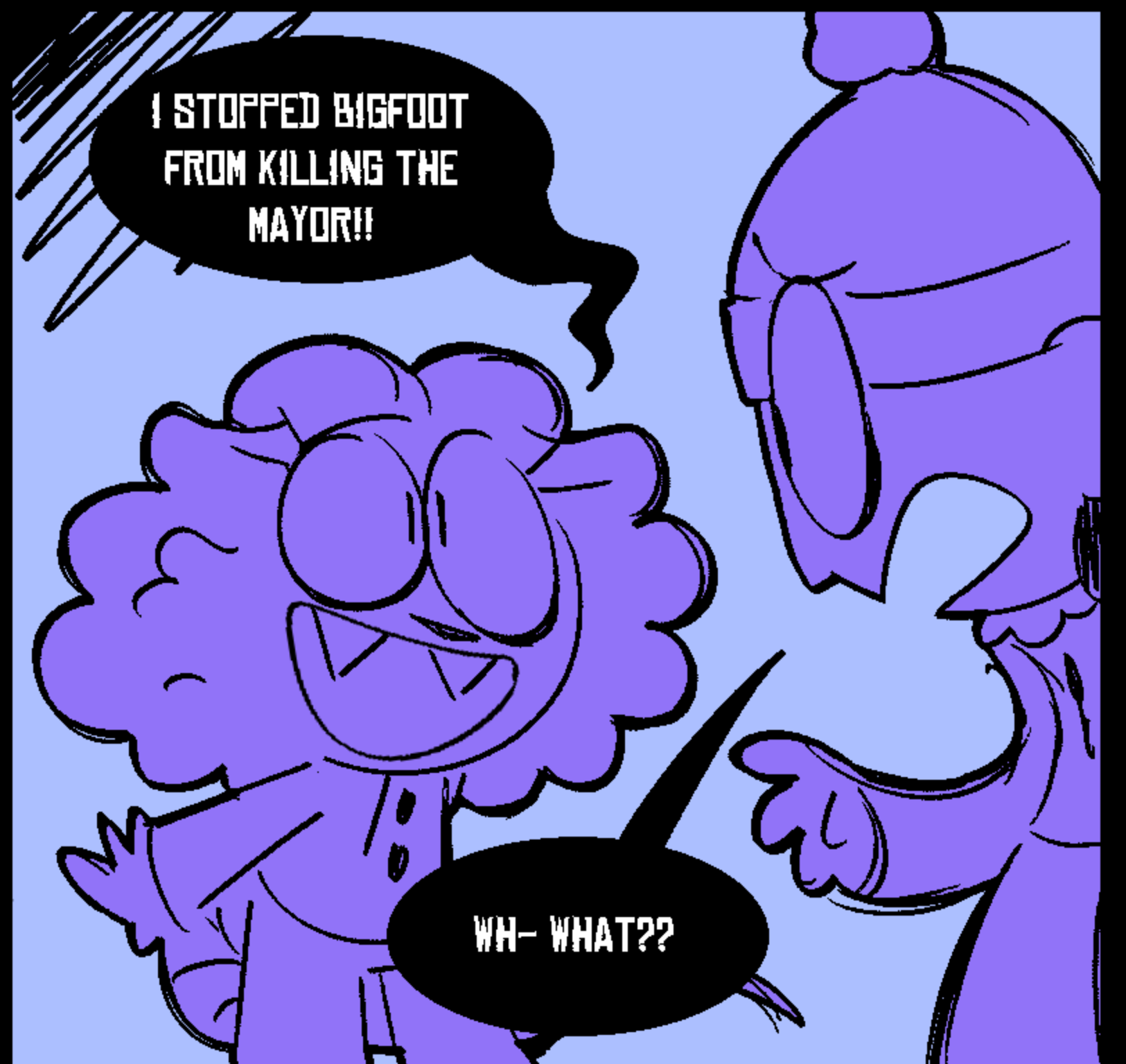
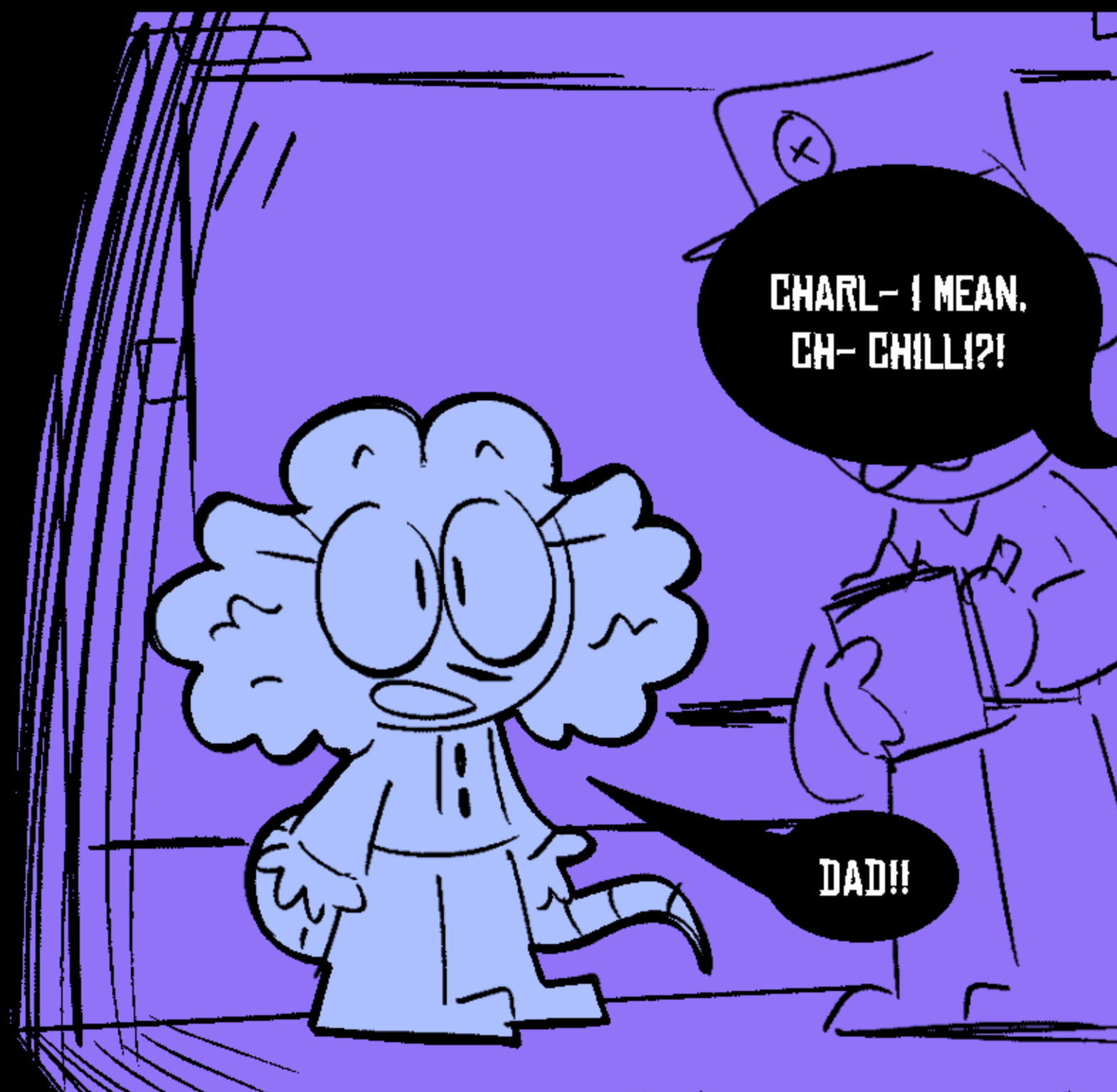
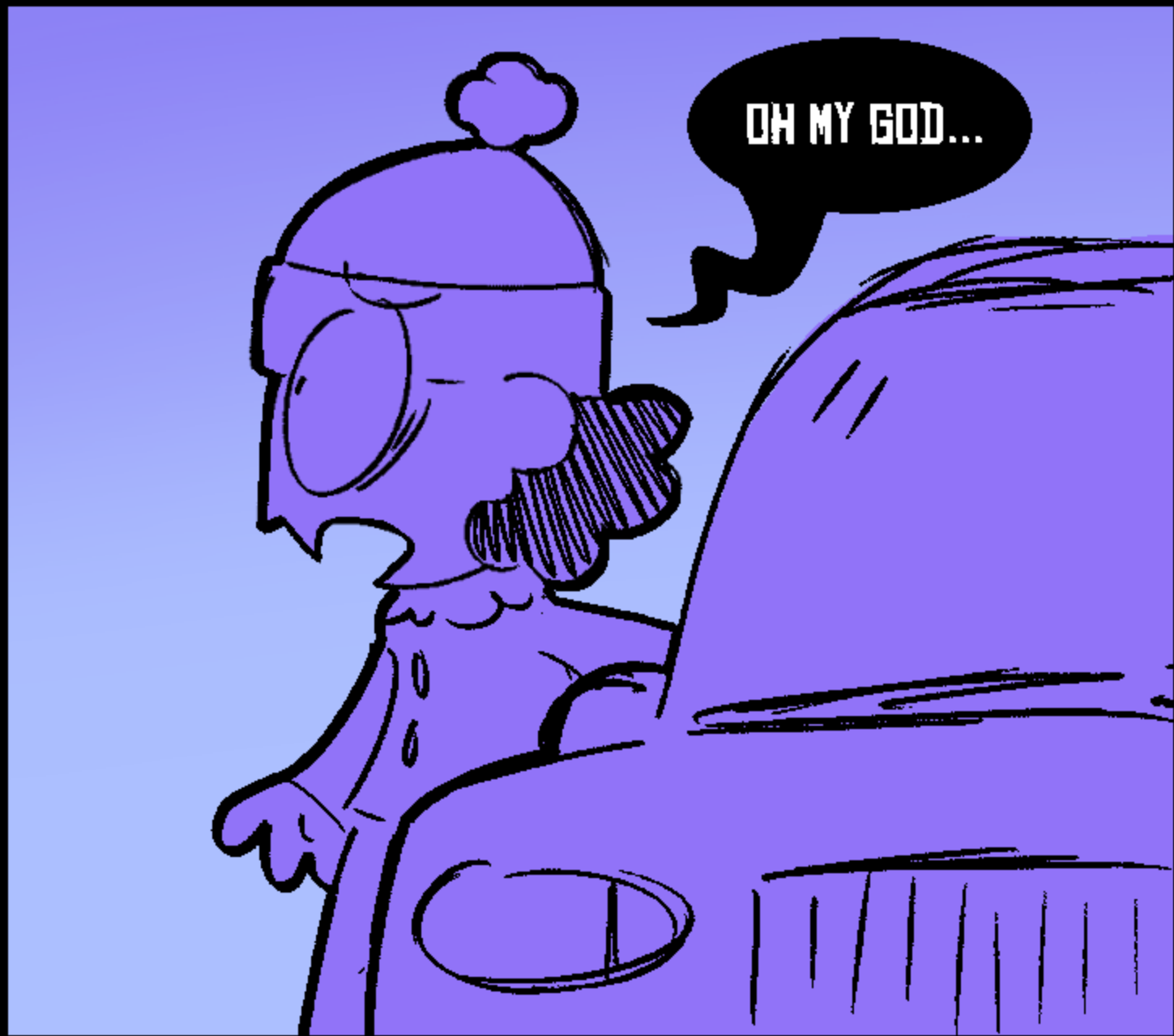
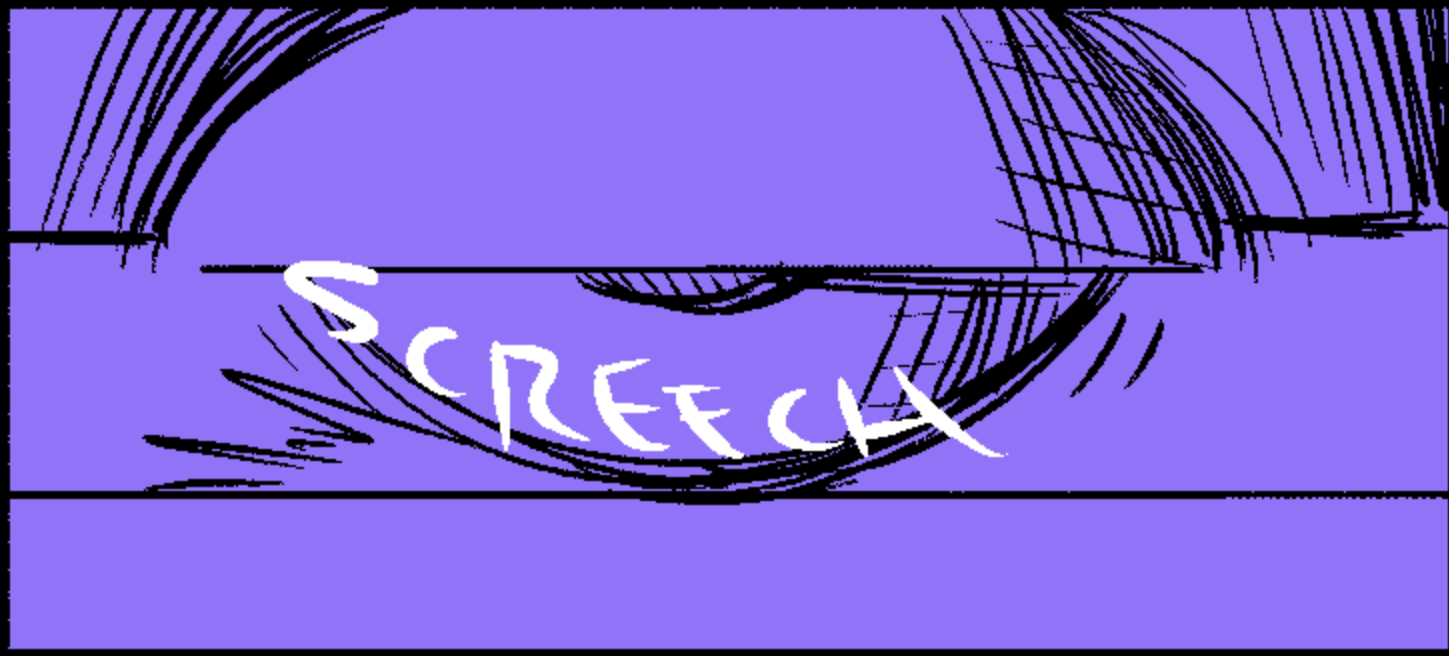
WHO-
WH- WHO
ARE YOU.
ODD
STANGER?

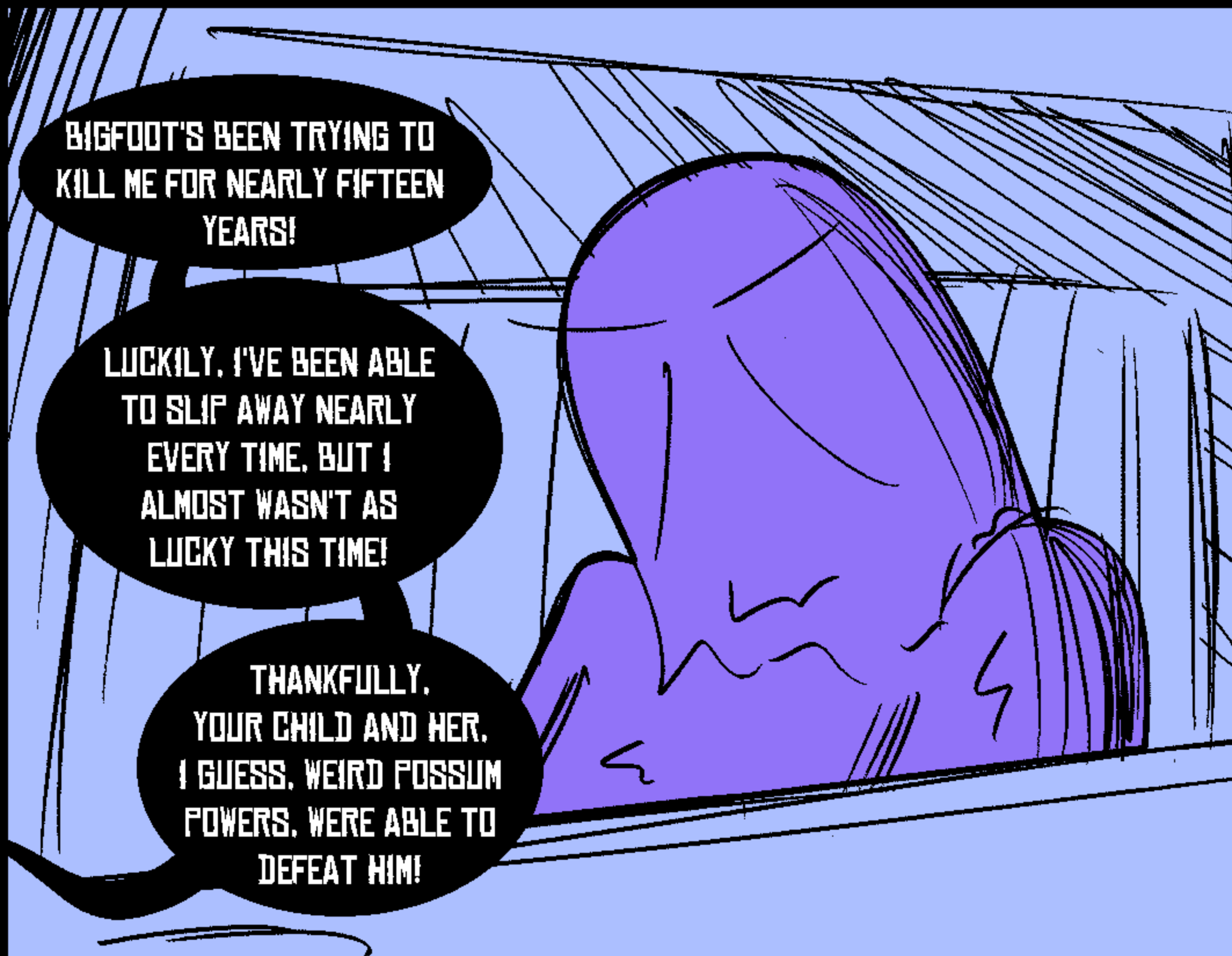
RING RING RING RING RING RING

CHILL.

THE
VAMPIRE
OPPOSSUM.

RING RING RING RING RING RING

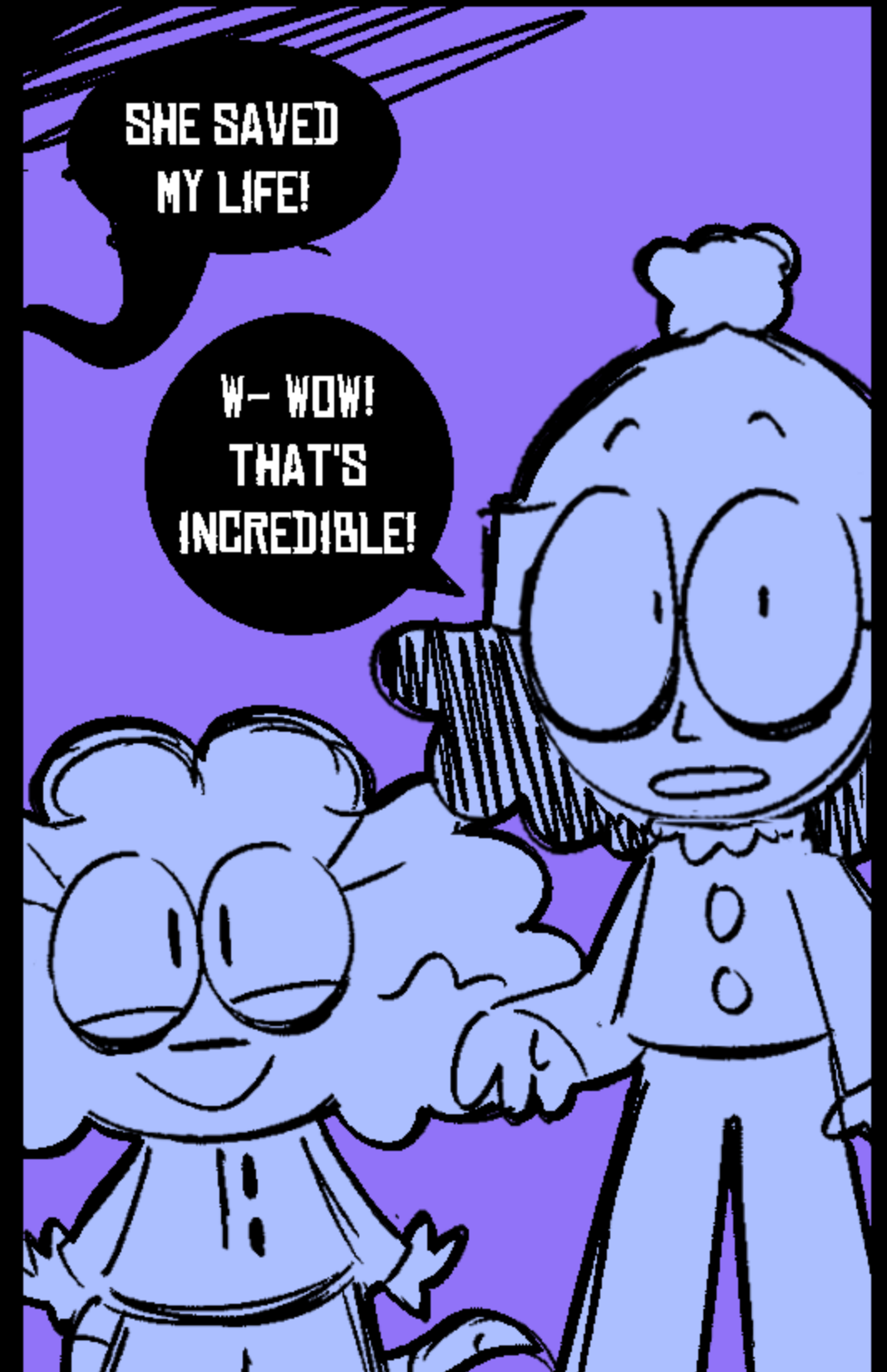




BIGFOOT'S BEEN TRYING TO KILL ME FOR NEARLY FIFTEEN YEARS!

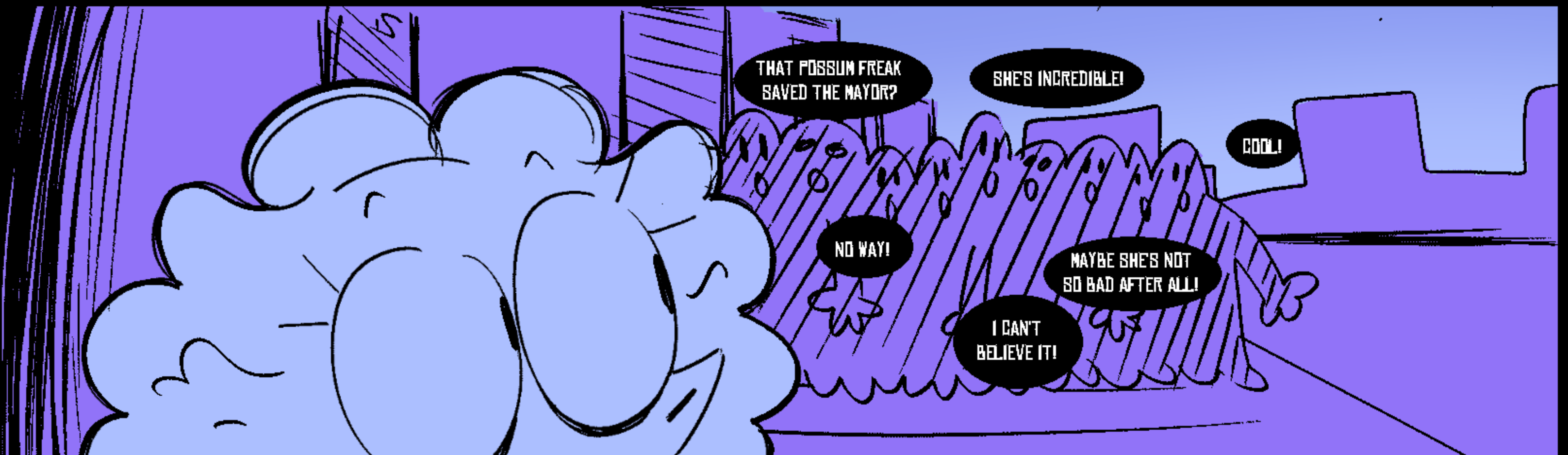
LUCKILY, I'VE BEEN ABLE TO SLIP AWAY NEARLY EVERY TIME, BUT I ALMOST WASN'T AS LUCKY THIS TIME!

THANKFULLY, YOUR CHILD AND HER, I GUESS, WEIRD POSSUM POWERS, WERE ABLE TO DEFEAT HIM!



SHE SAVED MY LIFE!

W- WOW! THAT'S INCREDIBLE!



THAT POSSUM FREAK SAVED THE MAYOR?

SHE'S INCREDIBLE!

COOL!

NO WAY!

MAYBE SHE'S NOT SO BAD AFTER ALL!

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!



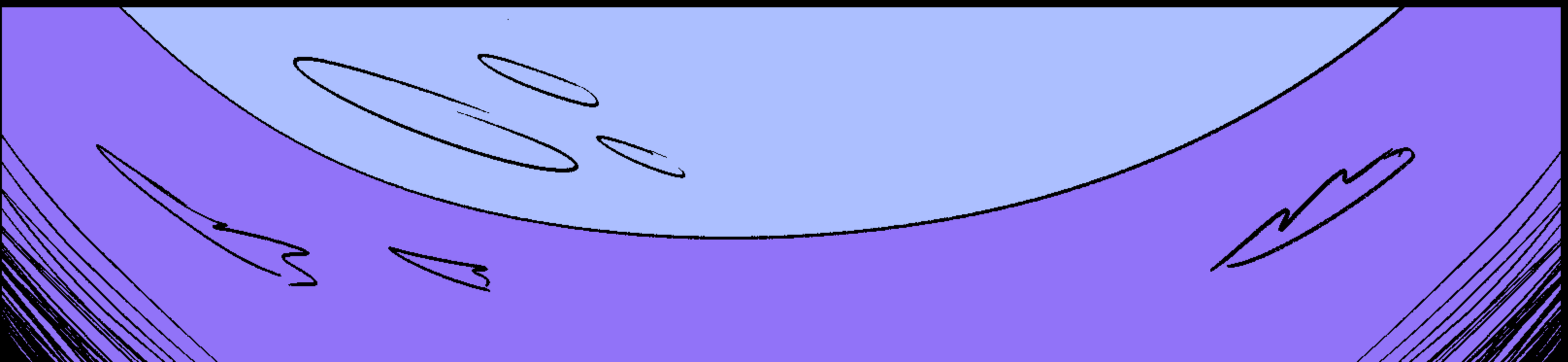
WHAT'S YOUR NAME, KID?

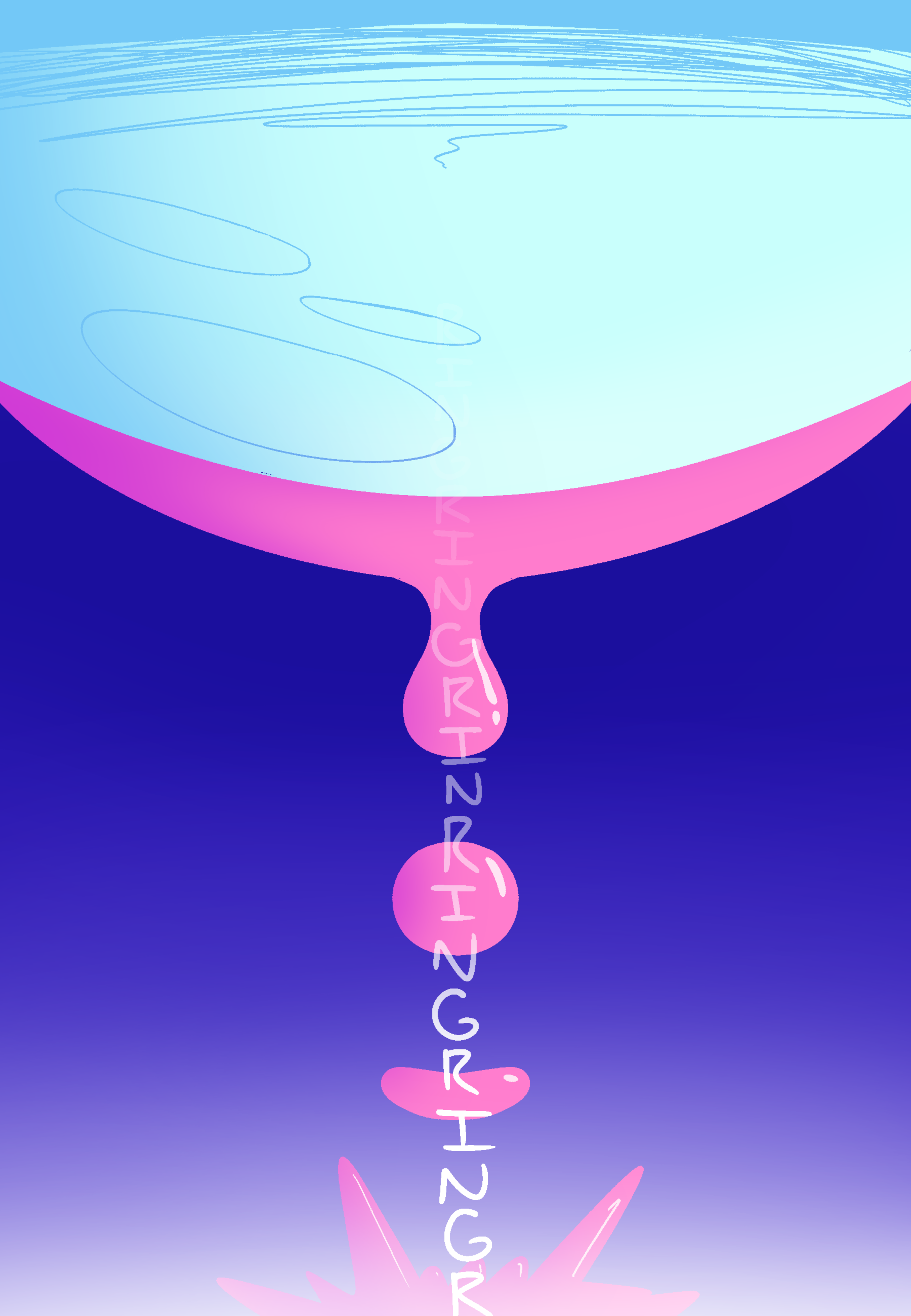
CHILLI POPPPYFIELD!



WELL CHILLI, WOULD YOU MIND IF I CALLED YOU THE "DEFENDER OF HEART ATTACK COVE" INSTEAD?

OH GOSH, O- OF COURSE I WOULDN'T MIND!





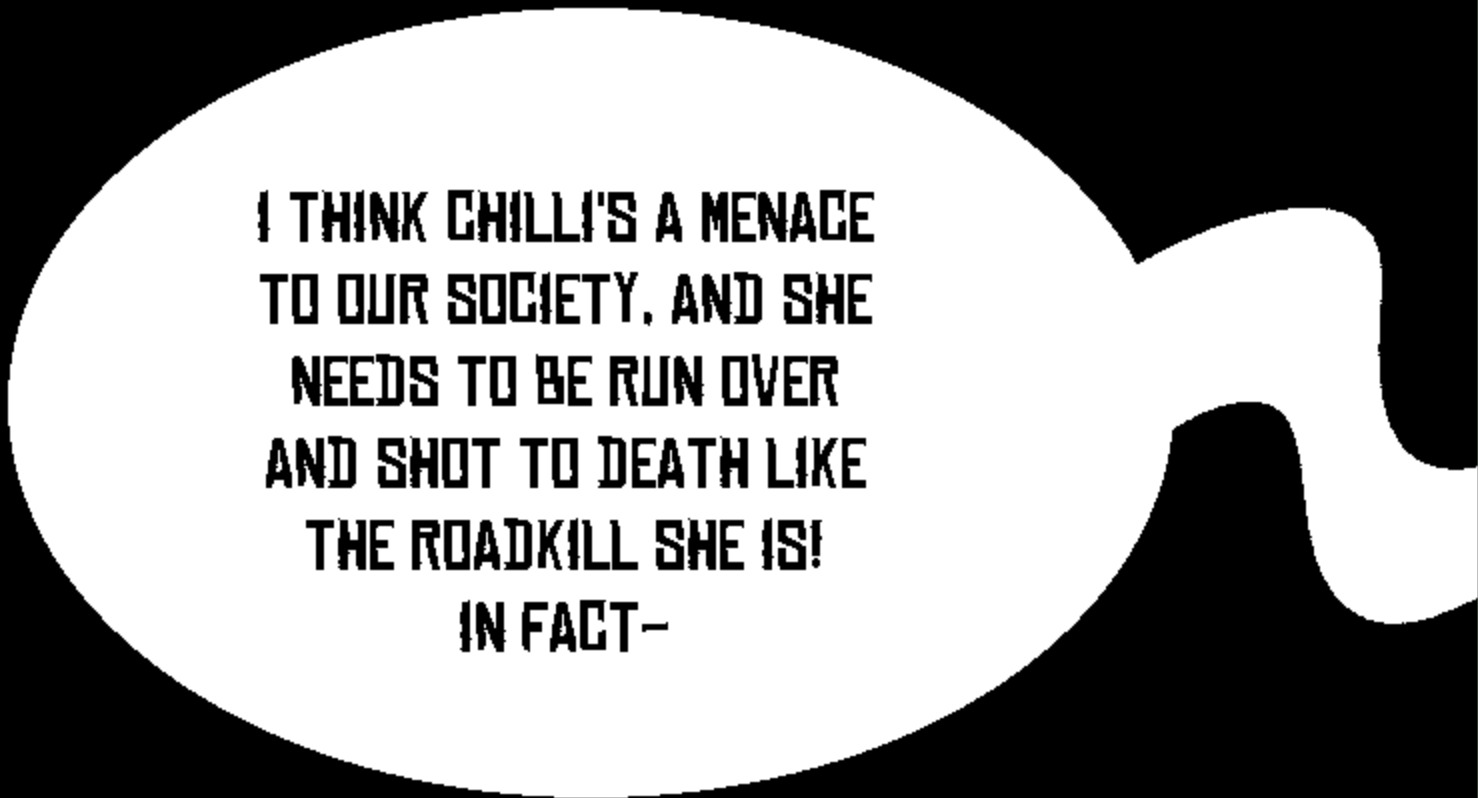
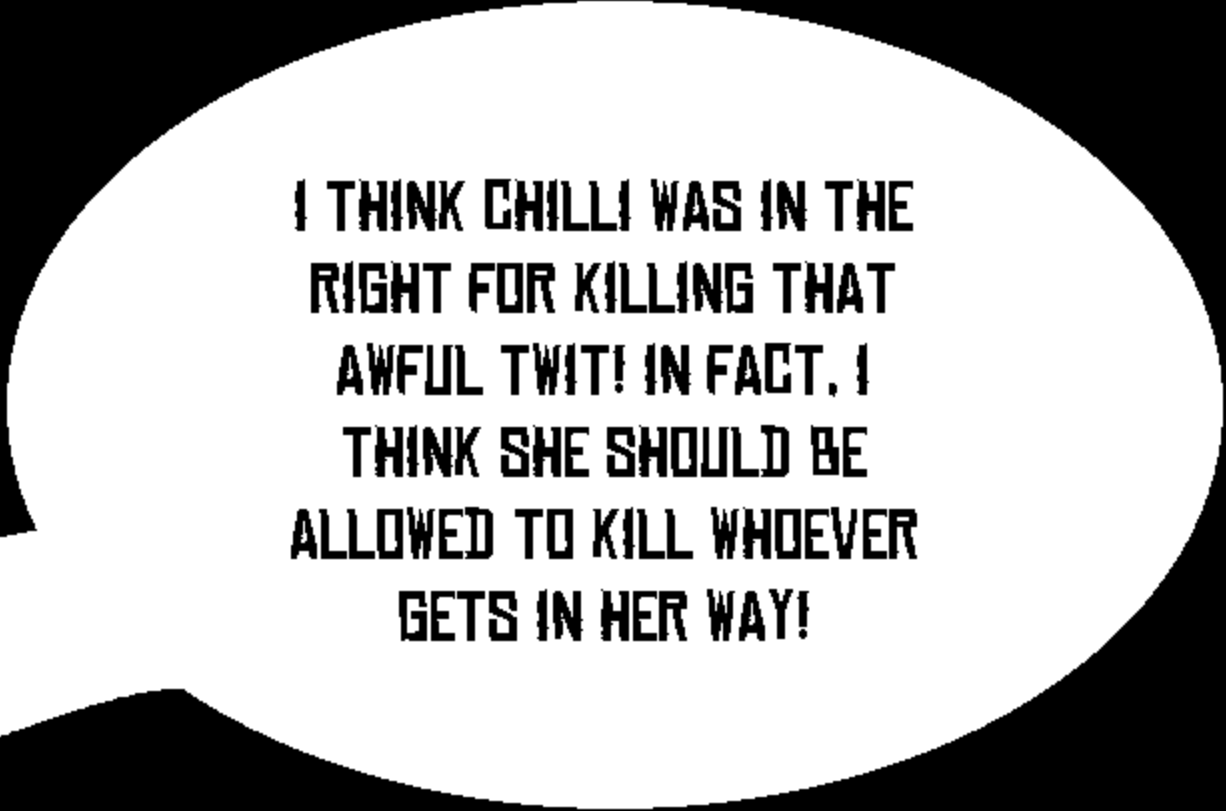


AND YOU'RE LISTENING TO
"WAKY FOR SKELLY" ON WCTE!

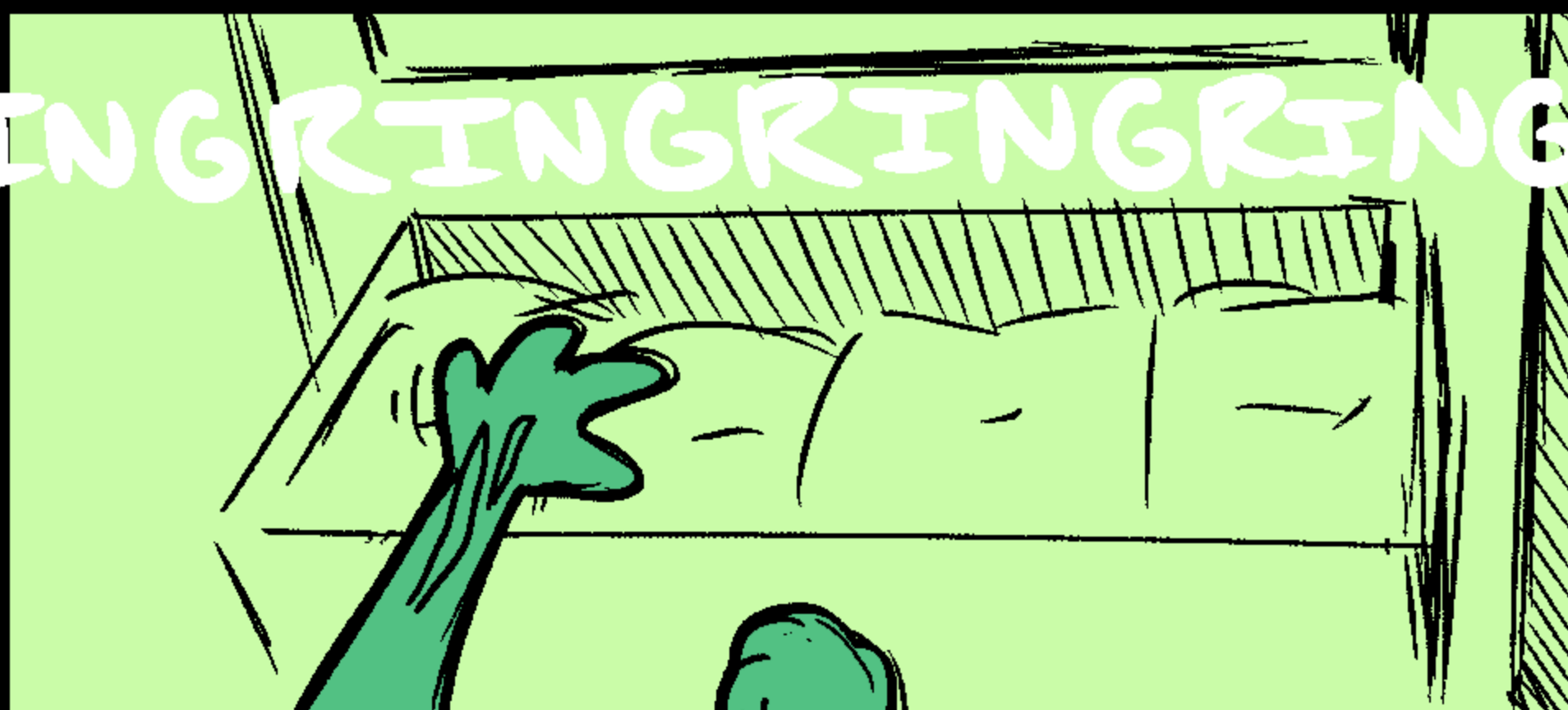
IT'S BEEN THREE DAYS
SINCE THE INCIDENT AT
PARASITE MIDDLE SCHOOL,
WHEN SYNTH KEYLIME,
THE FUNGUS KID, WAS
KILLED, AND THEN
RESURRECTED, BY
CHILLI POPPYFIELD.

NEEDLESS TO SAY,
PEOPLE HAVE VERY
DIVIDED OPINIONS
ON THIS ISSUE!

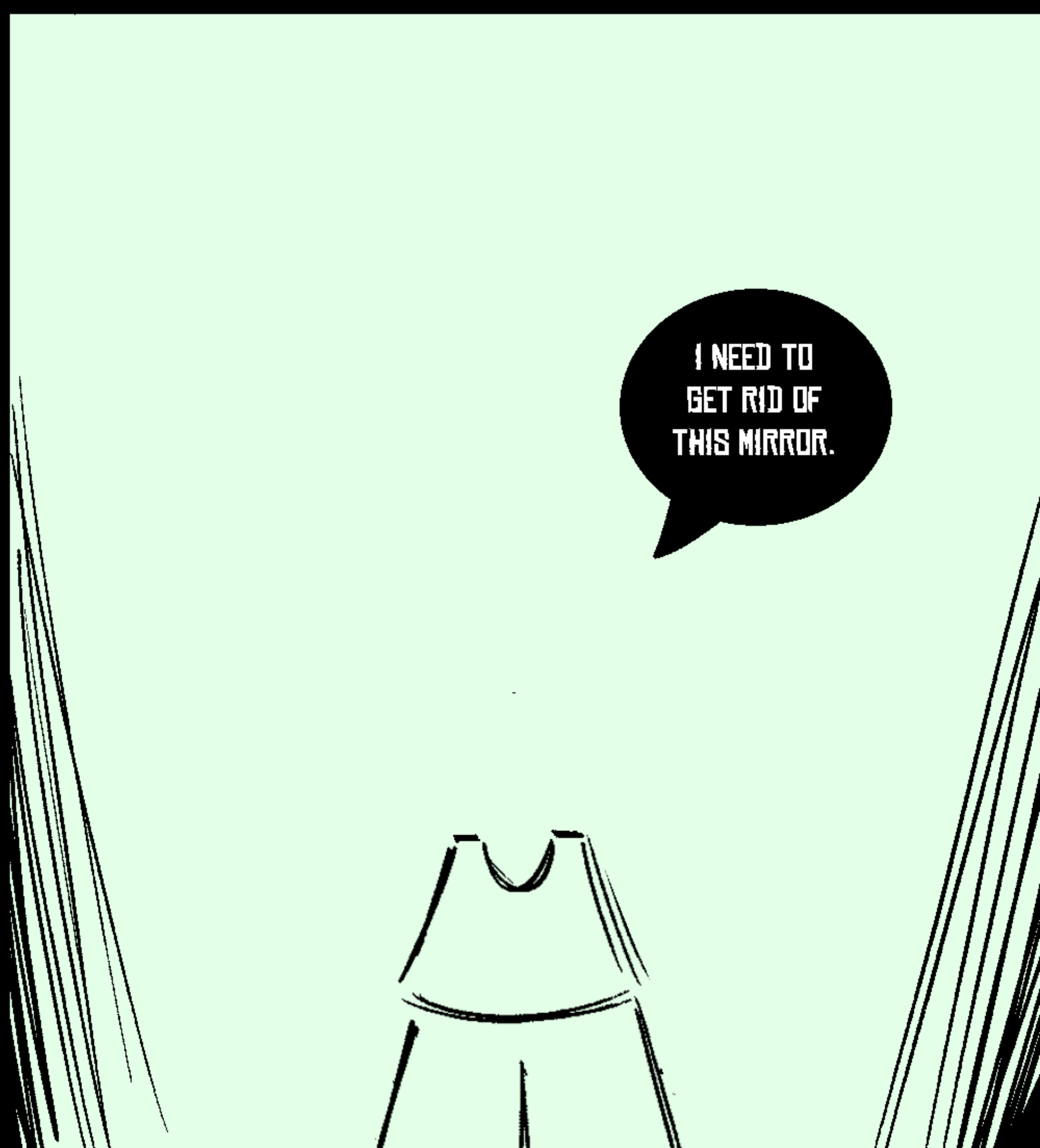
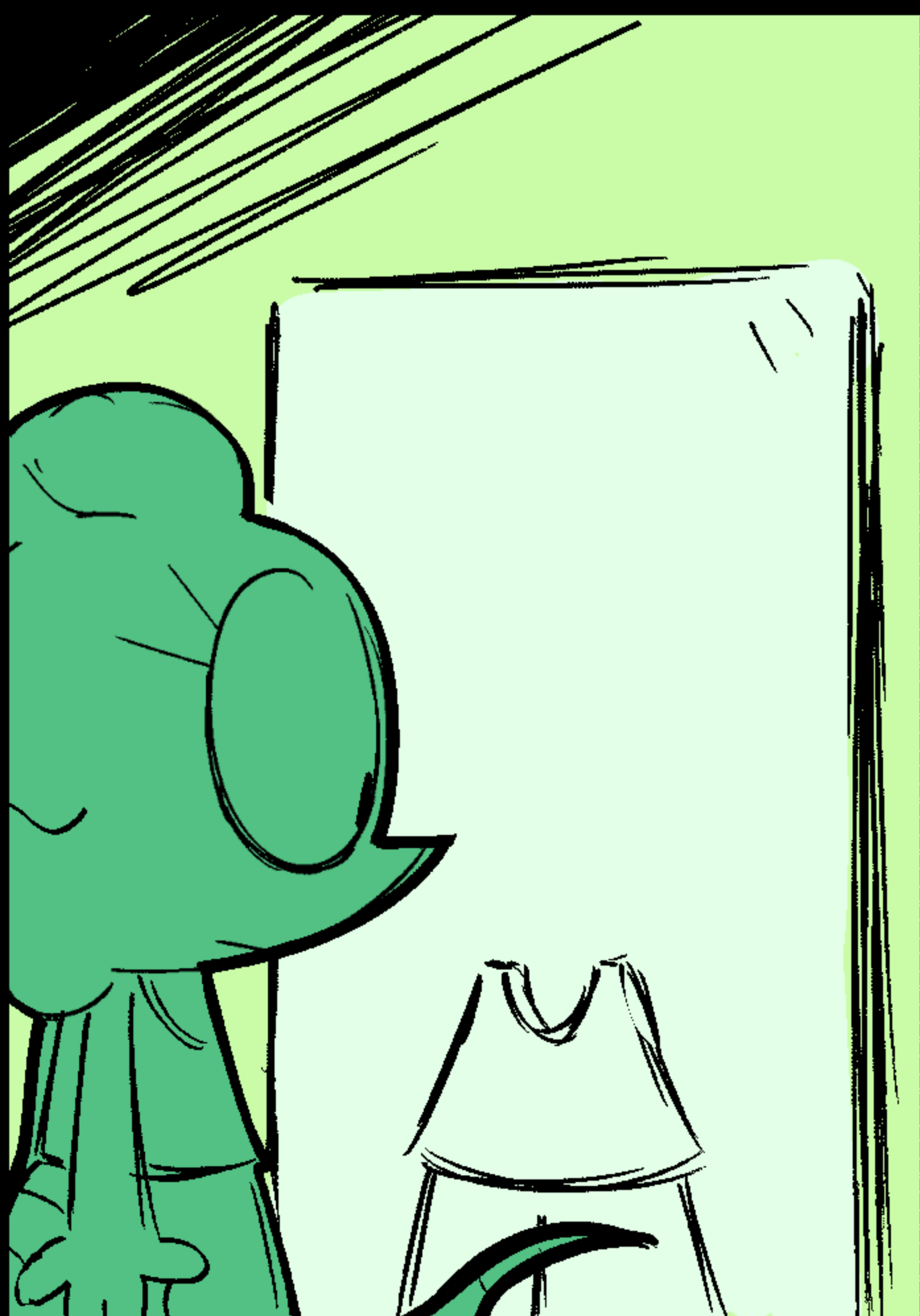
**NEEDLESS TO SAY,
PEOPLE HAVE VERY
DIVIDED OPINIONS
ON THIS ISSUE!**



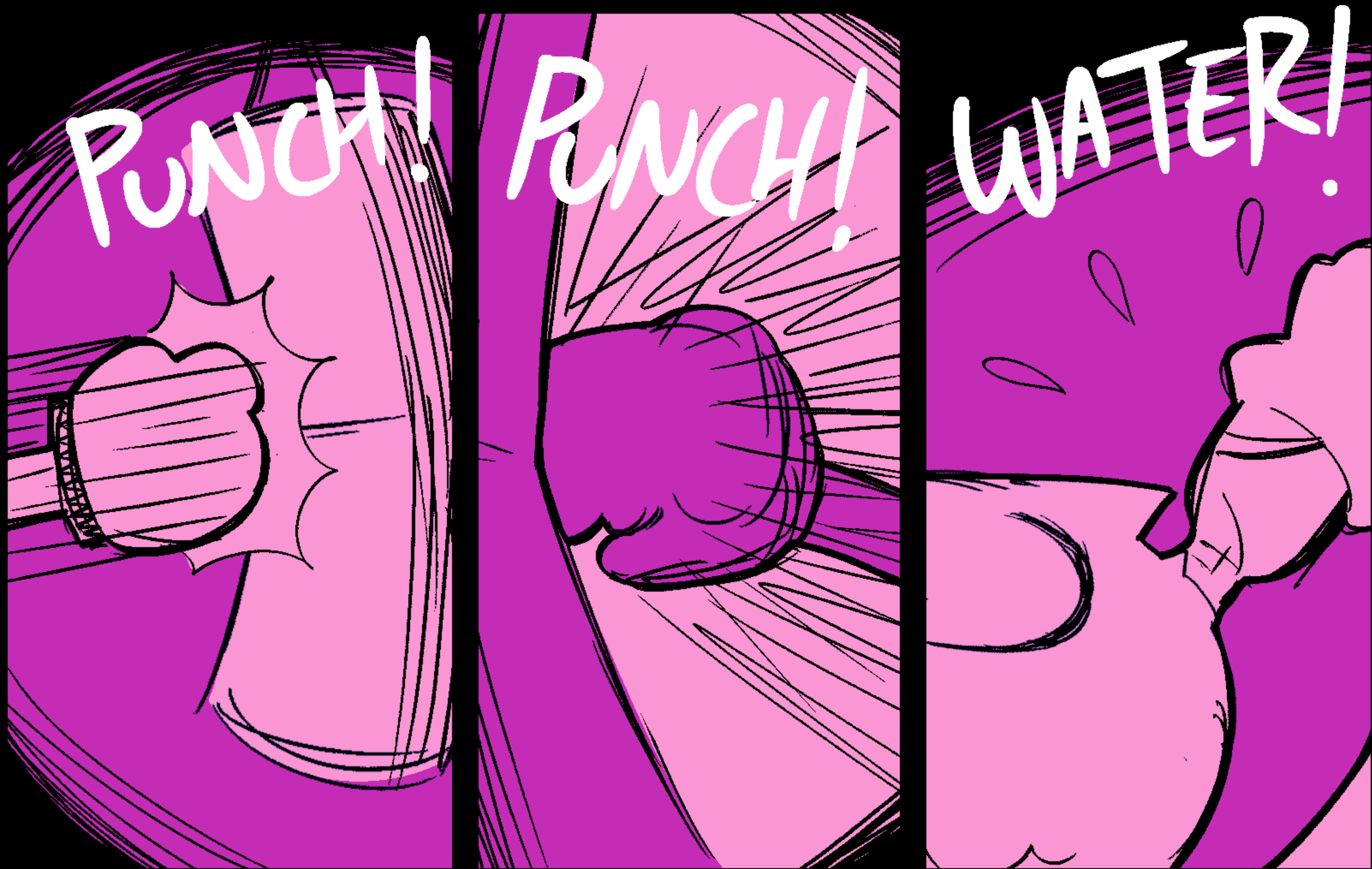
RINGRINGRINGRINGRINGRINGRINGRING



RINGRINGRING!



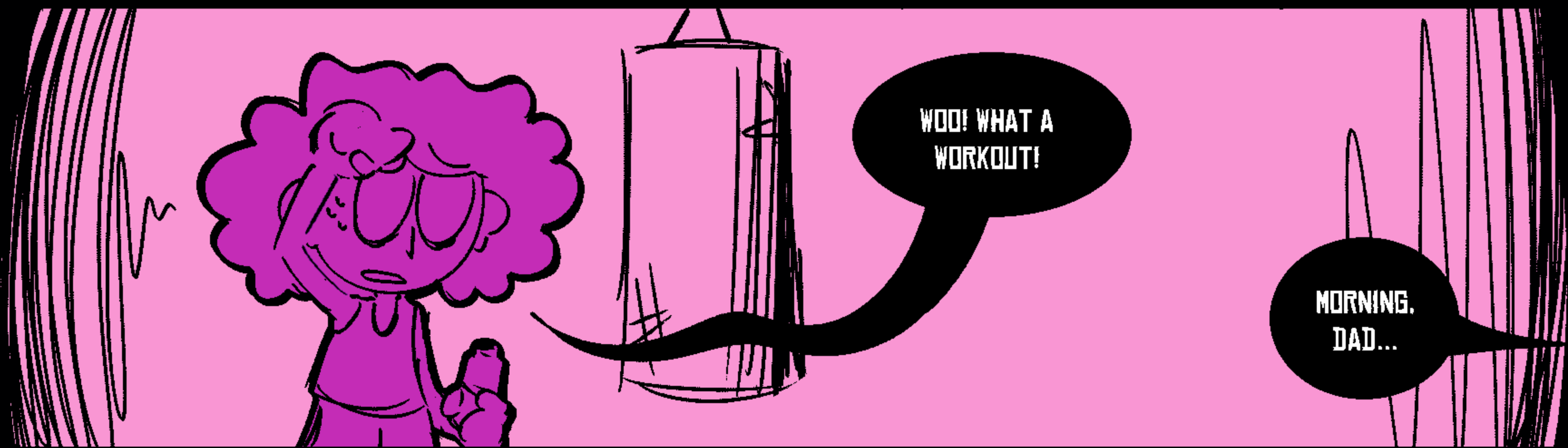
I NEED TO
GET RID OF
THIS MIRROR.



PUNCH!

PUNCH!

WATER!



WOO! WHAT A
WORKOUT!

MORNING.
DAD...



CHILL! SWEETHEART!
YOU'RE FINALLY OUT
OF YOUR ROOM! YOU
FEELING OKAY?

I GUESS, YEAH.



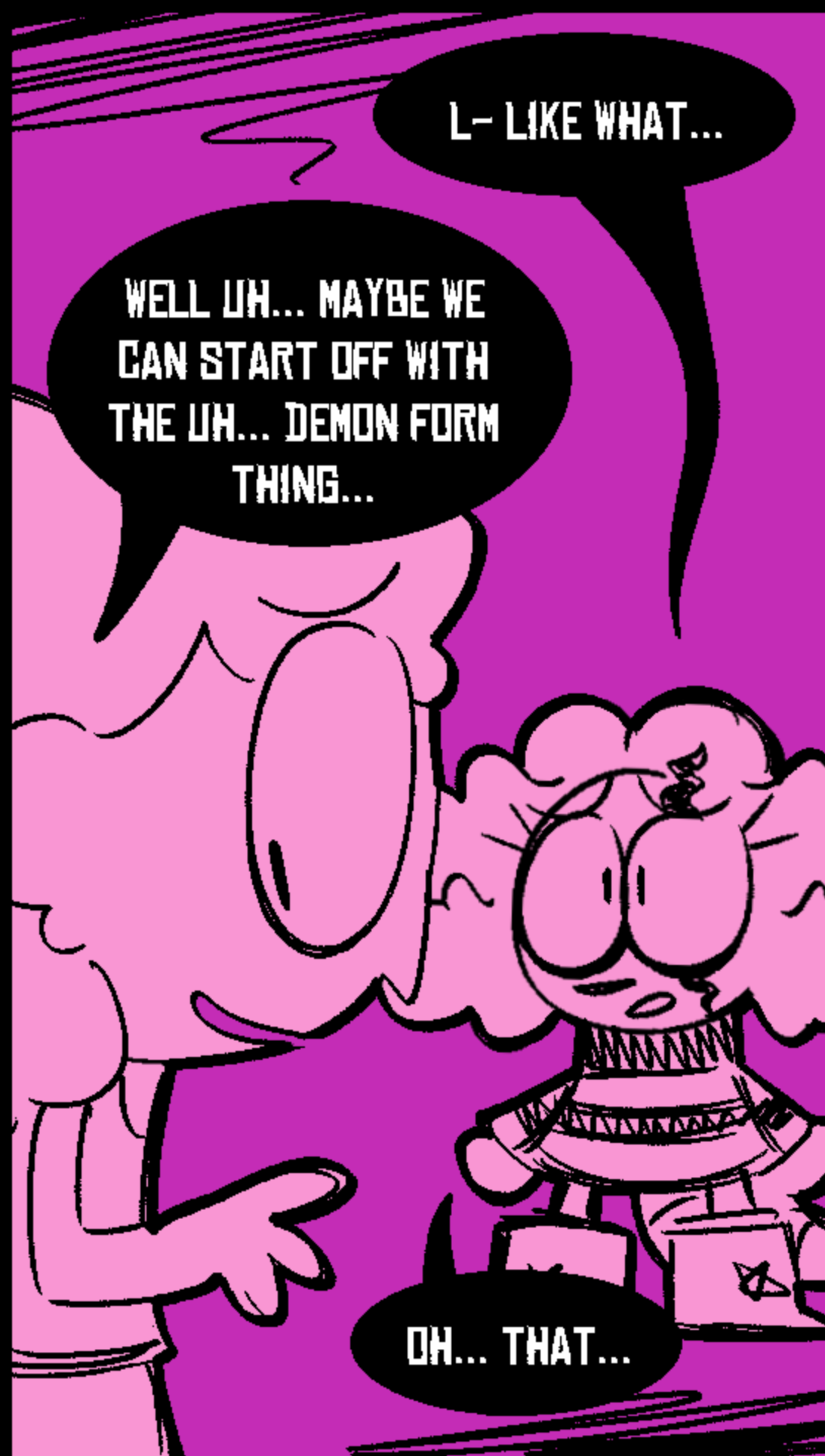
I'M FEELING BETTER
THAN I WAS THREE
DAYS AGO, AT LEAST...



GOOD! THAT'S
GOOD!

YOU READY
TO... TALK
ABOUT WHAT
HAPPENED?

UHHH...



L- LIKE WHAT...

WELL UH... MAYBE WE
CAN START OFF WITH
THE UH... DEMON FORM
THING...

OH... THAT...

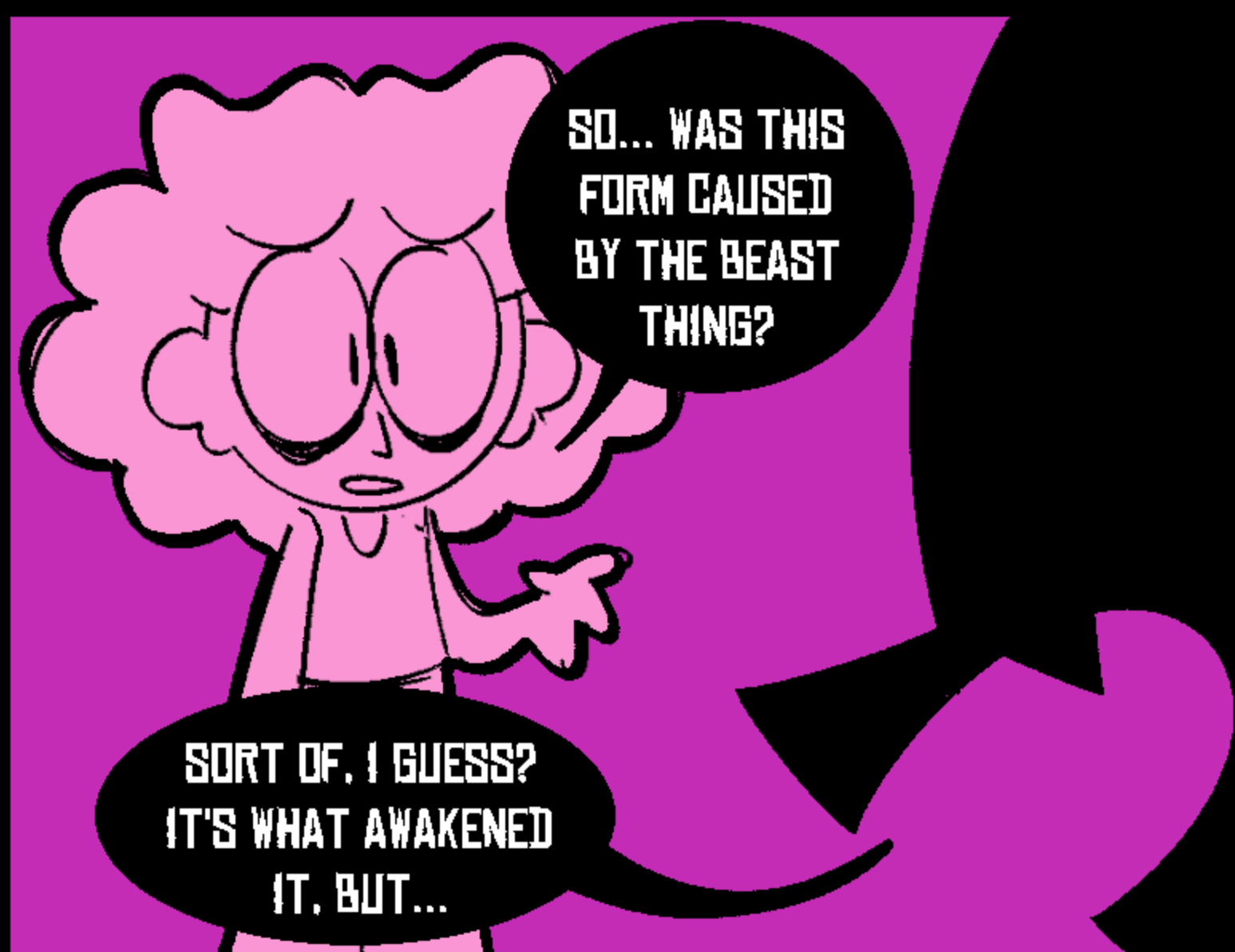


I WAS GONNA TELL YA ABOUT
THAT EARLIER! REALLY I WAS!
SO MUCH STUFF HAPPENED
AFTERWARDS THAT IT KINDA
SLIPPED MY MIND...

ESSENTIALLY WHEN I GET
LIKE, REALLY ANGRY, THE
FORM ACTIVATES...

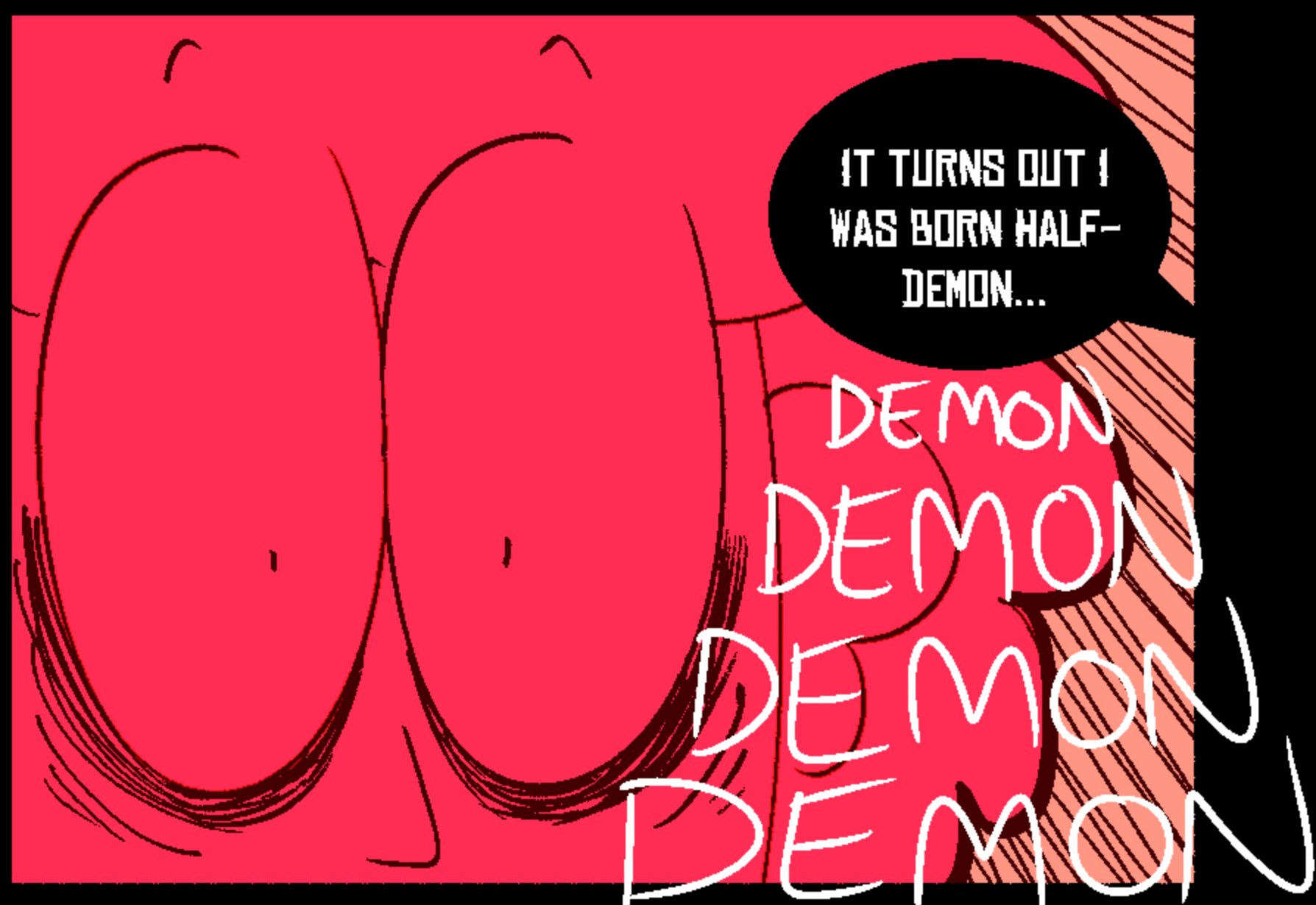


IT STARTED HAPPENING AWHILE
AGO, AFTER THE BEAST THING.
I THOUGHT I HAD BEEN ABLE TO
GET THE FORM UNDER CONTROL
BUT... I GUESS I DIDN'T REALIZE
HOW STRONG IT MADE ME...



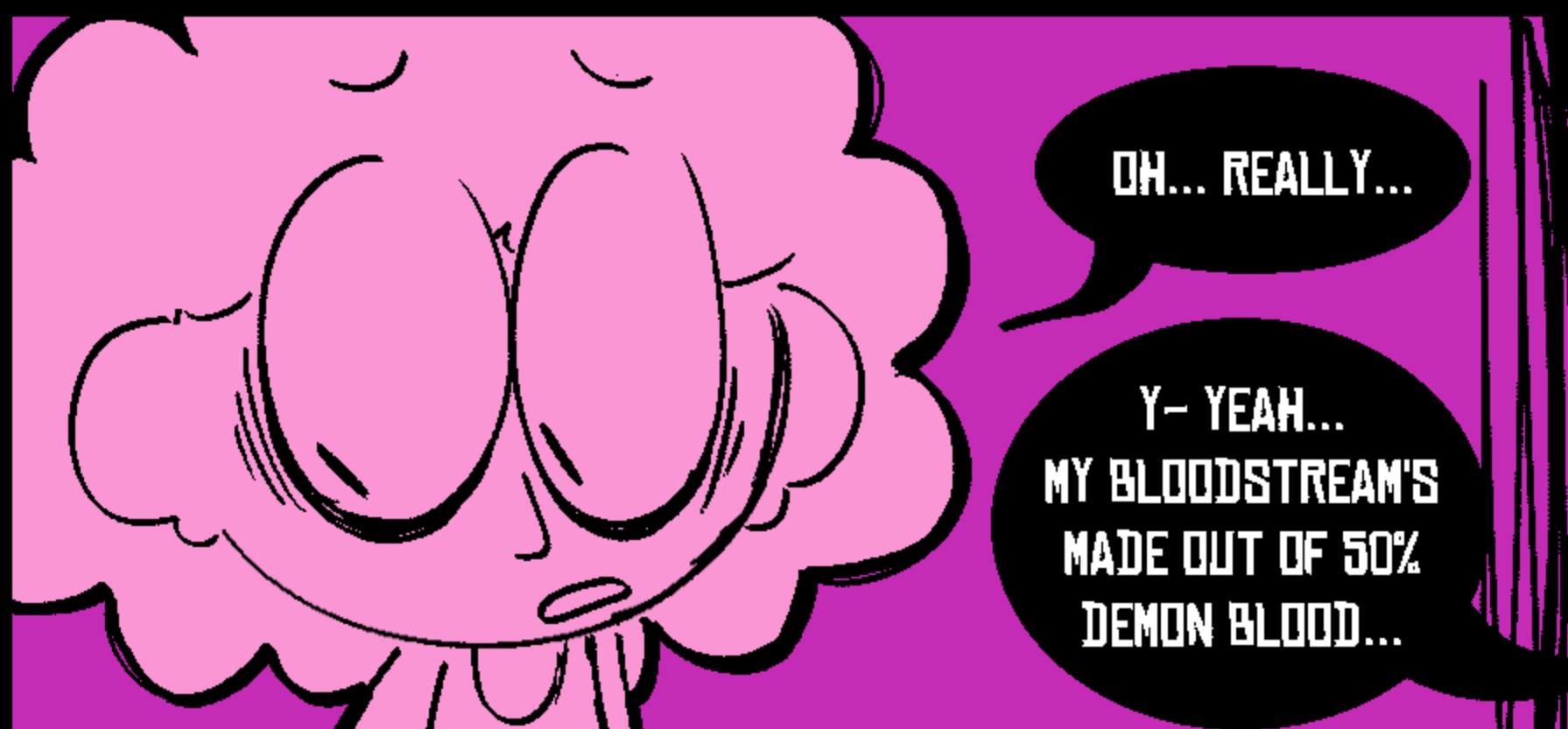
SO... WAS THIS
FORM CAUSED
BY THE BEAST
THING?

SORT OF, I GUESS?
IT'S WHAT AWAKENED
IT, BUT...



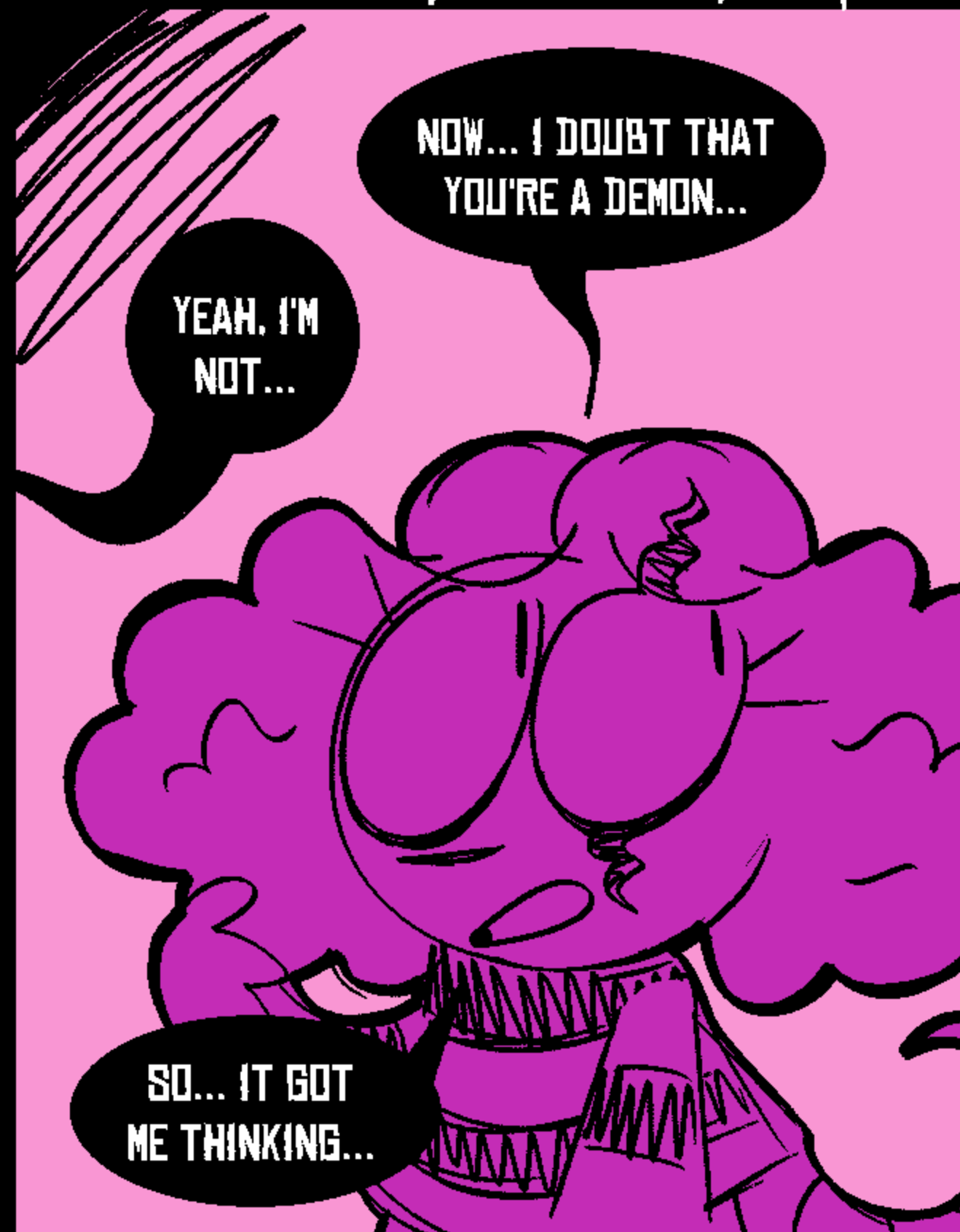
IT TURNS OUT I
WAS BORN HALF-
DEMON...

DEMON
DEMON
DEMON
DEMON



OH... REALLY...

Y- YEAH...
MY BLOODSTREAM'S
MADE OUT OF 50%
DEMON BLOOD...



NOW... I DOUBT THAT
YOU'RE A DEMON...

YEAH, I'M
NOT...

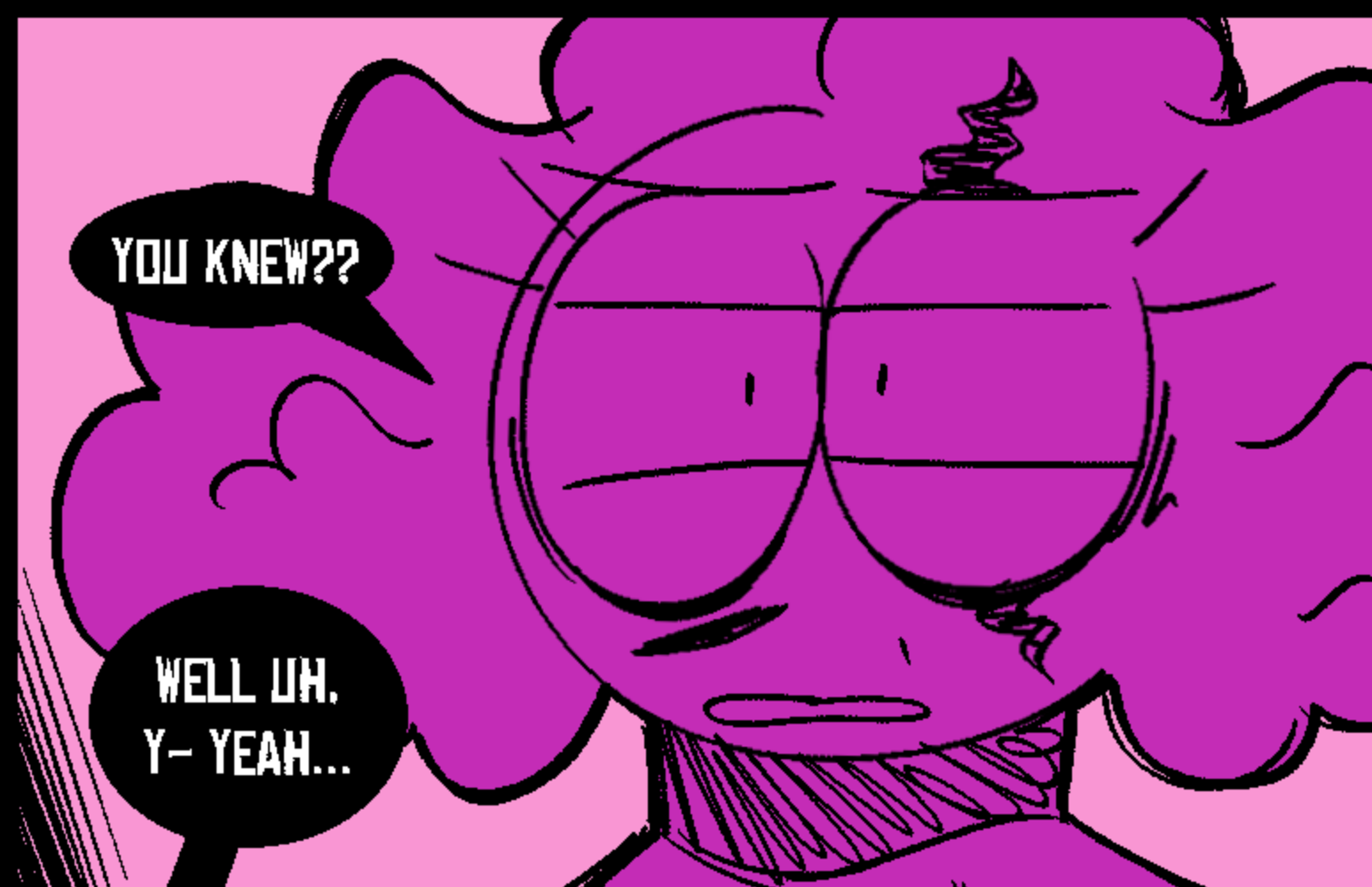
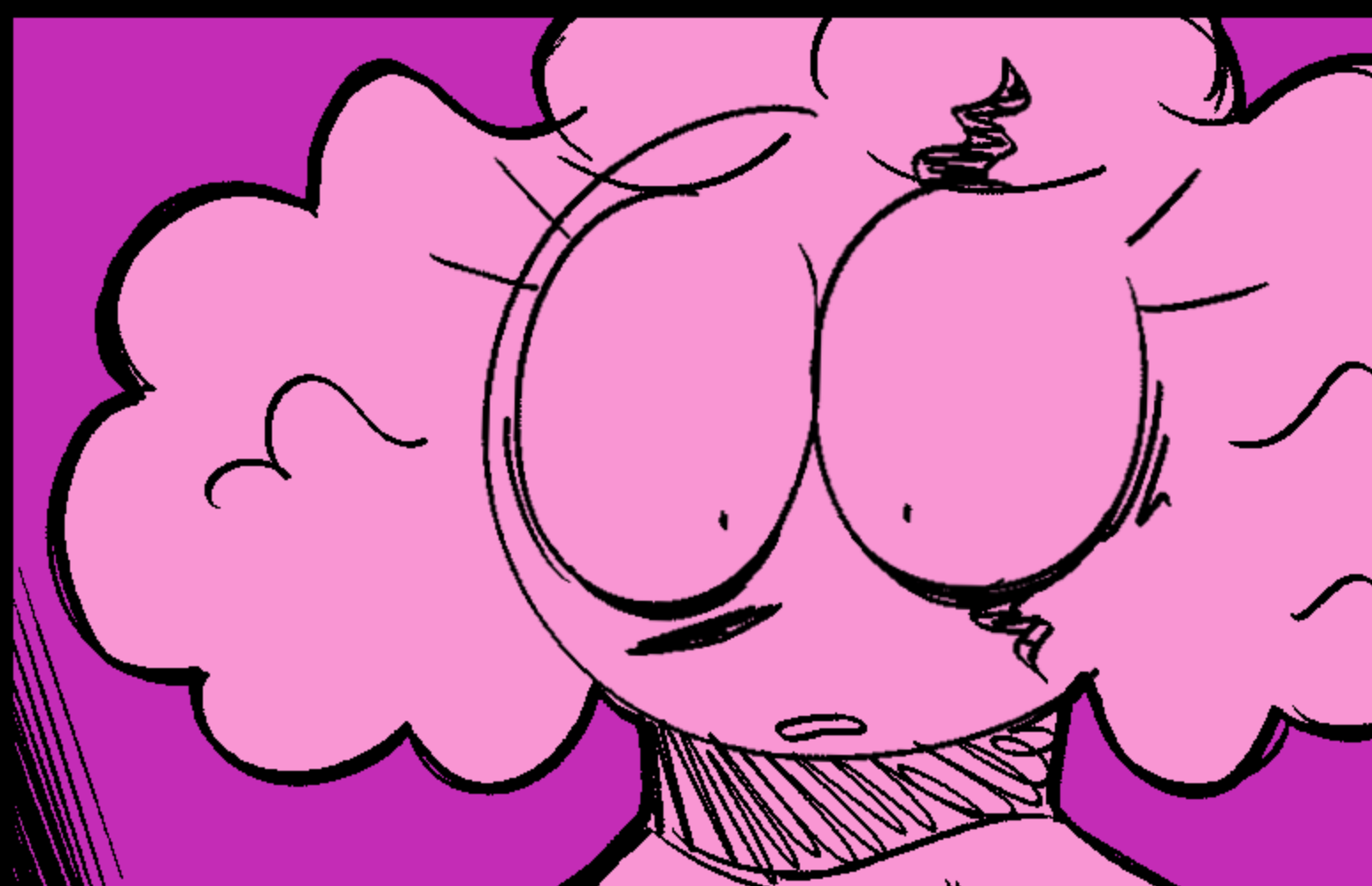
SO... IT GOT
ME THINKING...



NOW... HEAR ME OUT-

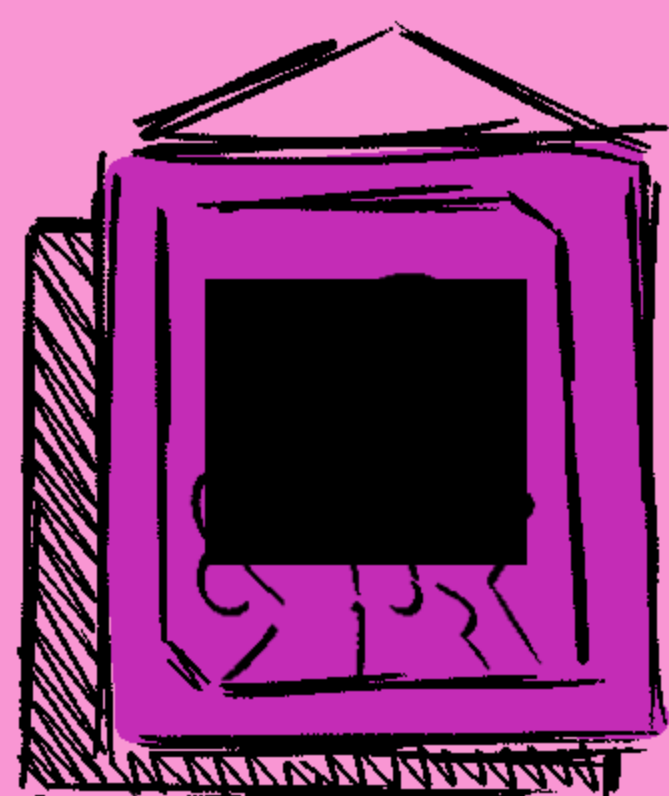
SHE WAS A DEMON.
I KNOW...

WHAT IF MOM-



YOU KNEW??

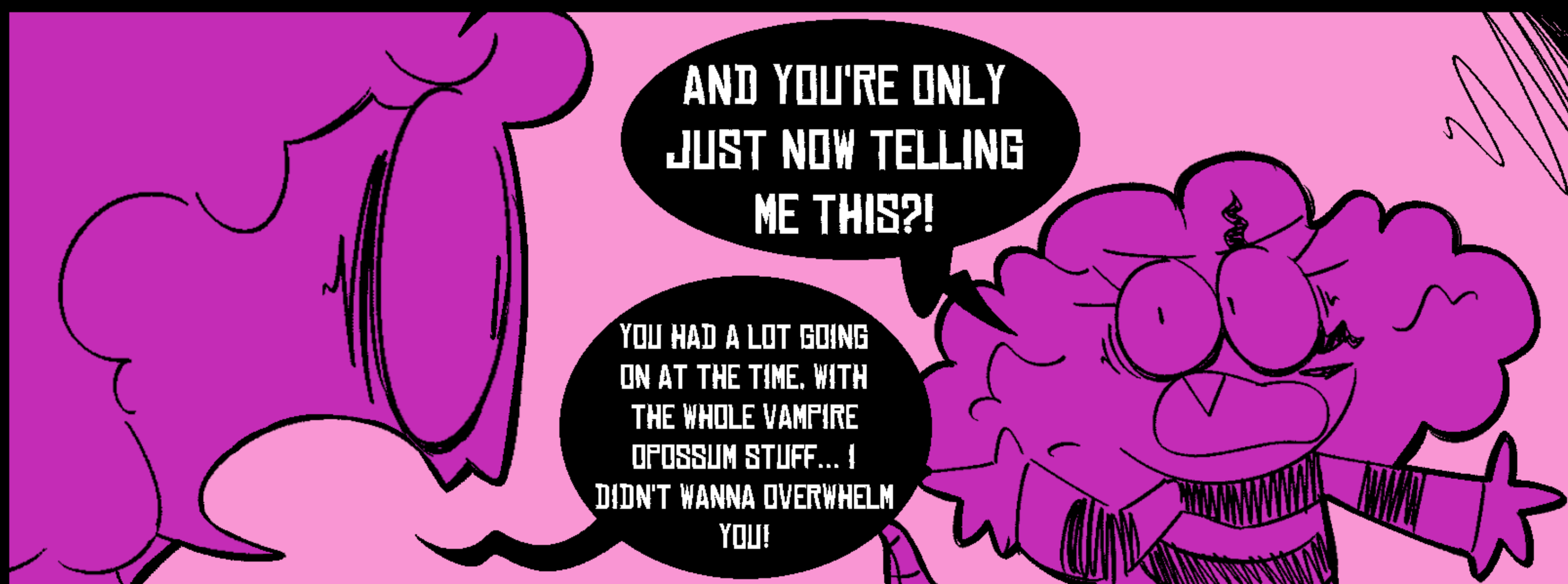
WELL UH.
Y- YEAH...



I ONLY FOUND OUT RIGHT BEFORE
SHE LEFT... SHE WAS REALLY
VAGUE ABOUT IT....

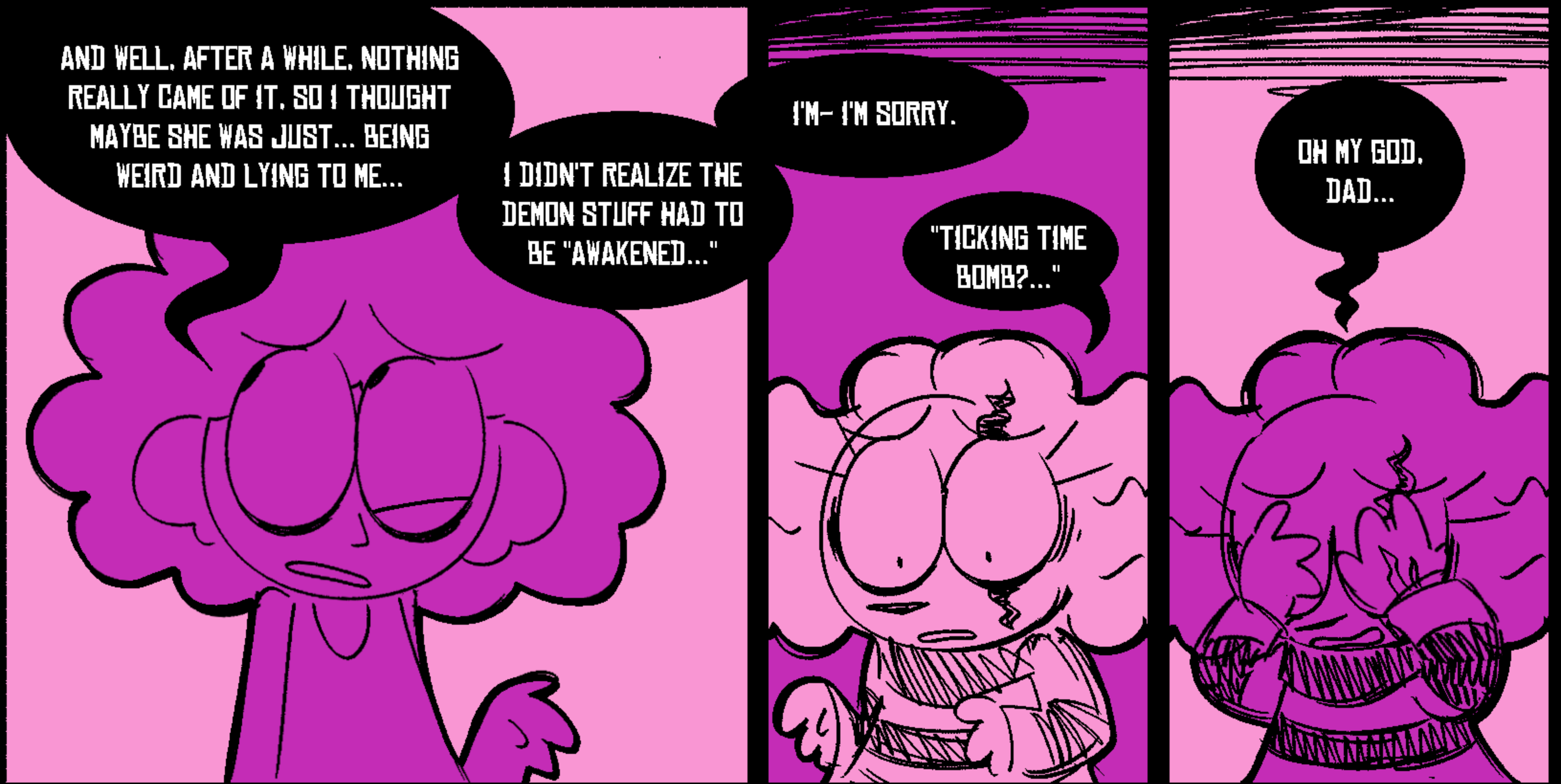
SHE ALSO SAID THAT... YOU
WERE HALF-DEMON. AND THAT
YOU BECOMING A CRYPTID CREATED
A... TICKING TIME BOMB?

I WASN'T REALLY SURE
WHAT SHE MEANT BY THAT...



AND YOU'RE ONLY
JUST NOW TELLING
ME THIS?!

YOU HAD A LOT GOING
ON AT THE TIME, WITH
THE WHOLE VAMPIRE
OPOSSUM STUFF... I
DIDN'T WANNA OVERWHELM
YOU!



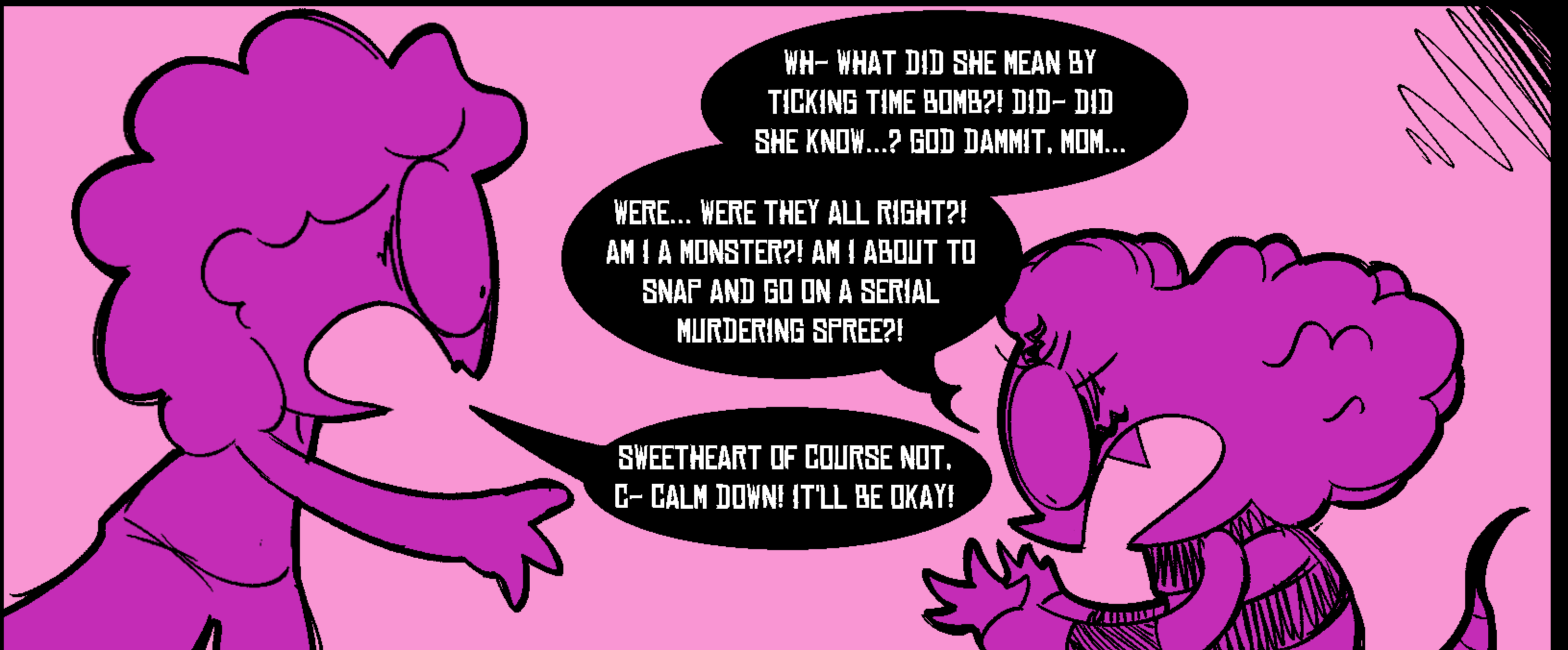
AND WELL, AFTER A WHILE, NOTHING REALLY CAME OF IT, SO I THOUGHT MAYBE SHE WAS JUST... BEING WEIRD AND LYING TO ME...

I DIDN'T REALIZE THE DEMON STUFF HAD TO BE "AWAKENED..."

I'M- I'M SORRY.

"TICKING TIME BOMB?..."

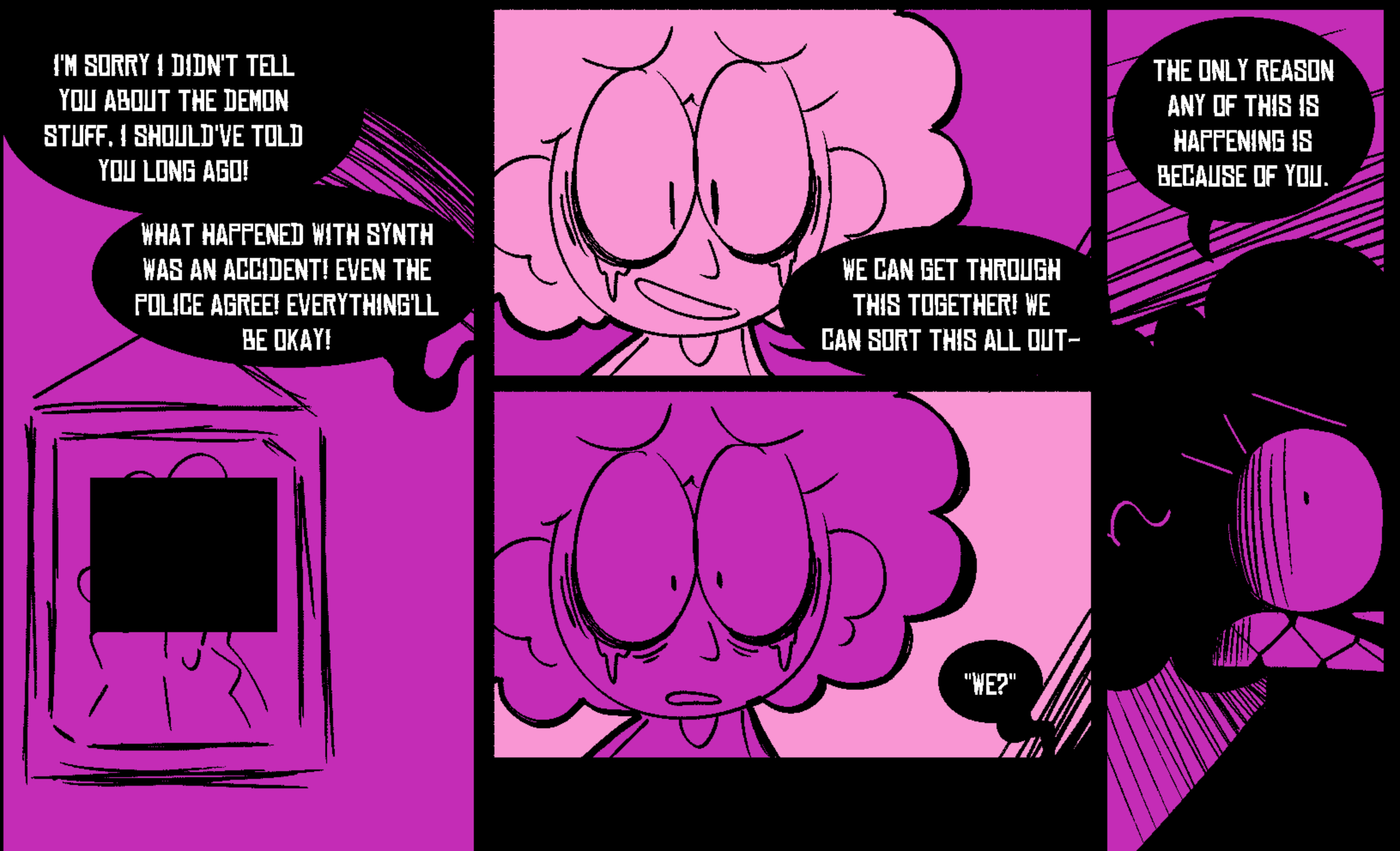
OH MY GOD, DAD...



WH- WHAT DID SHE MEAN BY TICKING TIME BOMB?! DID- DID SHE KNOW...? GOD DAMMIT, MOM...

WERE... WERE THEY ALL RIGHT?! AM I A MONSTER?! AM I ABOUT TO SNAP AND GO ON A SERIAL MURDERING SPREE?!

SWEETHEART OF COURSE NOT, C- CALM DOWN! IT'LL BE OKAY!



I'M SORRY I DIDN'T TELL YOU ABOUT THE DEMON STUFF, I SHOULD'VE TOLD YOU LONG AGO!

WHAT HAPPENED WITH SYNTH WAS AN ACCIDENT! EVEN THE POLICE AGREE! EVERYTHING'LL BE OKAY!

THE ONLY REASON ANY OF THIS IS HAPPENING IS BECAUSE OF YOU.

WE CAN GET THROUGH THIS TOGETHER! WE CAN SORT THIS ALL OUT-

"WE?"

IF YOU HAD JUST DRIVEN ME TO SYNTH'S
STUPID PARKOUR THING AT THE SKATEPARK
INSTEAD OF MAKING ME WALK THERE BY MYSELF
IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT, NONE OF THIS
WOULD BE HAPPENING!

CH- CHILLI. C- CALM DOWN!
Y- YOU'RE RIGHT. I SHOULDN'T
HAVE MADE YOU GO BY YOURSELF.
B- BUT-

I'M A MONSTER, DAD!

I'M A FUCKING
MONSTER.

I'M JUST GONNA END UP HURTING
YOU AND EVERYONE I LOVE, BECAUSE
I'M JUST AN ATOMIC BOMB, READY TO
BLOW UP AND KILL EVERYONE!

THAT'S ALL I APPARENTLY
AM. AND THAT'S ALL I'LL
EVER BE.

CHILLI.

YOU KNOW THAT'S
NOT TRUE.

AND I'M NOT GONNA
LET YOU BELIEVE THAT.

YOU ABSOLUTELY HAVE
THE RIGHT TO BE ANGRY.

BUT YOU CAN'T DIRECT
THAT ANGER AT YOURSELF.

YOU'RE NOT A
MONSTER.

YOU'RE A KIND, BRAVE GIRL, WHO'S RIGHTFULLY
ANGRY AND UPSET ABOUT A LOT OF THINGS
GOING ON RIGHT NOW.

I'M SORRY FOR ALL OF THIS.
BUT I DON'T WANNA SEE YOU
SUFFERING.

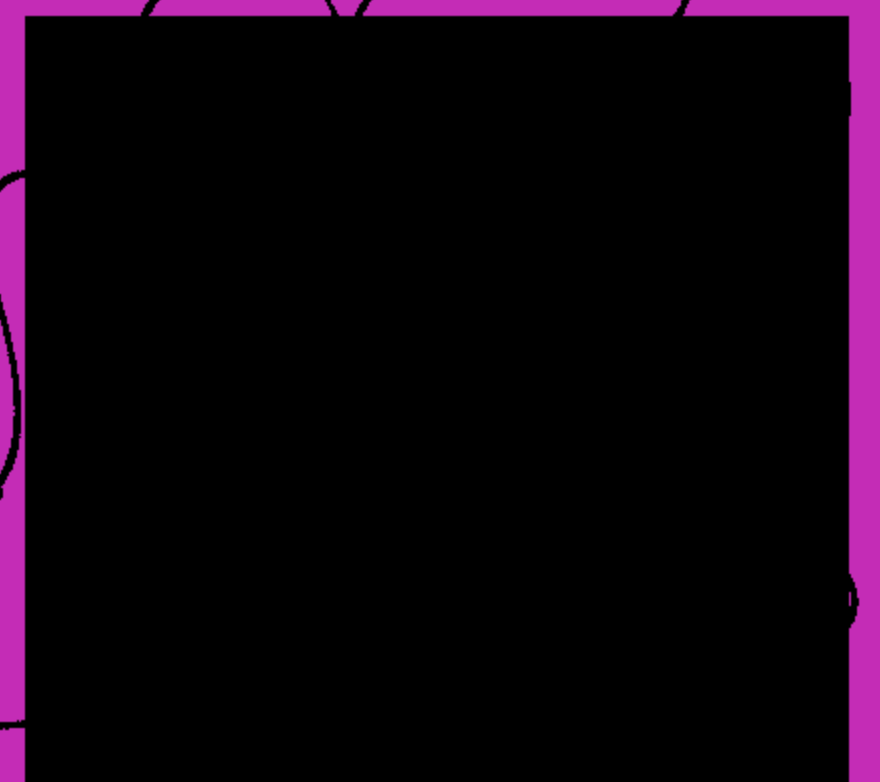
I LOVE YOU, AND
I WANNA HELP YOU.

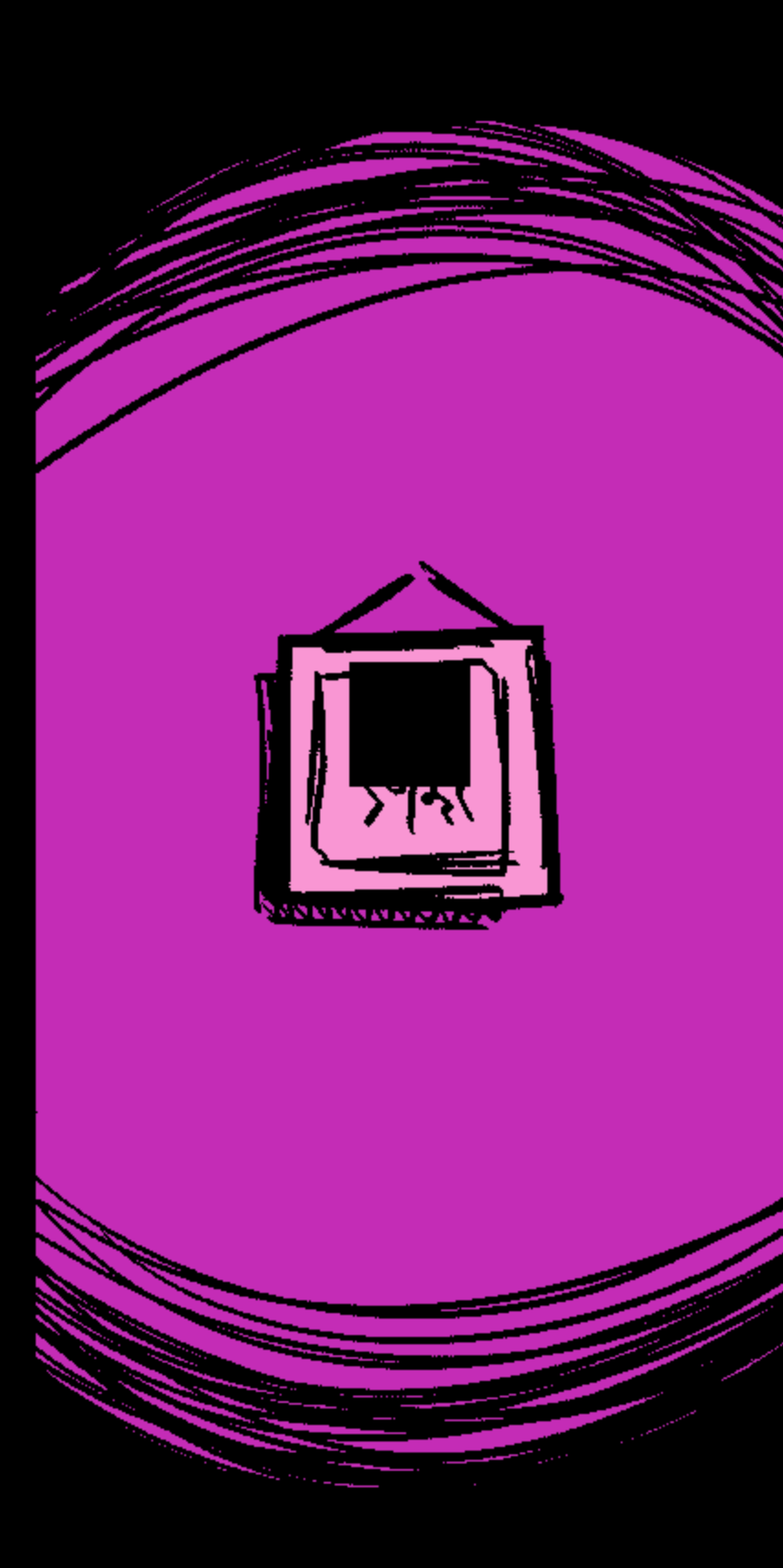
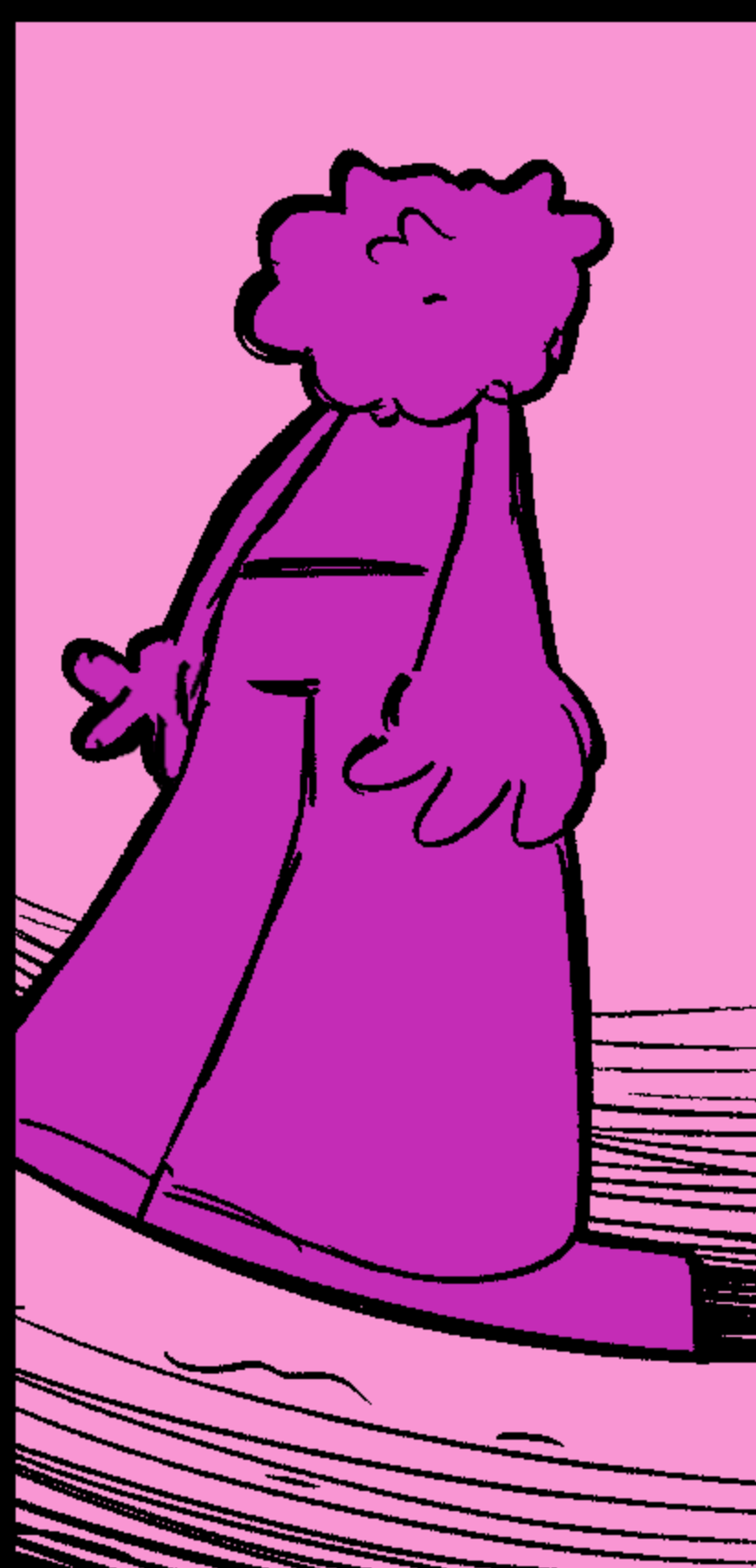
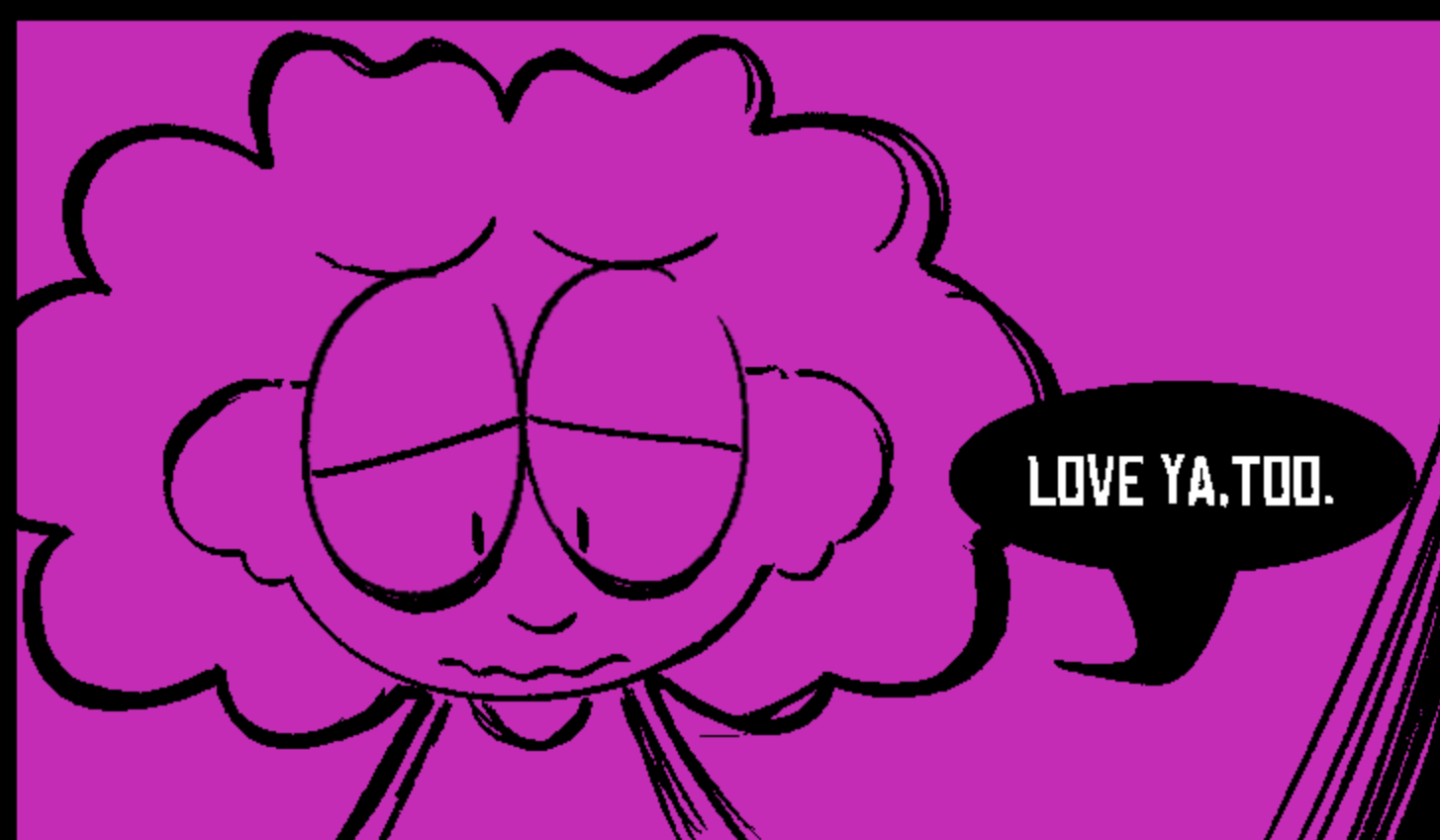
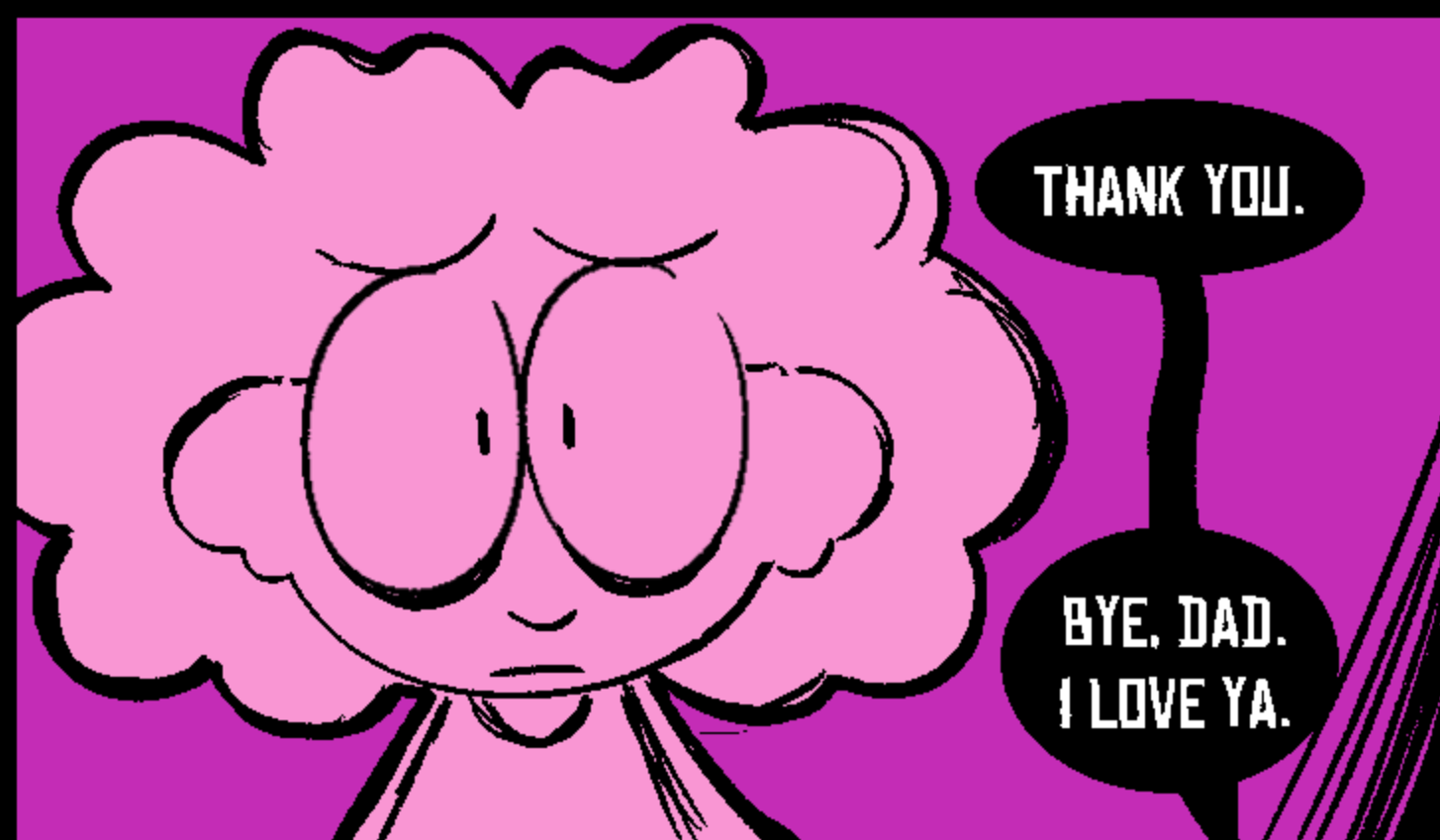
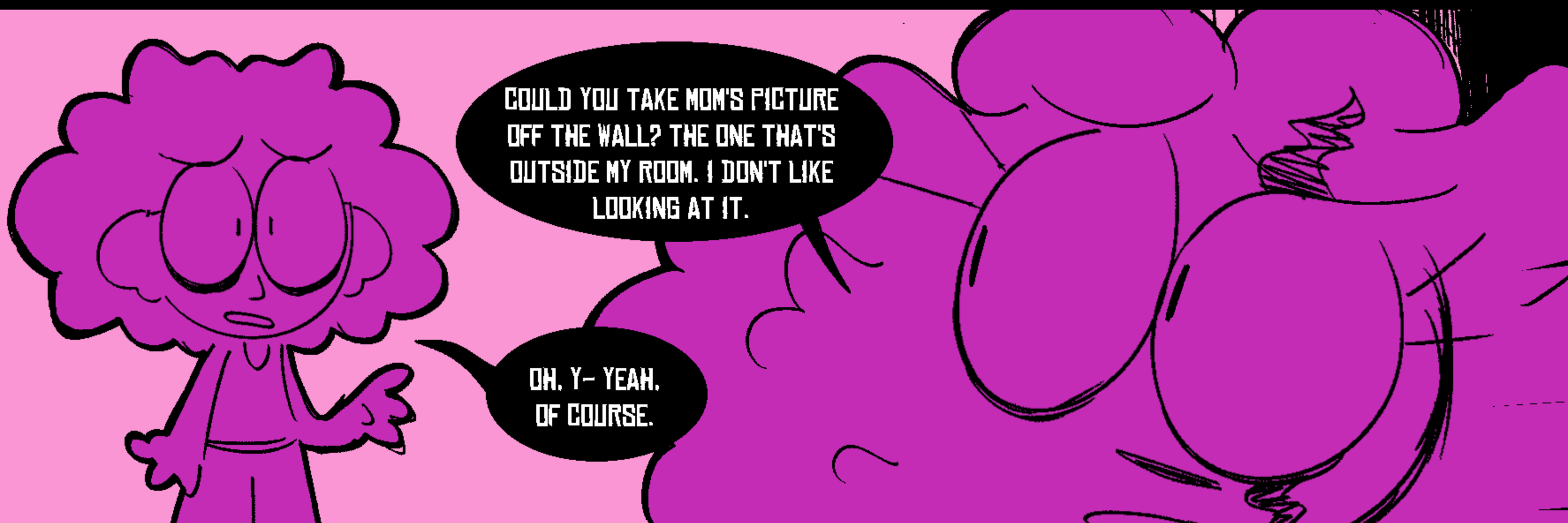
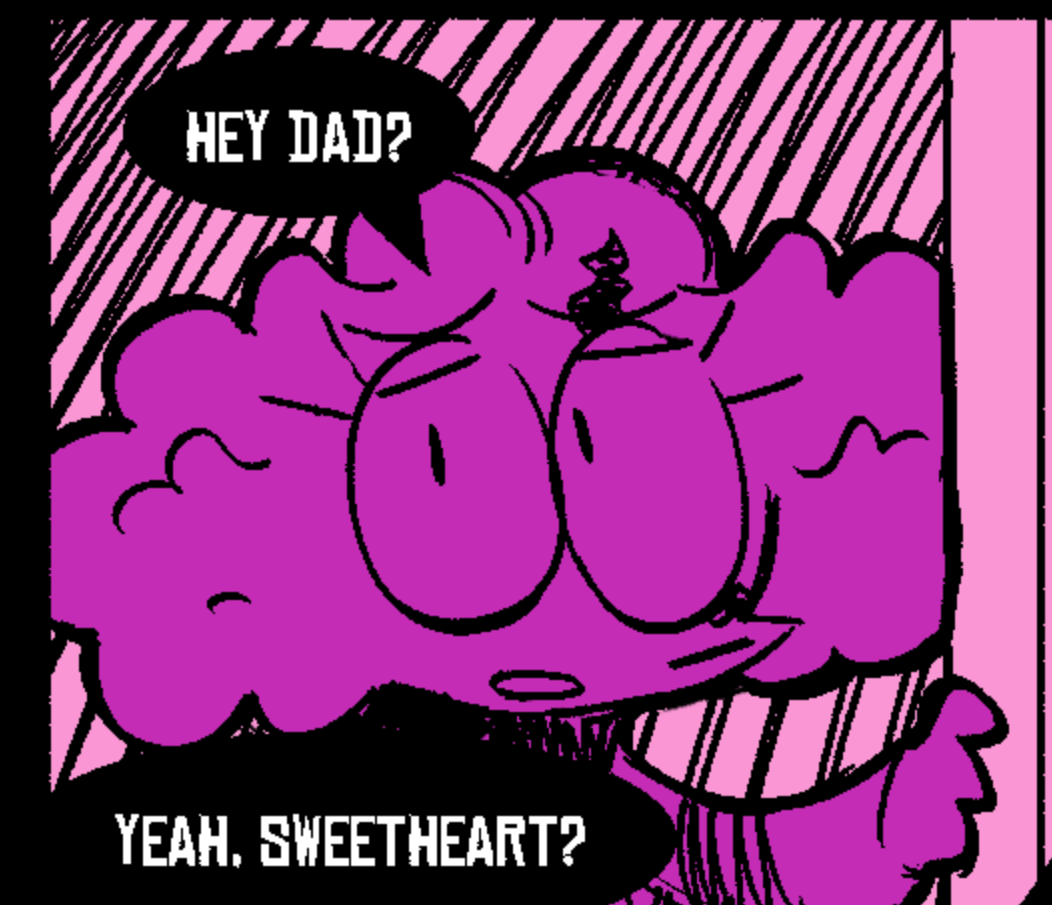
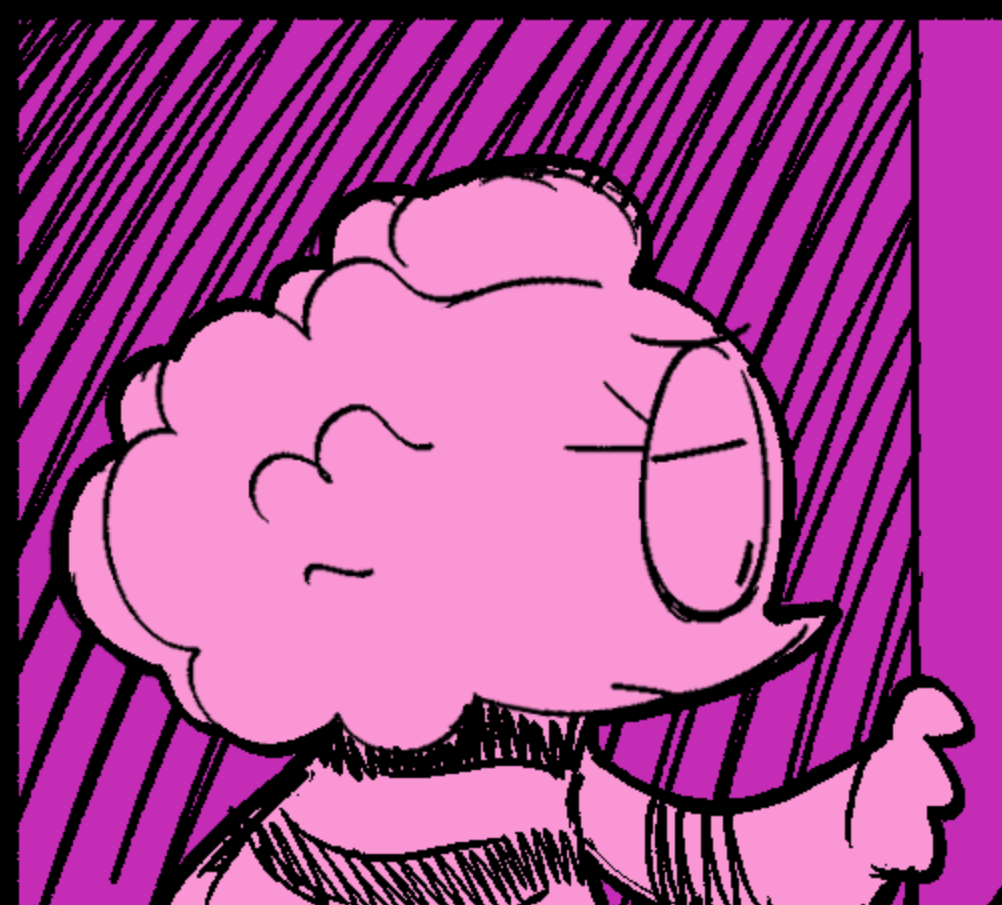


I'M SORRY. NONE OF THIS
IS YOUR FAULT... I DIDN'T
MEAN ANY OF THAT...

I KNOW.

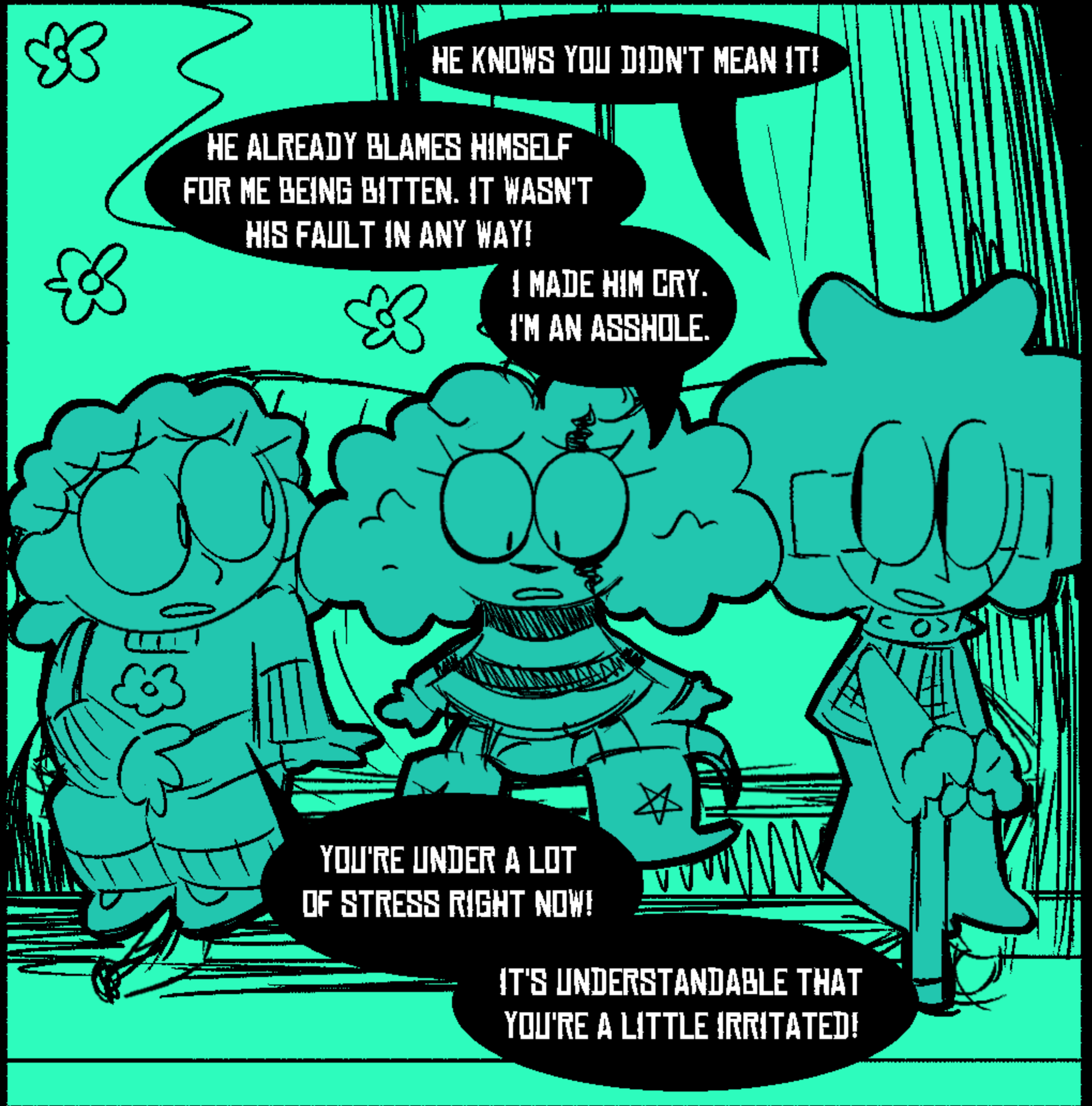
I'M SORRY, TOO.







WE ALL SAY STUPID
STUFF WE DON'T MEAN
WHEN WE'RE ANGRY!



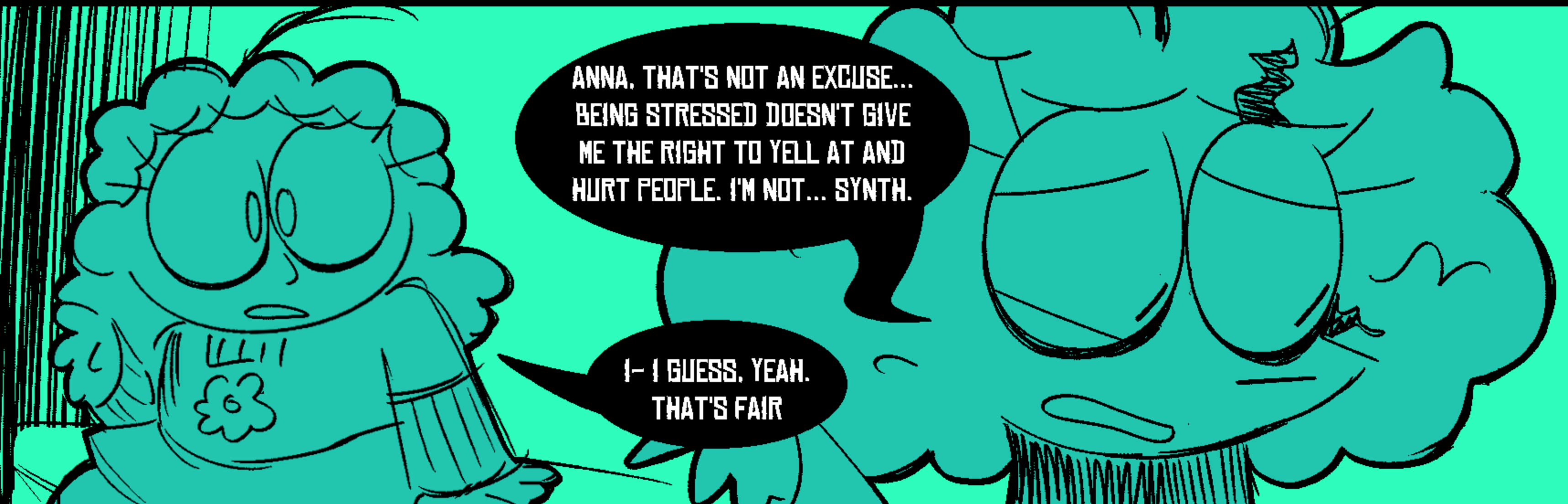
HE ALREADY BLAMES HIMSELF
FOR ME BEING BITTEN. IT WASN'T
HIS FAULT IN ANY WAY!

HE KNOWS YOU DIDN'T MEAN IT!

I MADE HIM CRY.
I'M AN ASSHOLE.

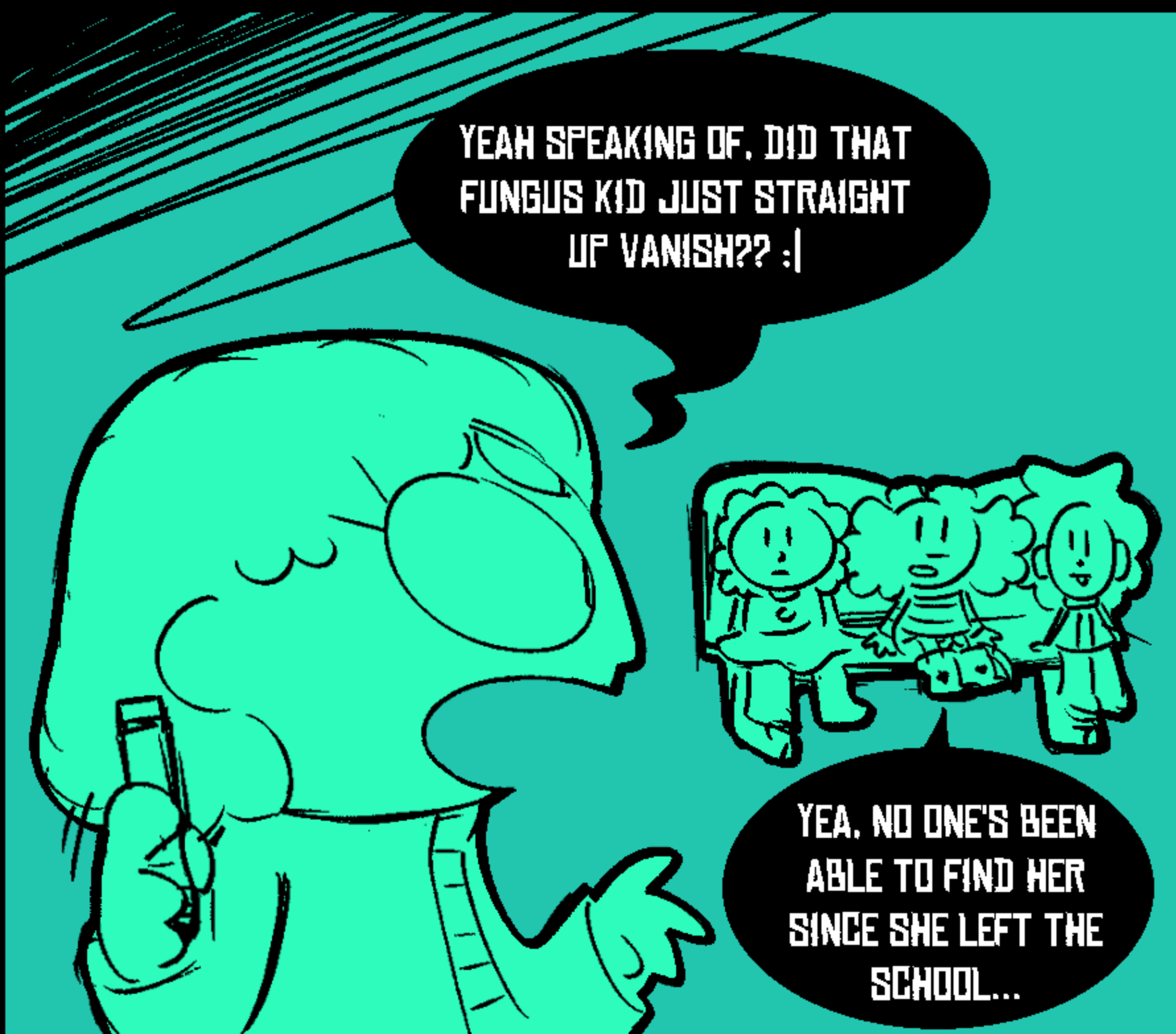
YOU'RE UNDER A LOT
OF STRESS RIGHT NOW!

IT'S UNDERSTANDABLE THAT
YOU'RE A LITTLE IRRITATED!



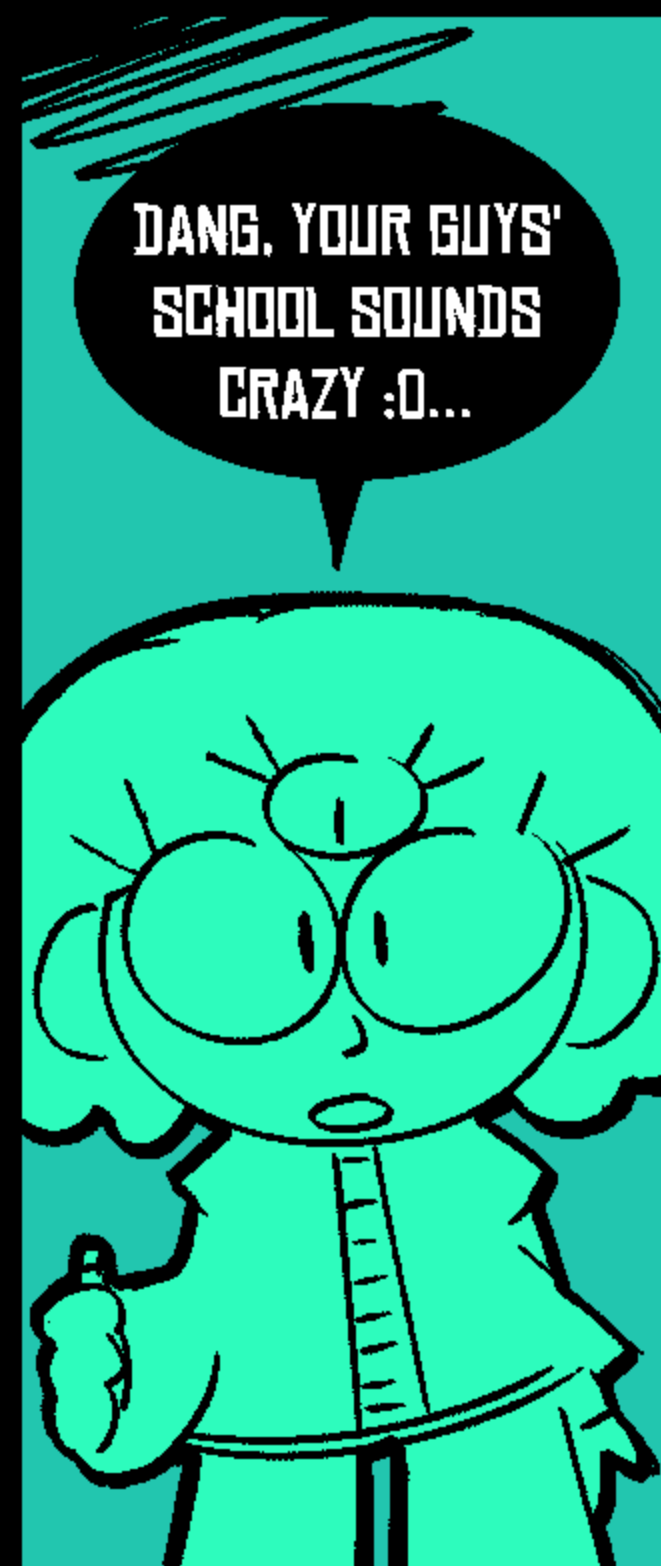
ANNA, THAT'S NOT AN EXCUSE...
BEING STRESSED DOESN'T GIVE
ME THE RIGHT TO YELL AT AND
HURT PEOPLE. I'M NOT... SYNTH.

I- I GUESS, YEAH.
THAT'S FAIR



YEAH SPEAKING OF, DID THAT
FUNGUS KID JUST STRAIGHT
UP VANISH?? :|

YEA, NO ONE'S BEEN
ABLE TO FIND HER
SINCE SHE LEFT THE
SCHOOL...

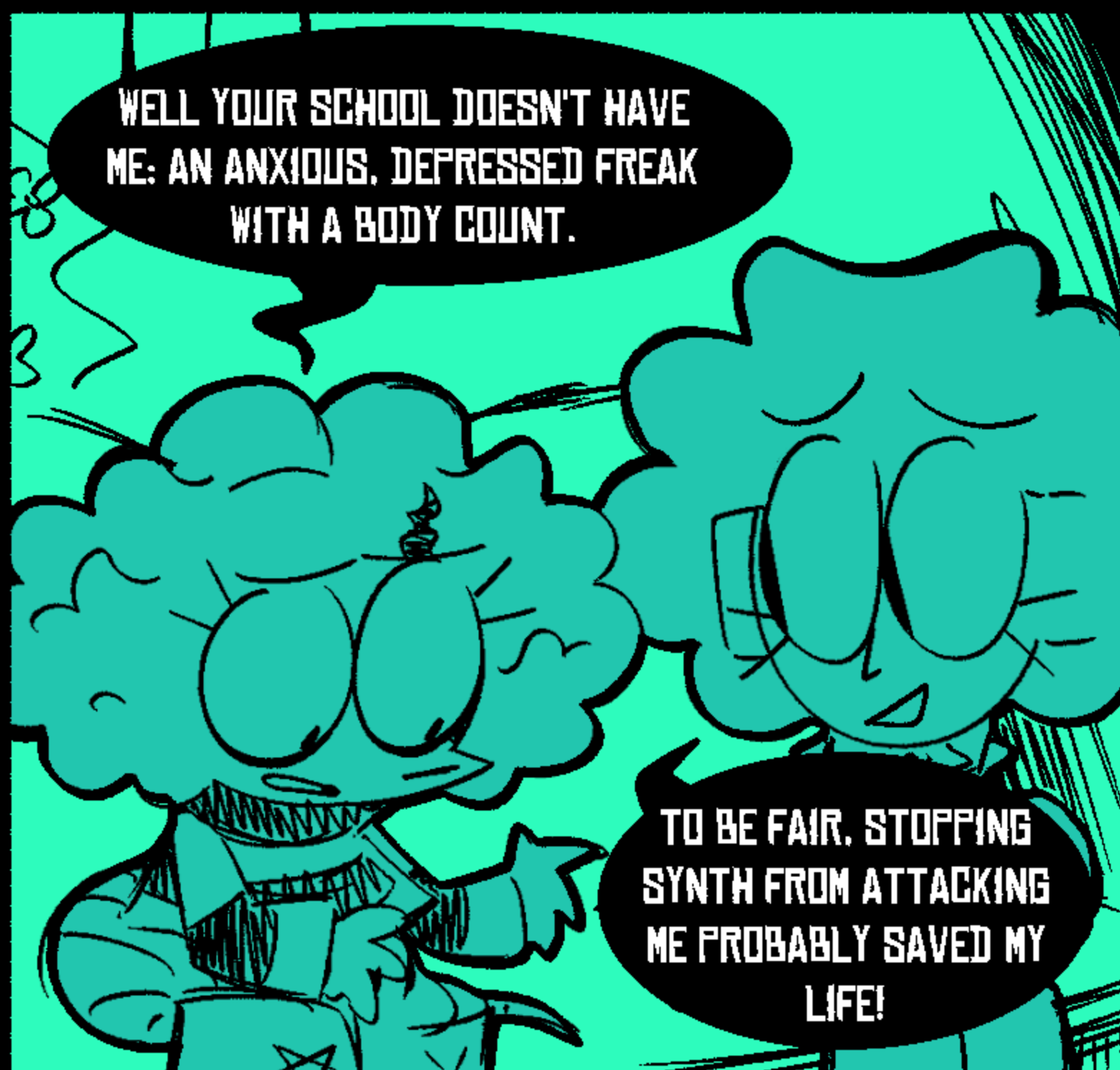


DANG, YOUR GUYS'
SCHOOL SOUNDS
CRAZY :O...



CRAZIEST THING TO
HAPPEN AT MY
SCHOOL WAS LUNCH
LADY ELLA DYING.
:P

RIP



WELL YOUR SCHOOL DOESN'T HAVE ME: AN ANXIOUS, DEPRESSED FREAK WITH A BODY COUNT.

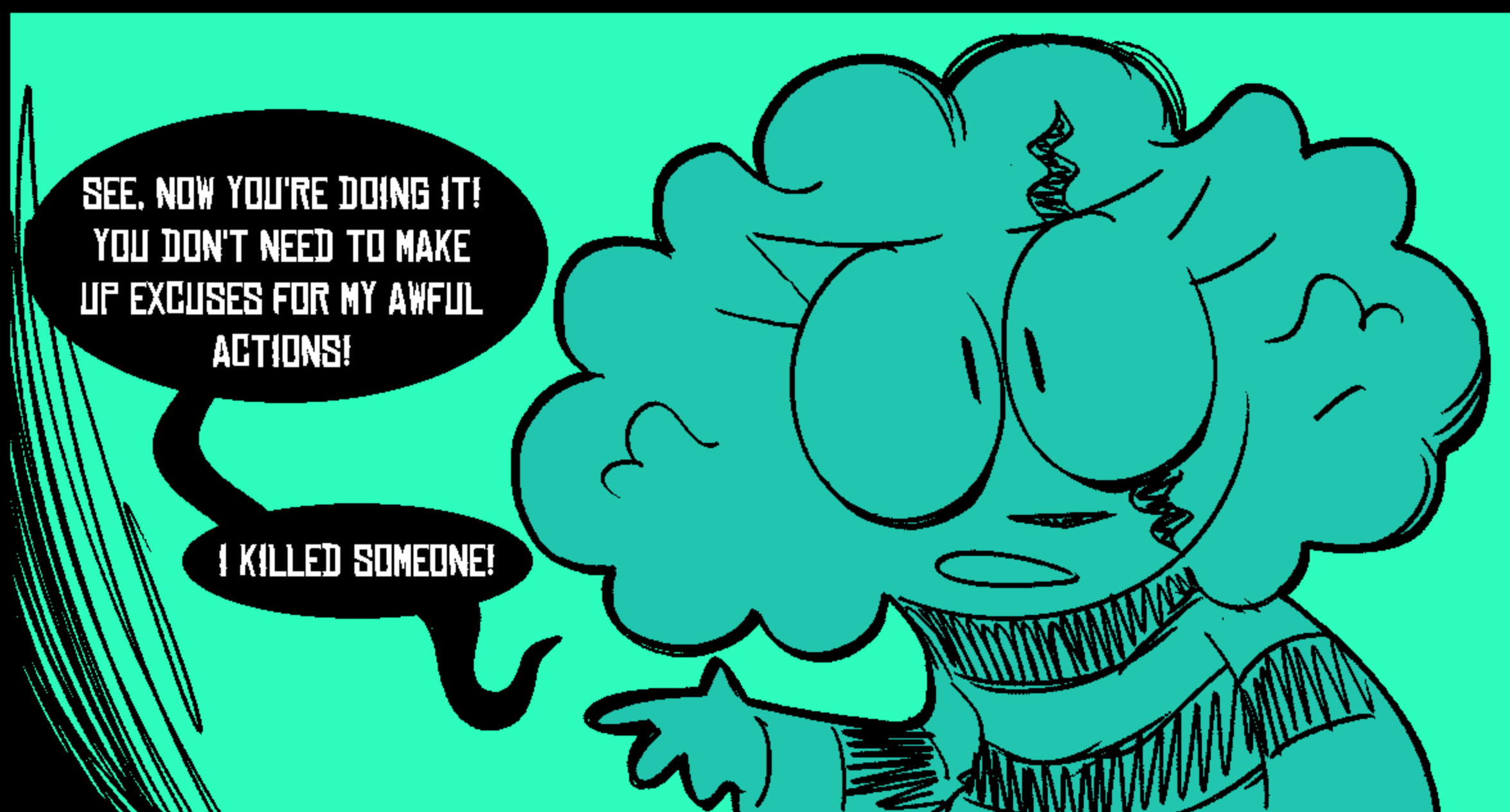
TO BE FAIR, STOPPING SYNTH FROM ATTACKING ME PROBABLY SAVED MY LIFE!



I MEAN, NOT REALLY. YOU PROBABLY WOULD'VE BEEN ABLE TO STOP HER WITH YOUR WITCHCRAFT.

WELL... TRUE. I GUESS...

BUT I APPRECIATE THE HELP NONETHELESS!



SEE, NOW YOU'RE DOING IT! YOU DON'T NEED TO MAKE UP EXCUSES FOR MY AWFUL ACTIONS!

I KILLED SOMEONE!



YEAH, SYNTH, WHO TRIED TO KILL ME.



BUT SHE WOULDN'T'VE, BECAUSE YOU WOULD'VE STOPPED HER! WHEN I GOT INVOLVED, THAT'S WHEN THINGS GOT WORSE!

JESUS, CHILLI, TAKE THE COMPLIMENT.

I CAN'T! I DON'T DESERVE IT!



IT'S HAPPENING AGAIN.

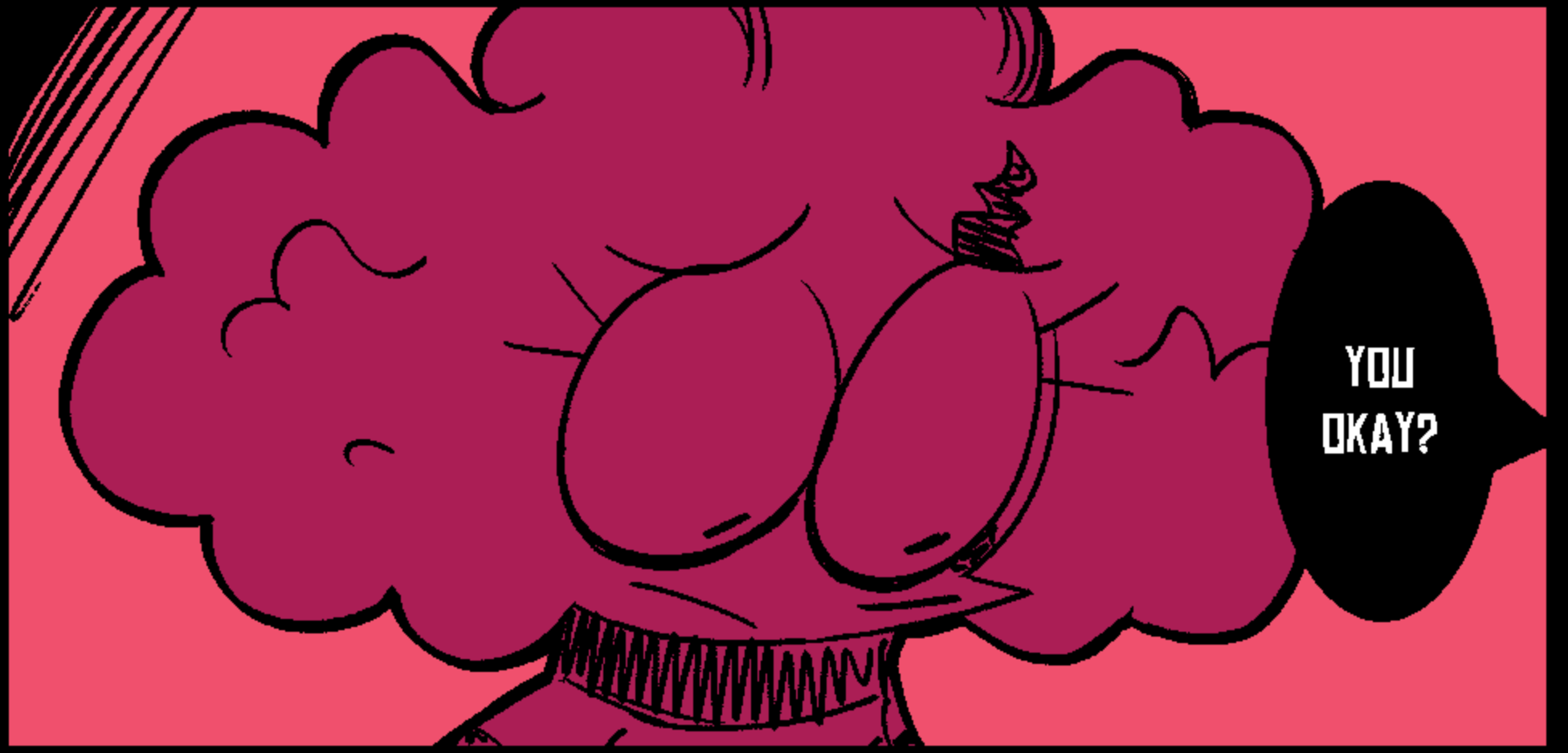


I NEED TO GO...

HEY NO WAIT, I- I'M SORRY!

NO IT'S NOT YOU, IT'S ME. I'M NOT GONNA TAKE MY ANGER OUT ON YOU GUYS...





YOU
OKAY?



WOW, IT'S THE DEMON THAT
CHILLI SAW DURING HER
BREAKDOWN IN ISSUE 8!!
-A.H.



OKAY, SO... WHAT ARE
YOU EXACTLY? ARE YOU
LIKE, A DEMON THAT LIVES
IN MY HEAD?

I- I GUESS SO...
I DON'T REALLY
REMEMBER MUCH BEFORE
THE BEAST THING...



DO YOU HAVE
A NAME?

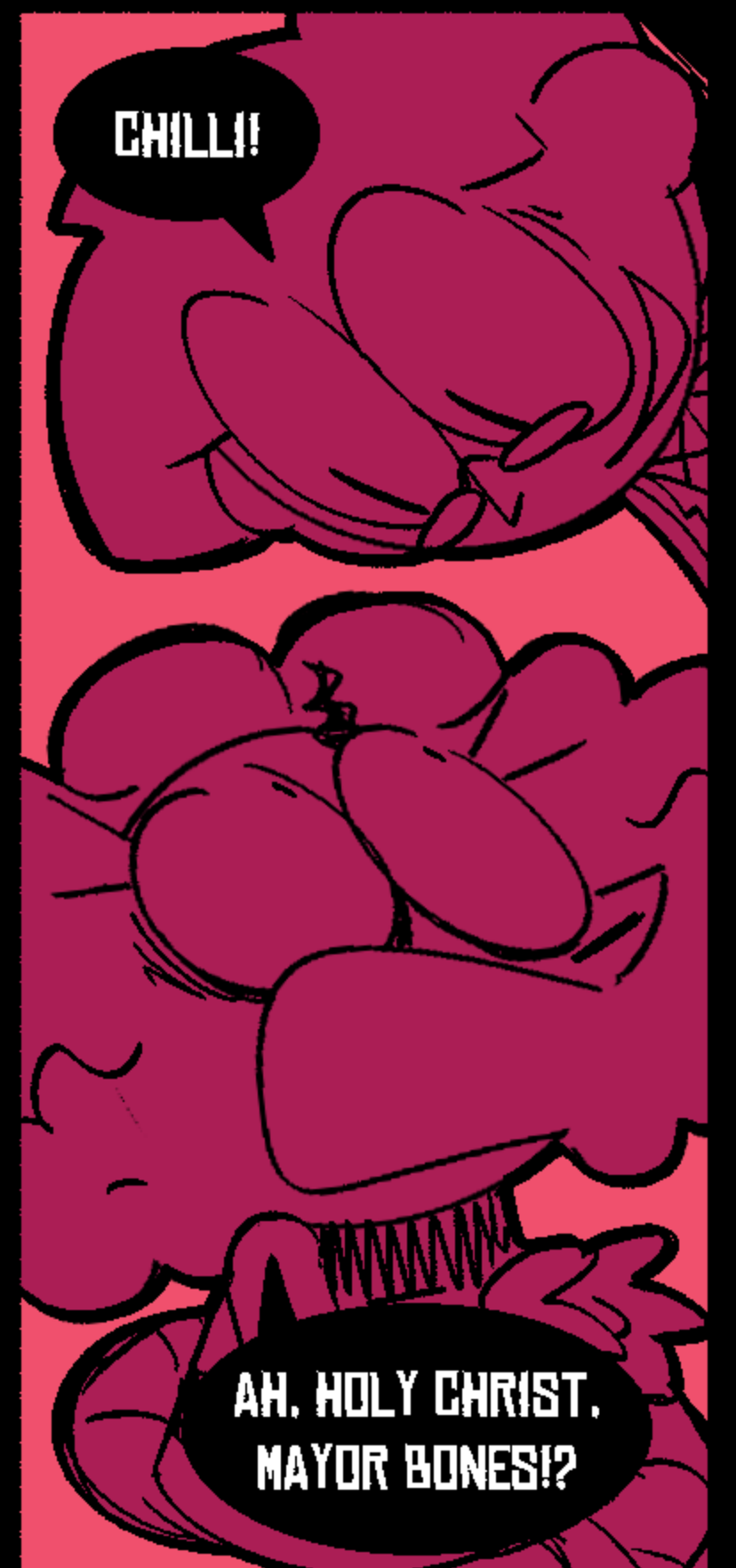
UHH... I GUESS YOU CAN
CALL ME CHERRY! CHERRY
SOUNDS LIKE A NICE NAME
FOR ME!

HOW'VE YOU BEEN HOLDING
UP FOR THE LAST FEW DAYS?
A LOT SEEMS TO BE HAPPENING.
TO SAY THE LEAST...



WELL

I GUESS TECHNICALLY.
THINGS COULD BE WORSE-



CHILLI!

AH. HOLY CHRIST.
MAYOR BONES!?





"STUPID" OR NOT. IT'S THE ONLY THING THAT'S GONNA KEEP THIS TOWN FROM SINKING INTO BANKRUPTCY!

IF YOU DON'T COOPERATE WITH THIS, CHILLI. HEART ATTACK COVE WILL DIE. AND IT'LL BE YOUR FAULT!



WOULD YOU BE ABLE TO HANDLE THAT ON YOUR CONSCIENCE?

IF THIS TOWN DIES, IT WOULD BE THE MAYOR'S FAULT. NOT SOME RANDOM KID'S.



YOU ARE NOT "SOME RANDOM KID." YOU ARE CHILLI. AND THERE'S TOO MUCH RIDING ON THIS FOR YOU TO BACK OUT NOW.

OUR BIGGEST CLIENT HAS THREATENED TO LEAVE, AND IF THEY'RE GONE, WE'RE TOAST!



WE NEED TO GET BACK ON THEIR GOOD SIDE, AND I KNOW A WAY HOW. BUT YOU NEED TO HELP ME IN ORDER FOR IT TO WORK.

TOO BAD.



YOUR FATHER. HE WORKS AT BLANCA'S, RIGHT?

Y- YEAH?



A FINE EATERY. TOO MUCH BLANCA
FOR MY LIKING. BUT THAT'S BESIDES
THE POINT...



HE PROBABLY HAS TO TAKE HIGHWAY
60 DURING HIS MORNING COMMUTE
IN ORDER TO GET THERE.

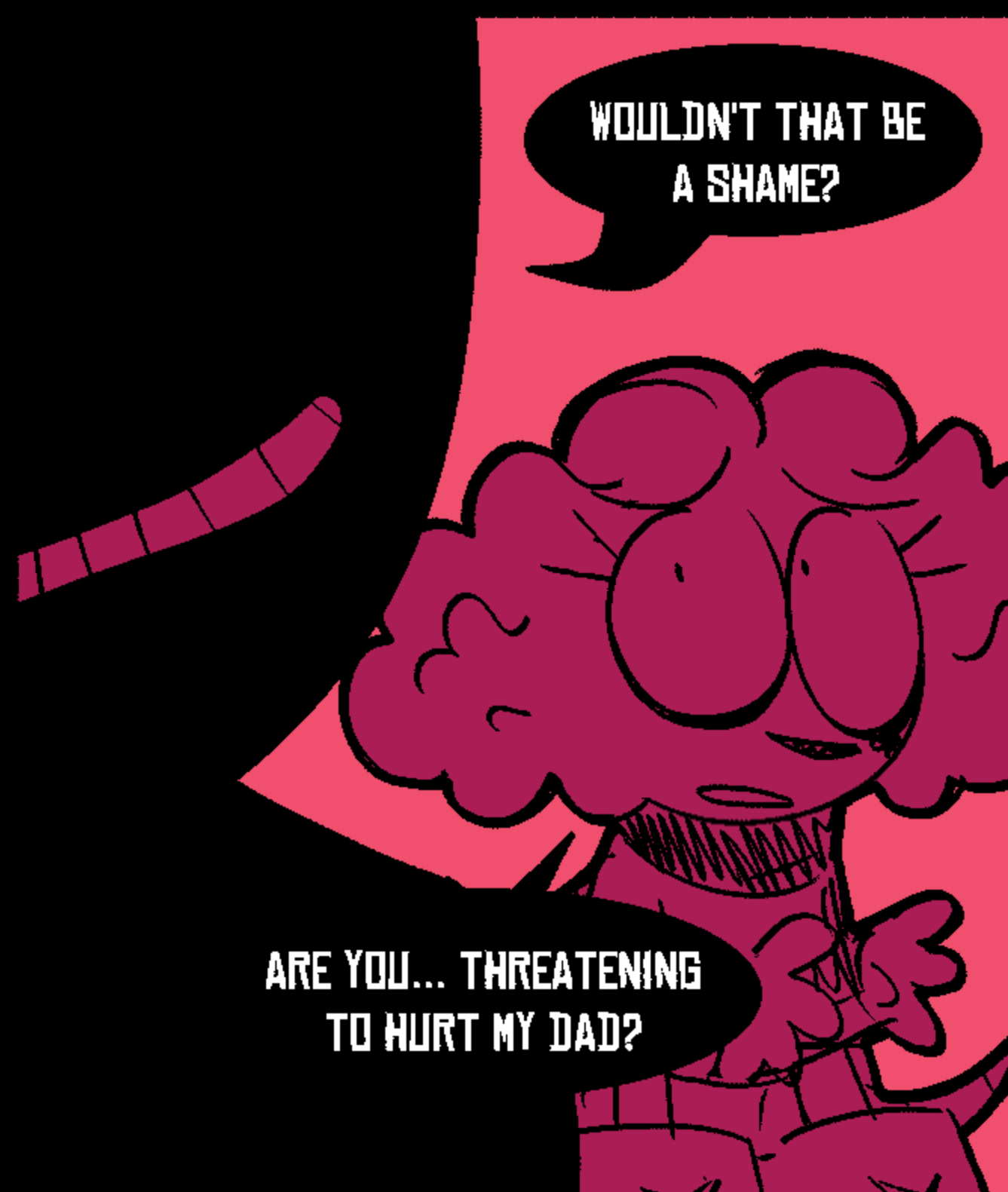
SO FINICKY. THAT HIGHWAY.
IT'S KNOWN FOR ITS CONSTANT
CAR CRASHES. IT MUST BE A
GAMBLE EVERY TIME HE USES IT.

WHAT IF ONE DAY,
HE GOT UNLUCKY?



WHAT IF ONE DAY HE GOT INTO
AN ABSOLUTELY TERRIBLE WRECK,
THAT LEAVES HIM PARALYZED FROM
HIS ARMS TO HIS LEGS?

YOU AND YOUR FATHER WOULD
PROBABLY DROWN IN DEVASTATING
MEDICAL BILLS!



WOULDN'T THAT BE
A SHAME?

ARE YOU... THREATENING
TO HURT MY DAD?



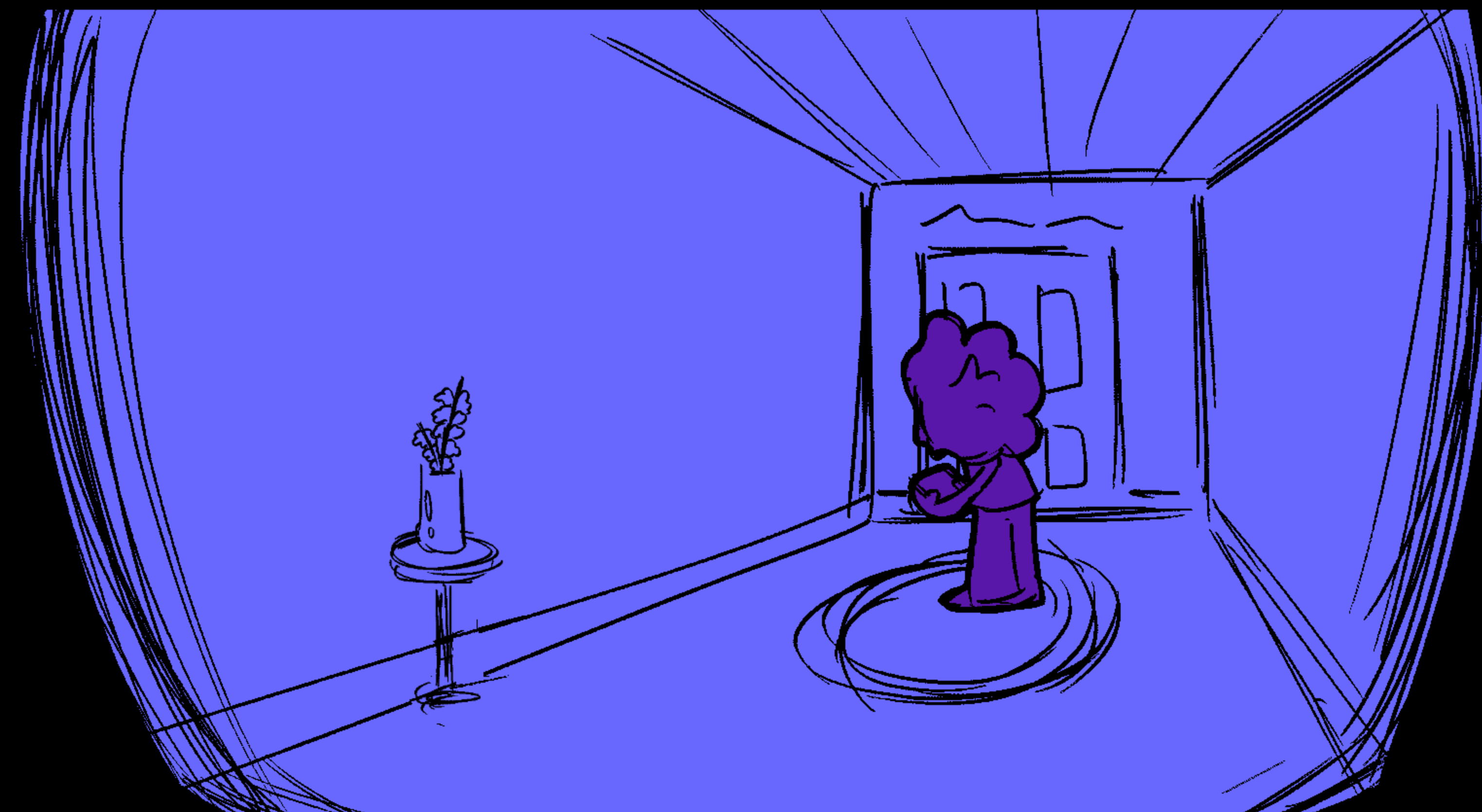
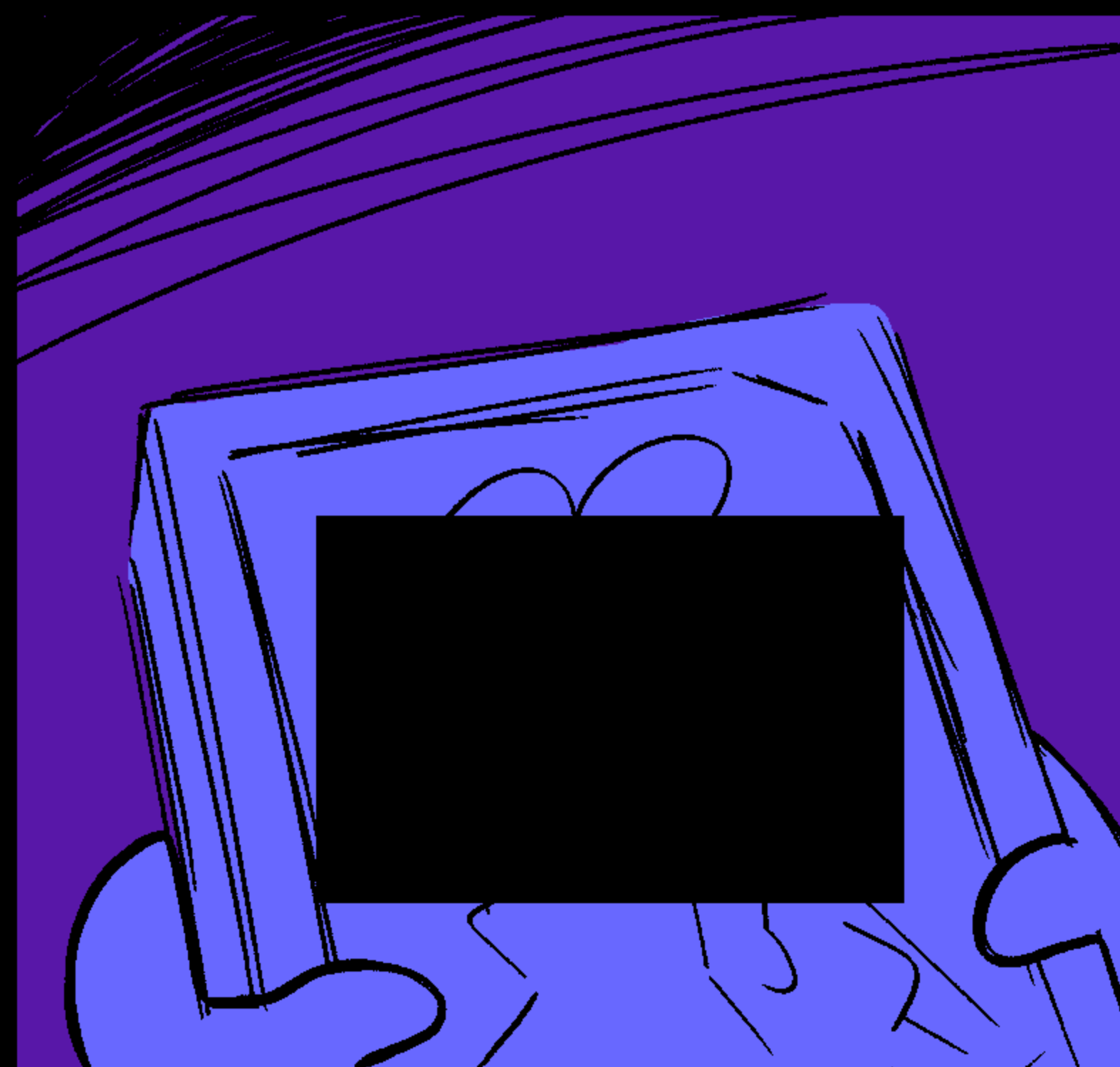
I'M NOT THREATENING
ANYTHING TO ANYONE!

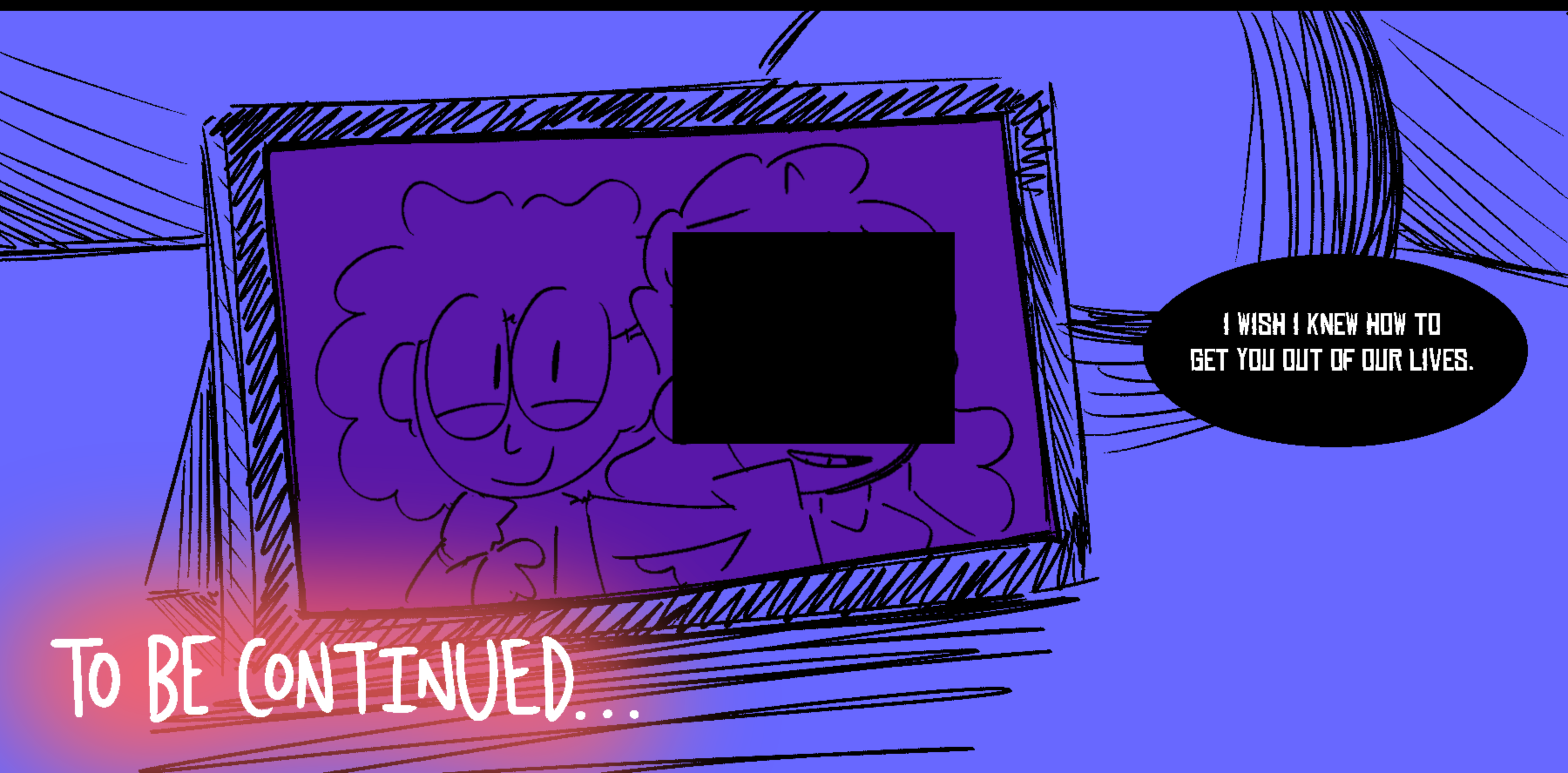
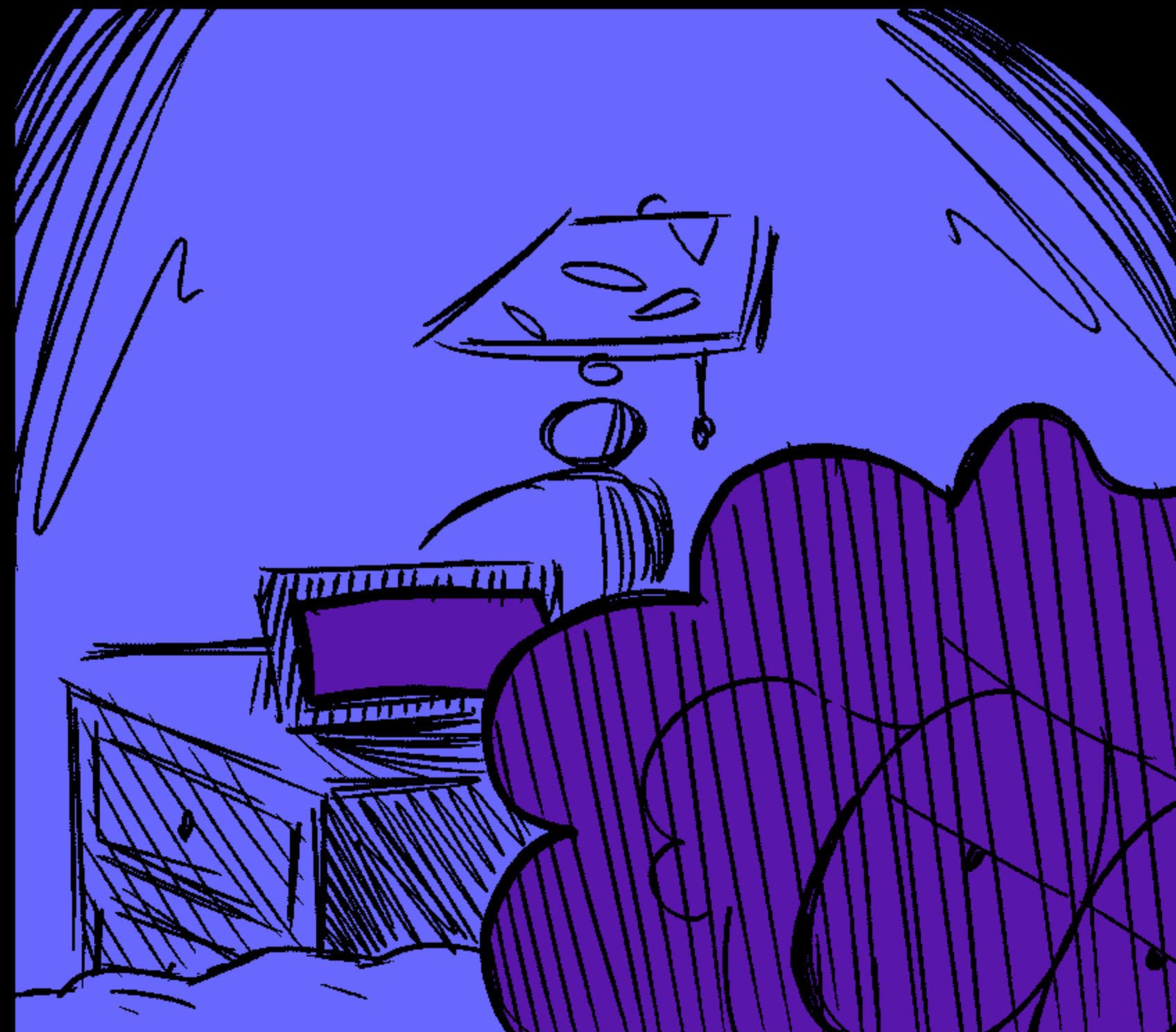
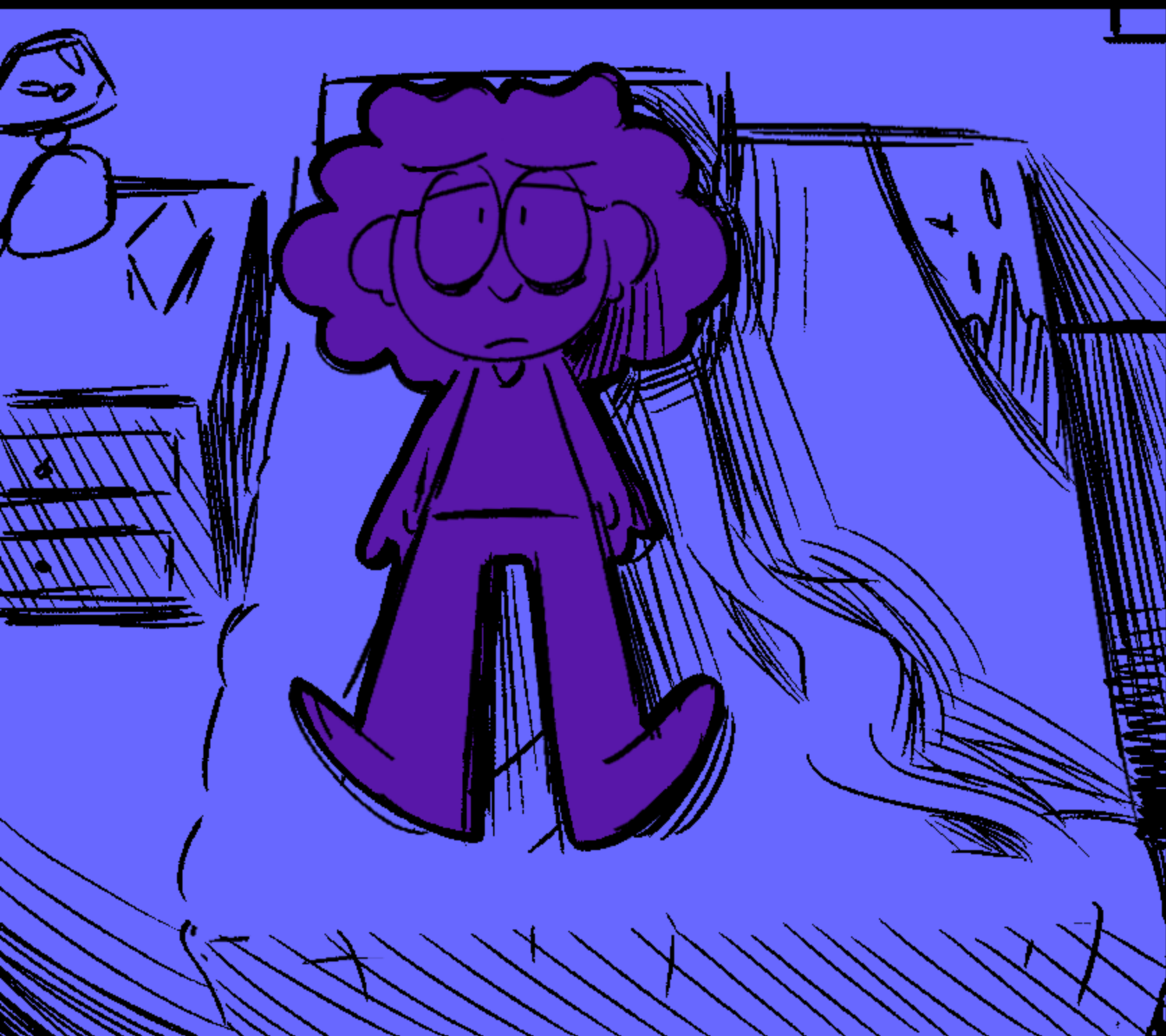


BUT I HAVE CONNECTIONS.
AND IF I HAVE TO USE THEM...

I
WILL.







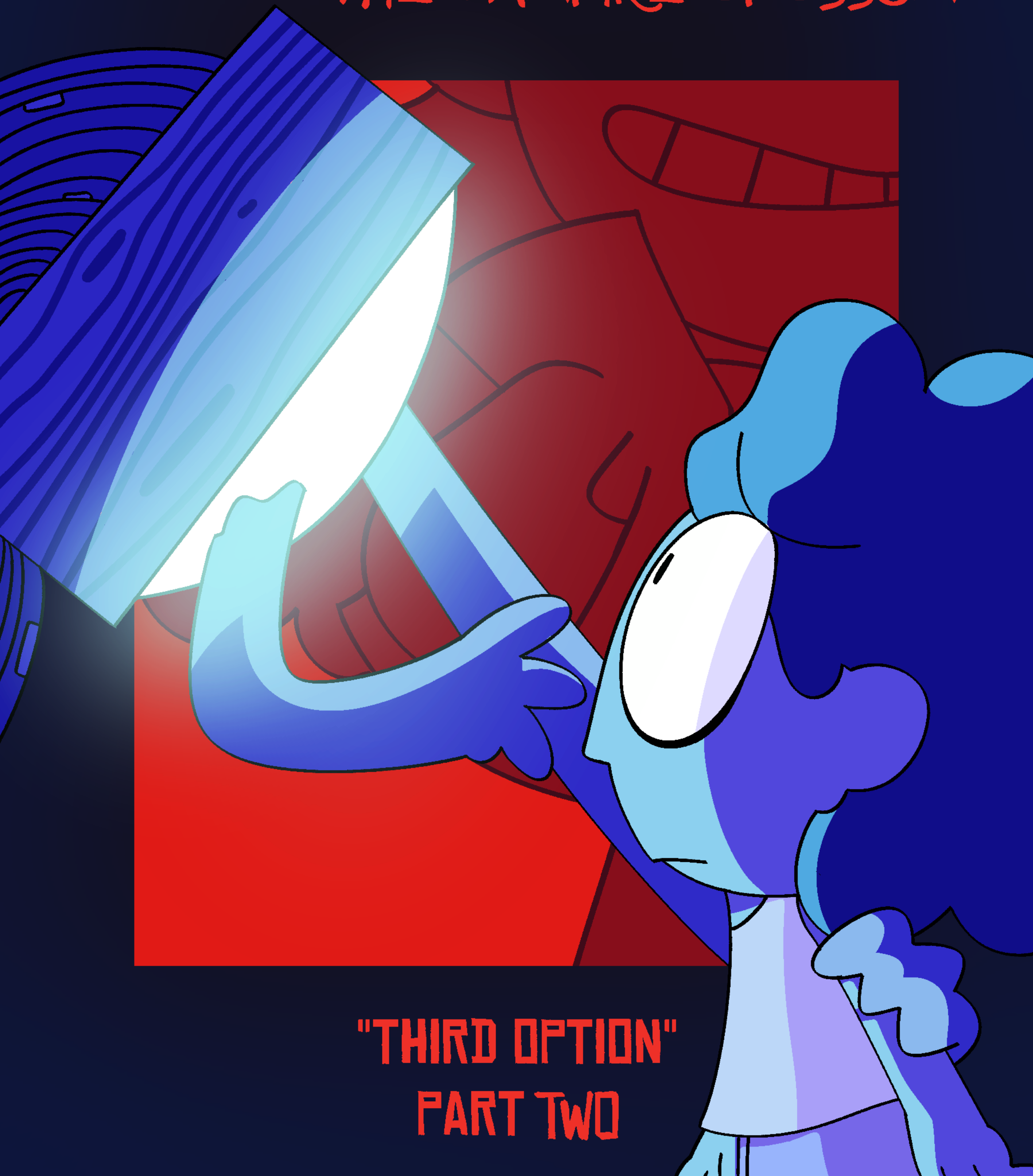
TO BE CONTINUED...



#14

CHILLI

THE VAMPIRE OPOSSUM



"THIRD OPTION"
PART TWO

tw:

abuse

blood

bright colors

death

death threats

eyes

homophobia

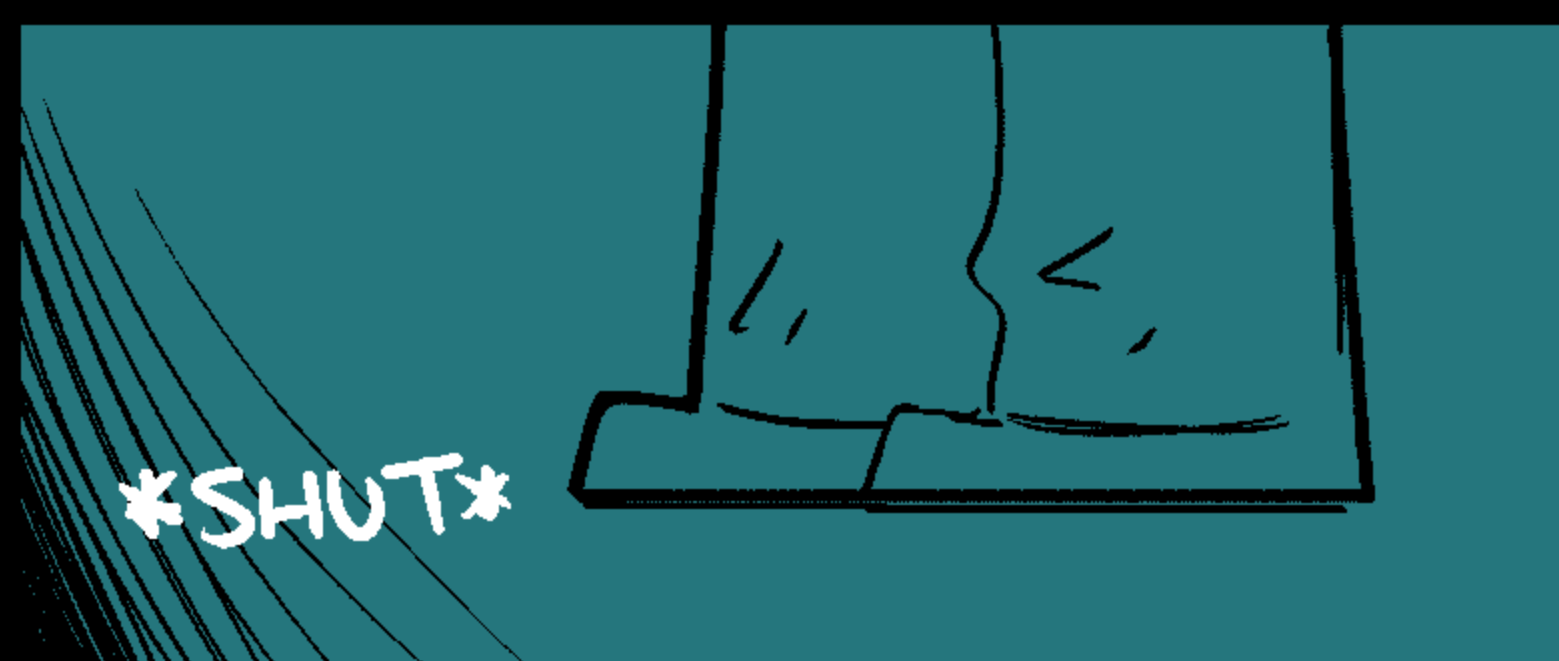
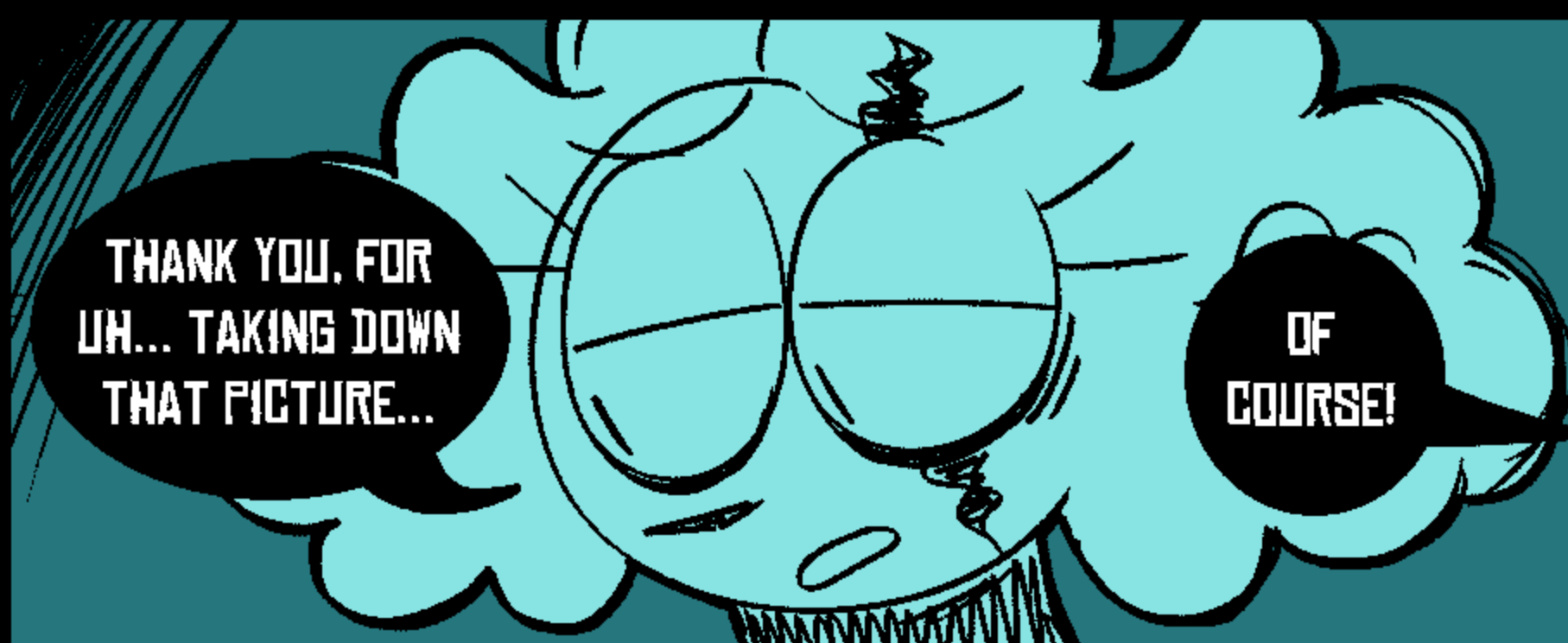
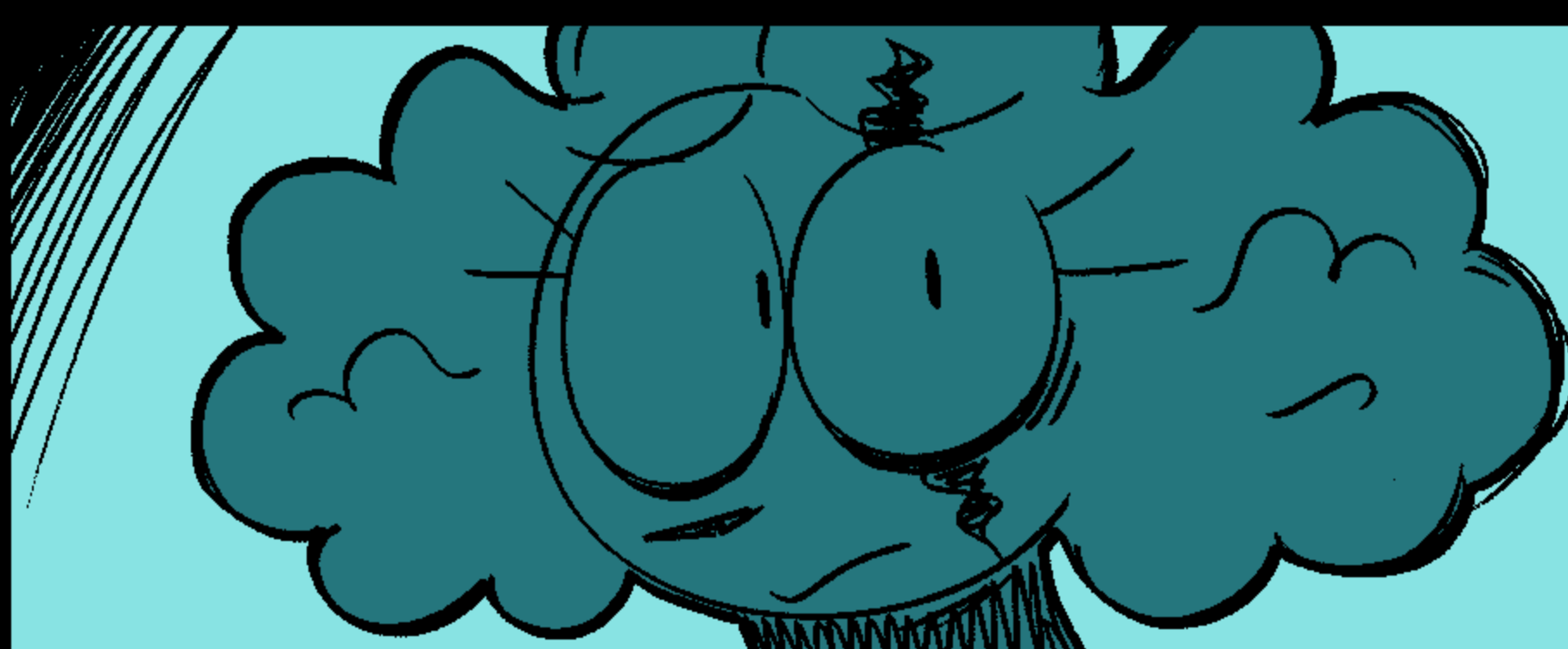
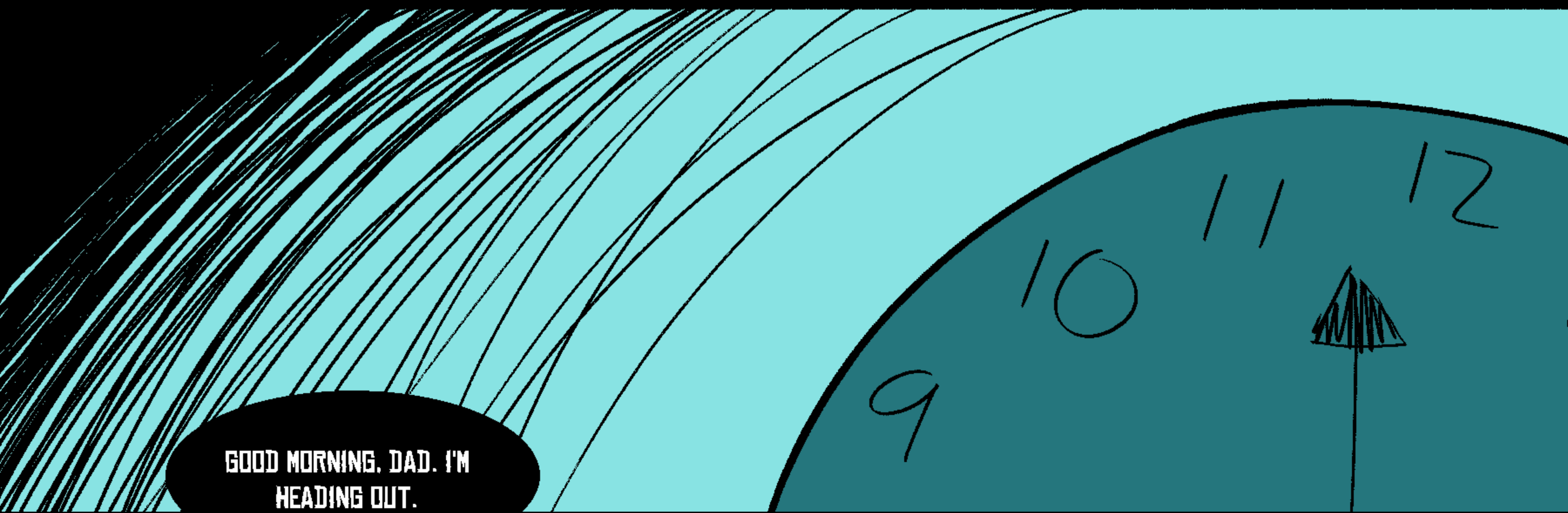
intrusive thoughts

knife

panic attack

ptsd

trauma



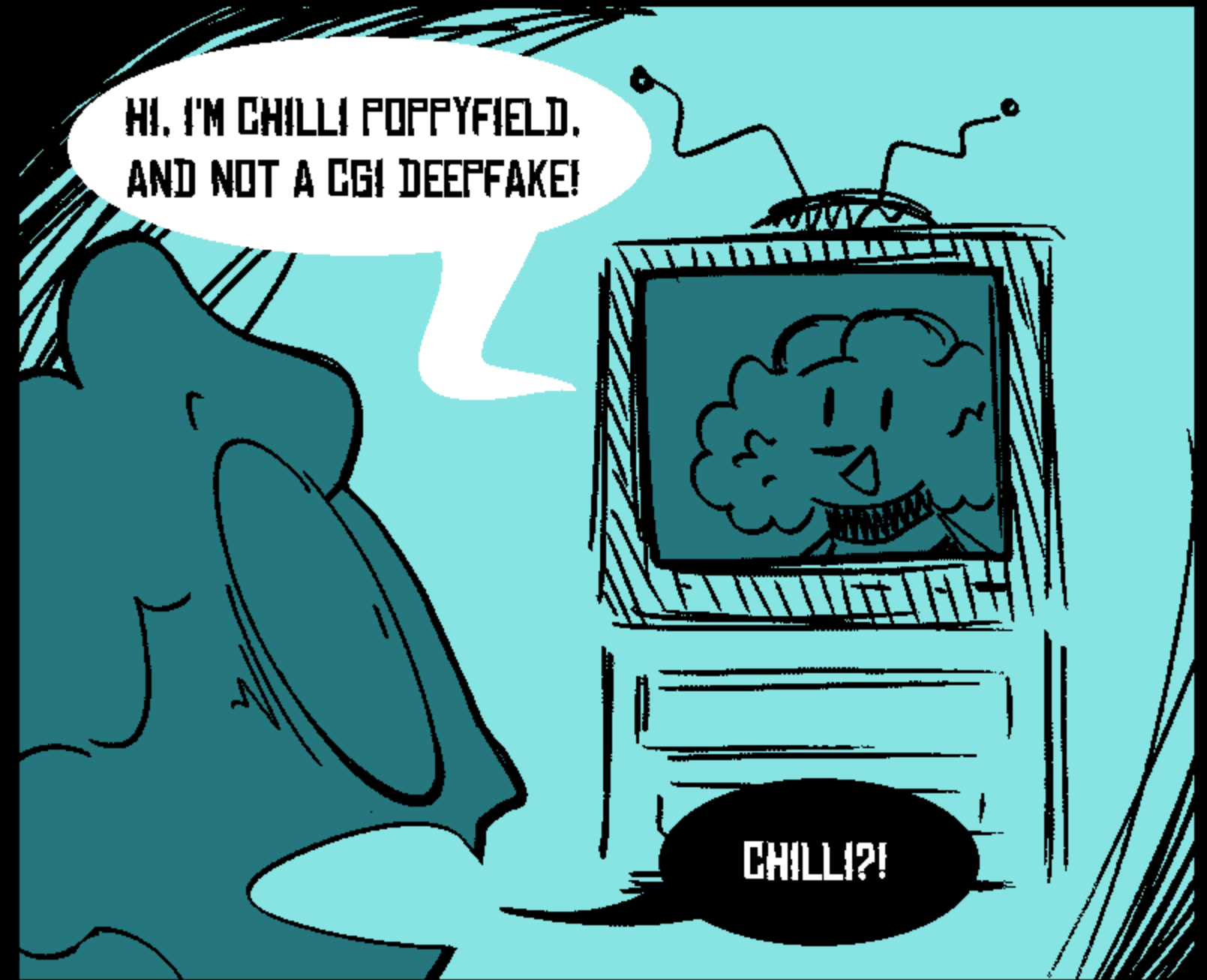


MAYBE I NEED TO
CLEAR MY MIND, TOO.

LET'S SEE WHAT'S
ON TV.

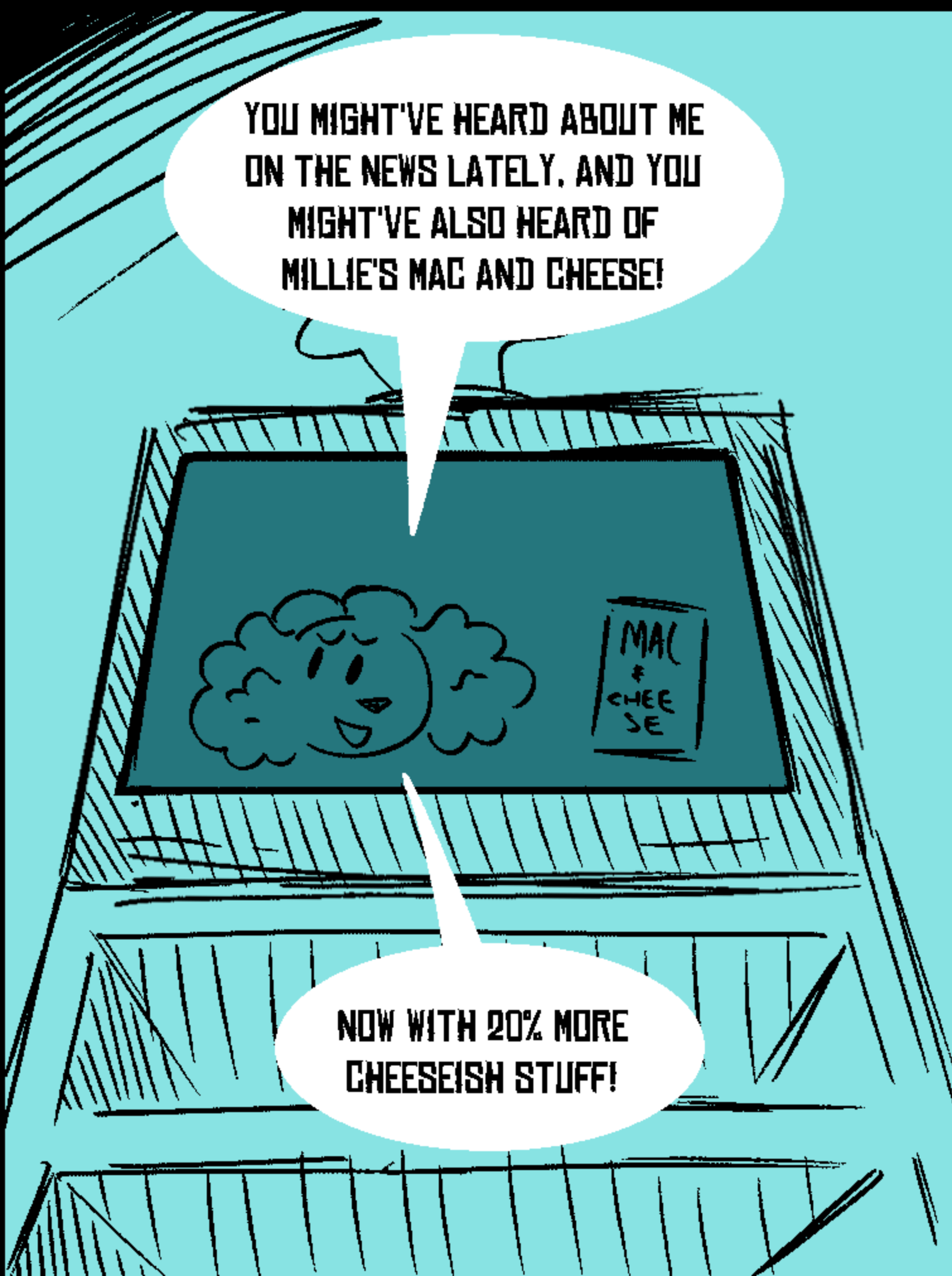


I DON'T THINK I'VE
EVEN WATCHED TV
IN LIKE... MONTHS-



HI, I'M CHILLI POPPYFIELD,
AND NOT A CGI DEEFAKE!

CHILLI?!

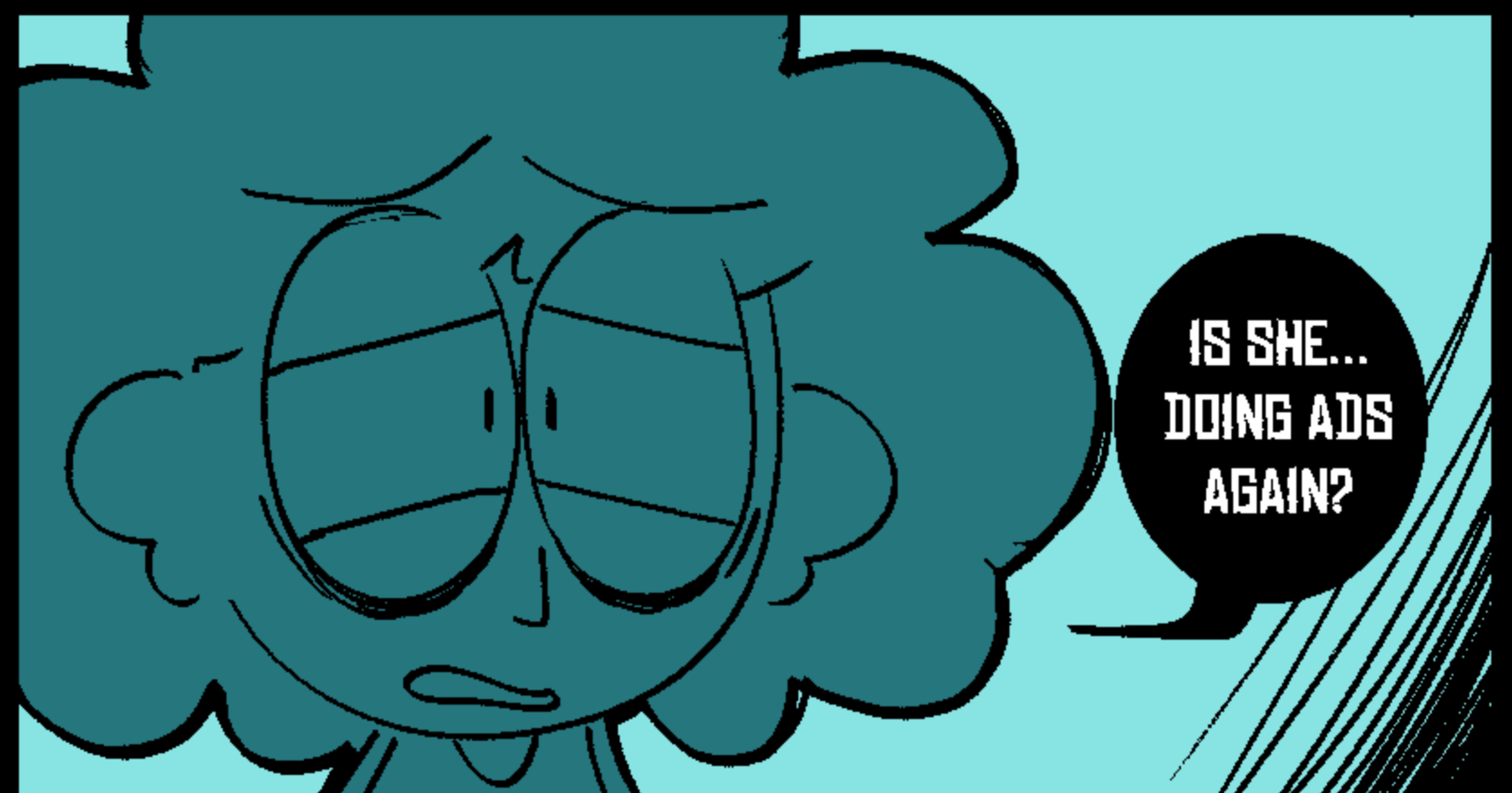


YOU MIGHT'VE HEARD ABOUT ME
ON THE NEWS LATELY, AND YOU
MIGHT'VE ALSO HEARD OF
MILLIE'S MAC AND CHEESE!

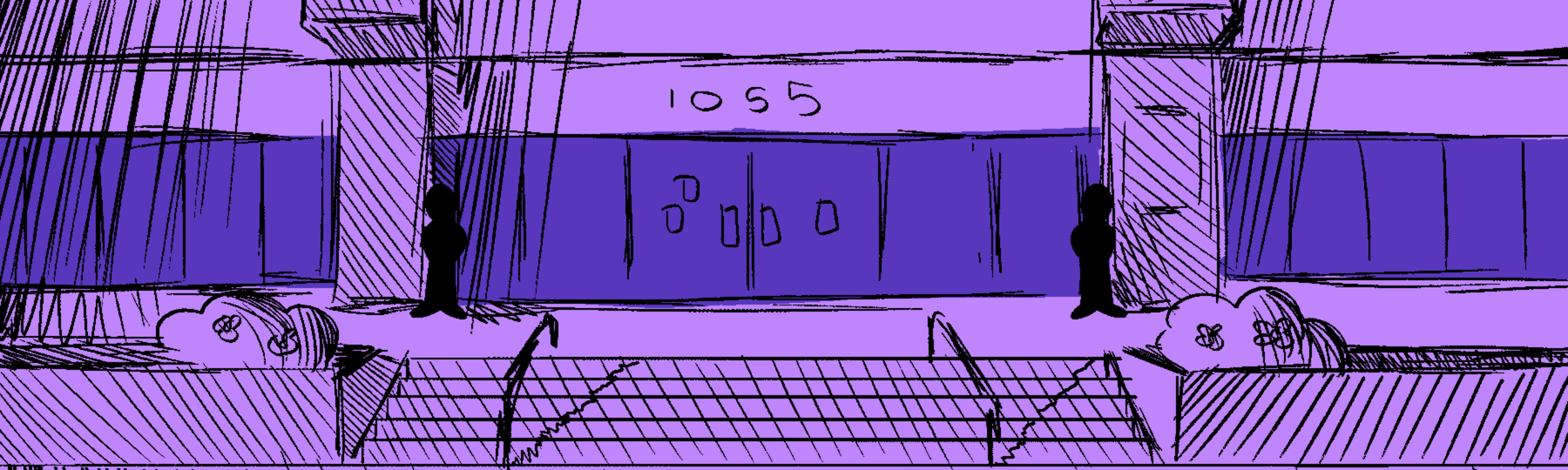
NOW WITH 20% MORE
CHEESEISH STUFF!



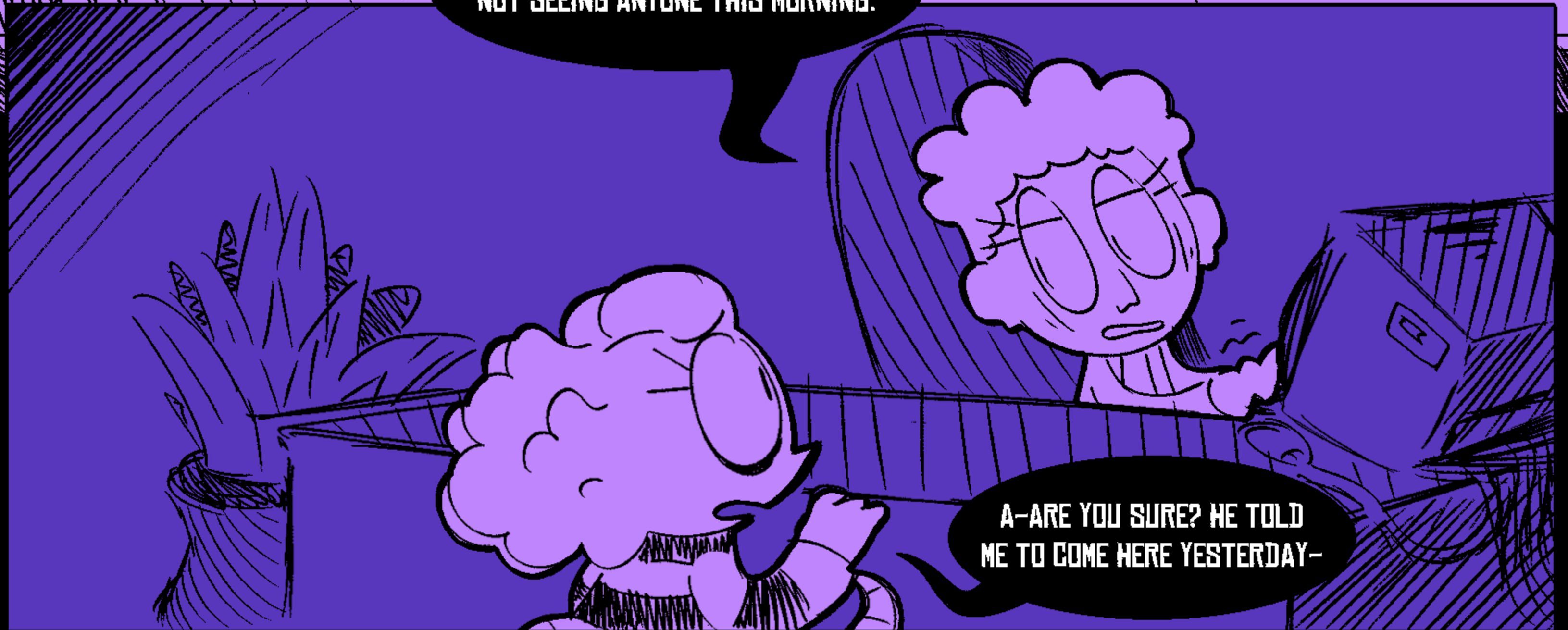
IGNORE THE NEWS!
EAT MILLIE'S INSTEAD!



IS SHE...
DOING ADS
AGAIN?



SORRY, CHILLI. THE MAYOR'S
NOT SEEING ANYONE THIS MORNING.



A-ARE YOU SURE? HE TOLD
ME TO COME HERE YESTERDAY-

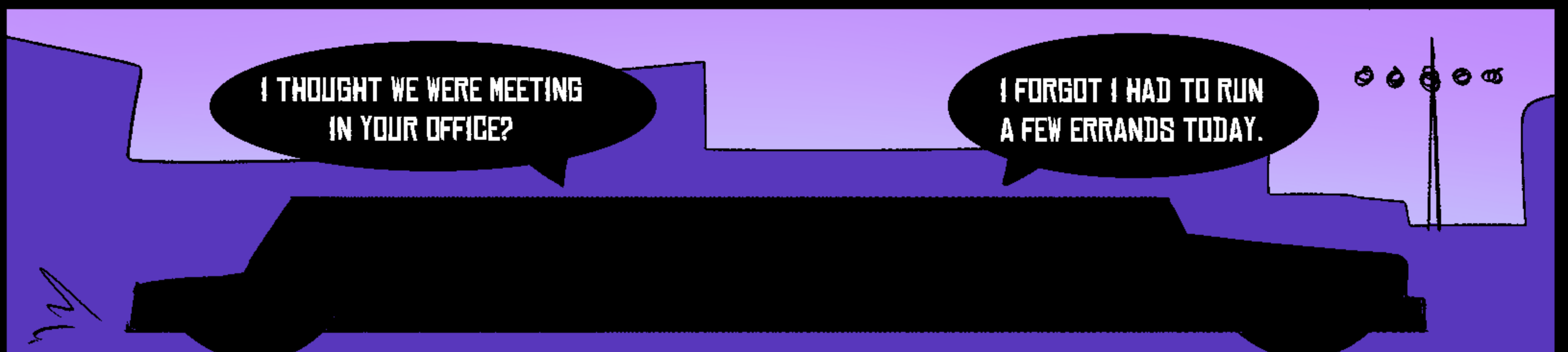


BEEP
BEEP!



I THOUGHT WE WERE MEETING
IN YOUR OFFICE?

I FORGOT I HAD TO RUN
A FEW ERRANDS TODAY.





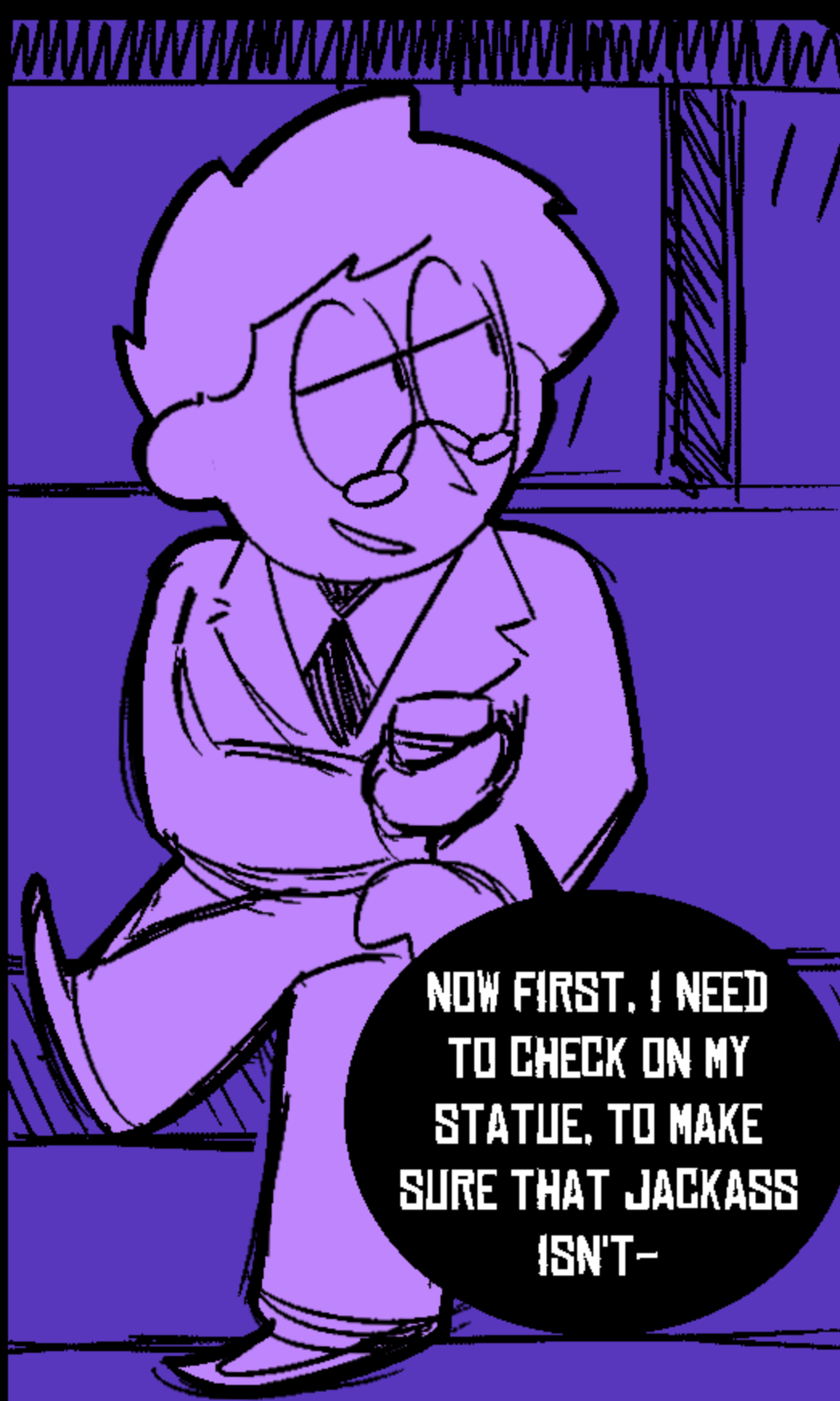
IT WON'T TAKE LONG. I'LL JUST
EXPLAIN EVERYTHING IN HERE.

YOU LIKE THE LIMO? I'VE
HAD IT DESIGNED TO SUIT
MY VERY SPECIFIC TASTE!



THESE SEATS
ARE STICKY...

JUST THE WAY
I LIKE 'EM!



NOW FIRST, I NEED
TO CHECK ON MY
STATUE, TO MAKE
SURE THAT JACKASS
ISN'T-



H- HEY,
HEY!



HOW MANY TIMES DO I
HAVE TO TELL YA, BUD!



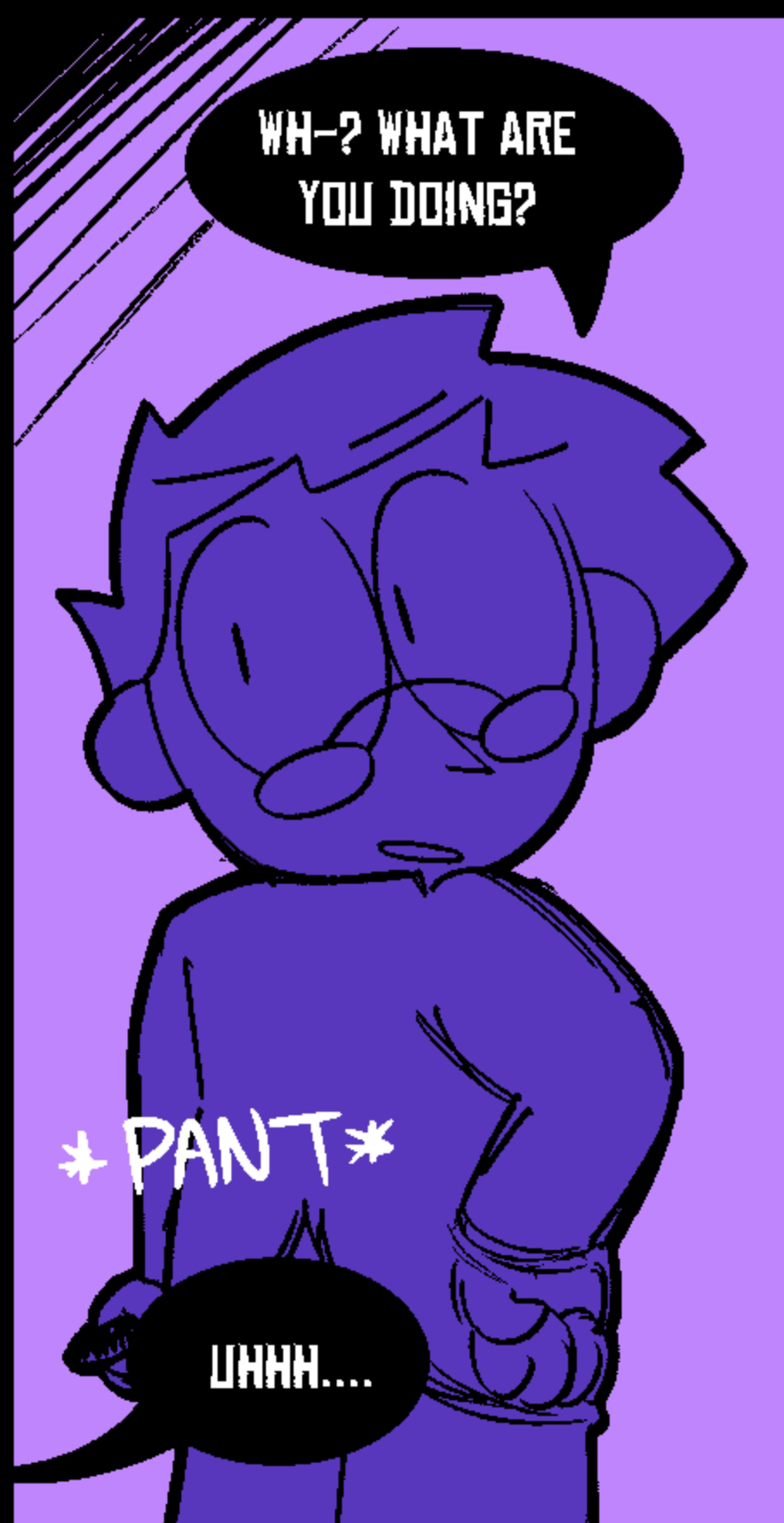
QUIT MESSING WITH MY
STATUE, OR I'LL SHOVE
THIS KNIFE INTO YOUR
TORSO!

BEAT IT!



YEAH THERE YA GO.
RUN AWAY LIKE THE
COWARD YOU ARE!

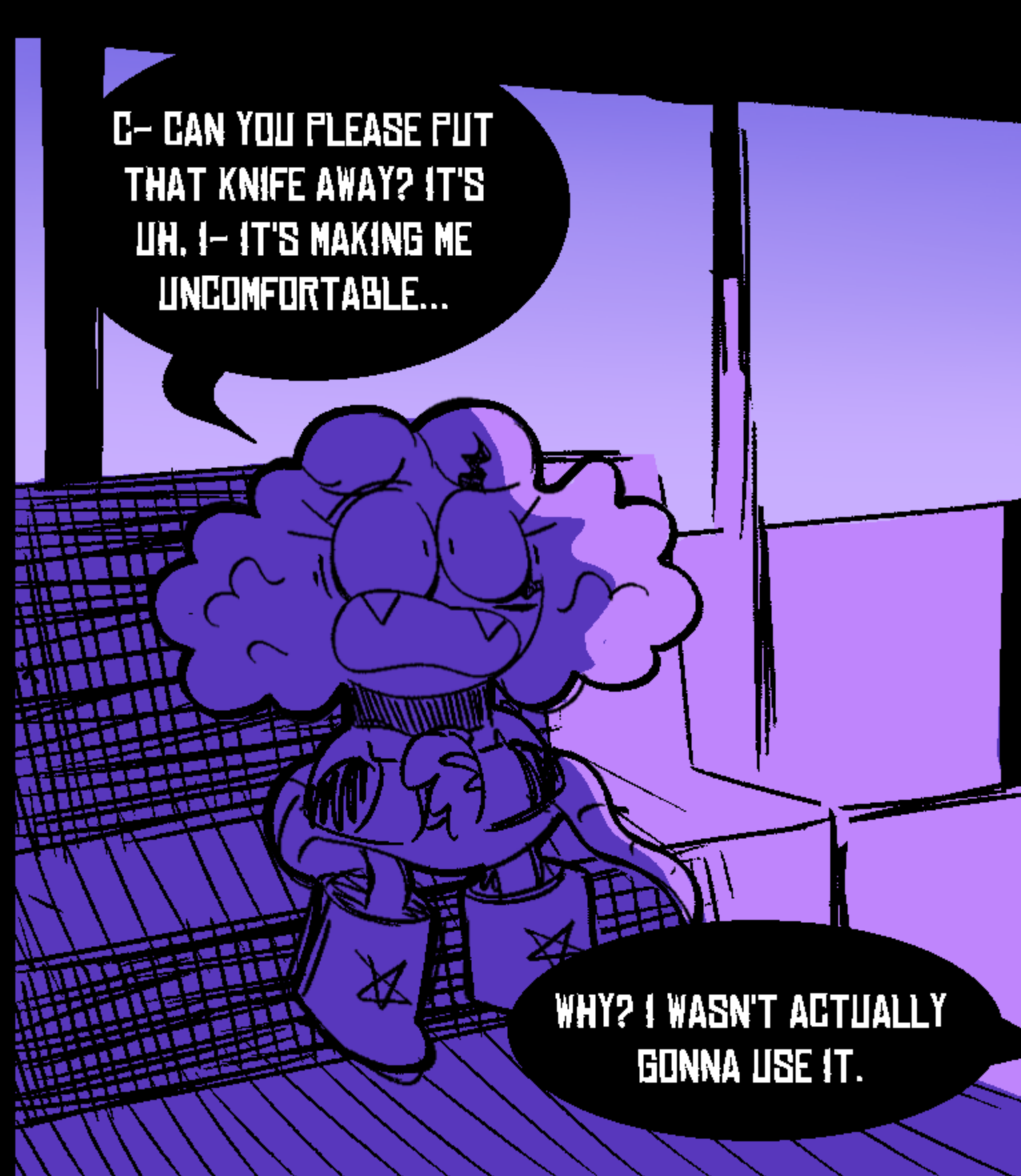
* PANT *
* PANT *



WH-? WHAT ARE
YOU DOING?

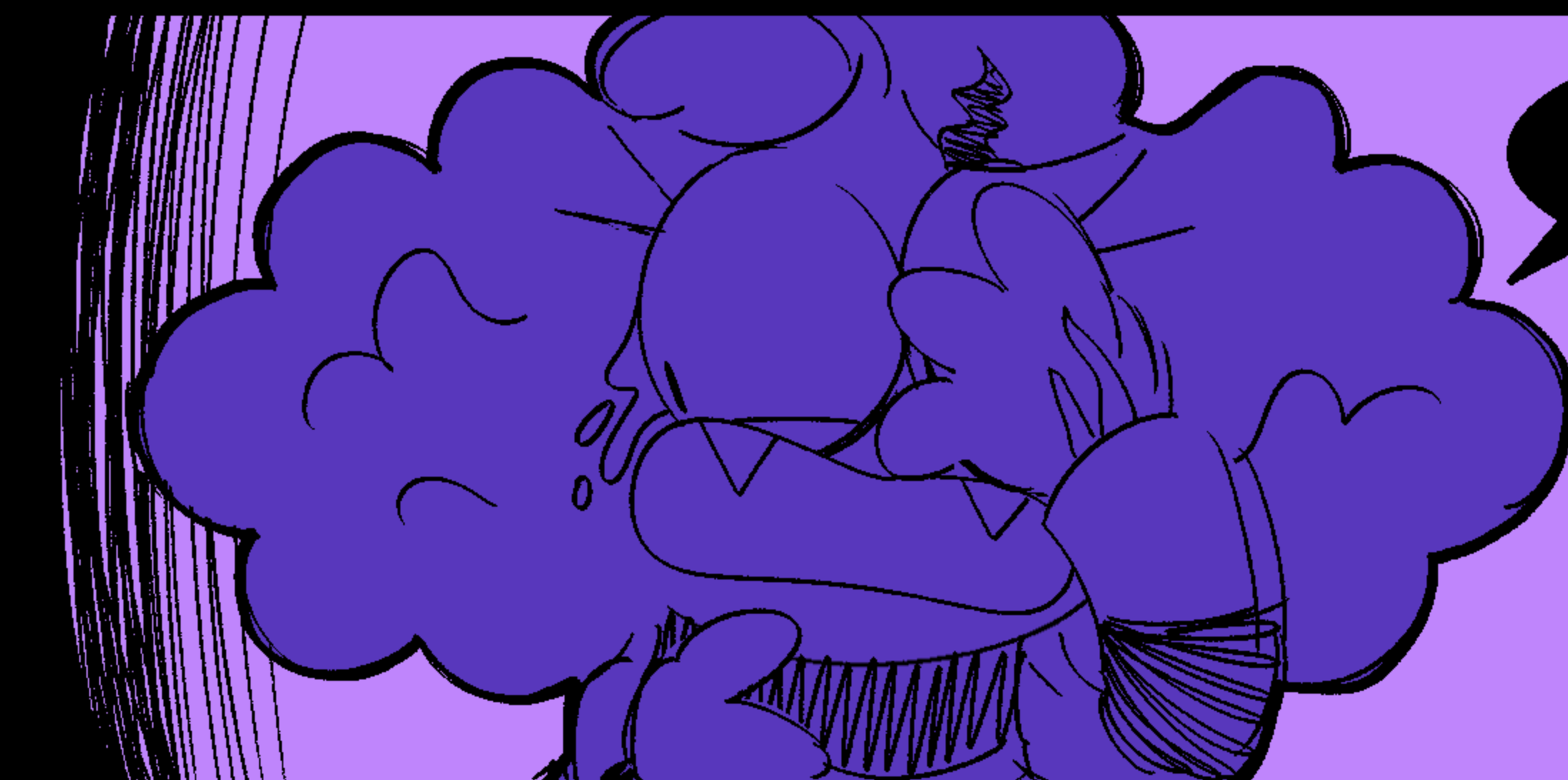
* PANT *

UHHH....



C- CAN YOU PLEASE PUT
THAT KNIFE AWAY? IT'S
UH, I- IT'S MAKING ME
UNCOMFORTABLE...

WHY? I WASN'T ACTUALLY
GONNA USE IT.



P- PLEASE, JUST
PUT IT AWAY!

PLEASE!!

JESUS, FINE. DON'T
CRY ABOUT IT.



C- CAN YOU JUST
EXPLAIN TO ME
WHAT THIS PLAN IS
ALREADY?!

ALRIGHT,
ALRIGHT,
CHILL.



SO YOU'RE AWARE OF LUCY'S SOUPS,
RIGHT? WELL THEIR PARENT COMPANY,
LUCY INCORPORATED, OWNS LOTS OF
OTHER BRANDS, FROM DISH SOAP TO
FAST FOOD.

THEY'RE BY FAR OUR BIGGEST
SPONSOR IN THIS CAMPAIGN,
AND WE NEED TO MAKE SURE
THEY STAY IN IT.

DID YOU HAVE THAT CAN
IN YOUR FRONT POCKET
THIS WHOLE TIME?

YES. I ALWAYS HAVE A
CAN IN MY FRONT POCKET.



LUCY'S
SOUPS

SO ANYWAY, Y'KNOW THE BABY
ON THE LUCY'S SOUPS LOGO? THAT'S
BABY LUCY, FOR WHICH THE COMPANY
WAS NAMED AFTER BY THE FOUNDER,
HER FATHER!

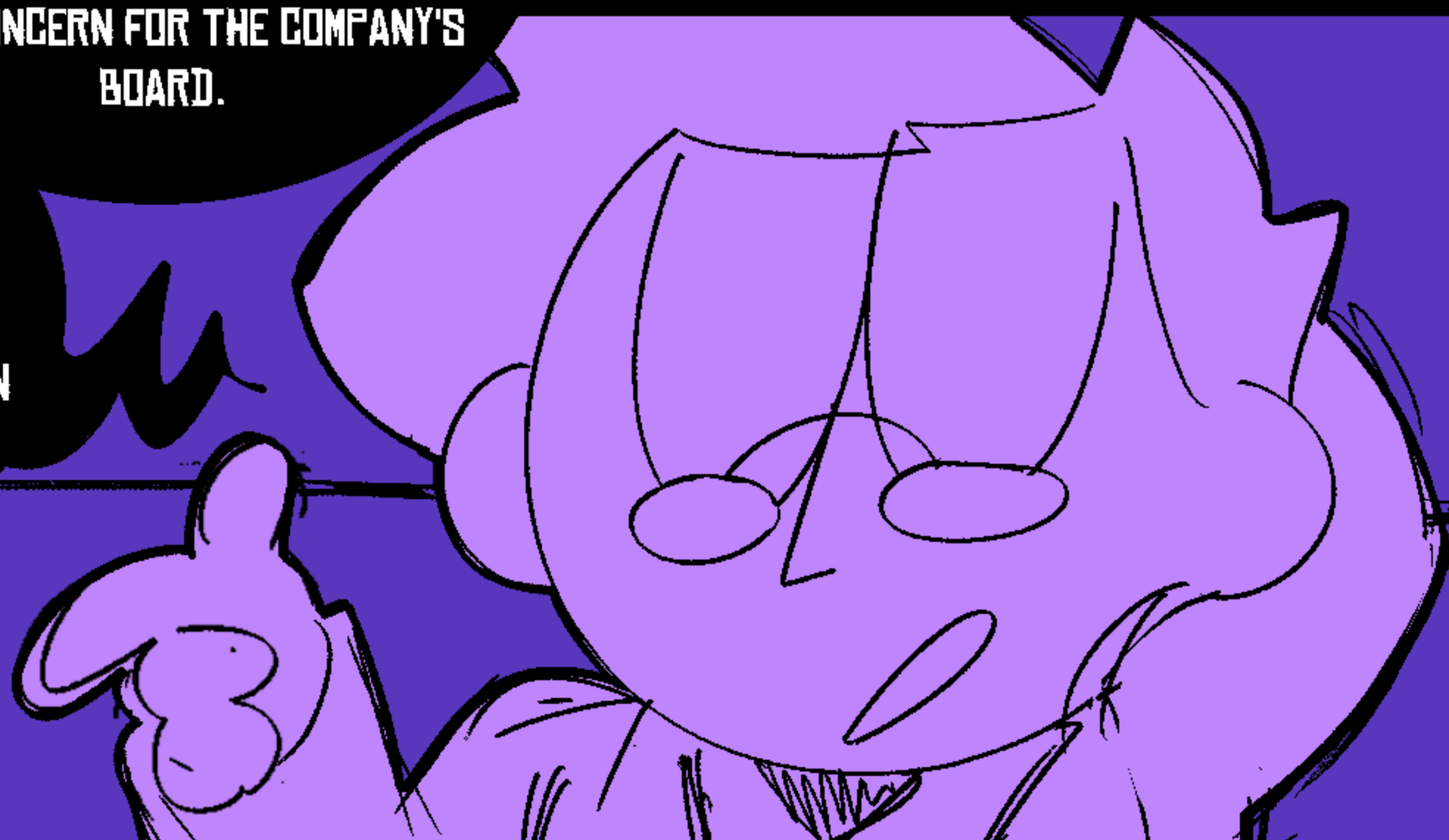
OF COURSE, AS THAT PICTURE
WAS TAKEN OVER 90 YEARS
AGO, LUCY IS NOW A VERY
OLD AND DYING LADY.



SHE'S BEEN THE FACE/SPOKESWOMAN
OF THE COMPANY FOR HER ENTIRE
LIFE, BEING BELOVED BY PEOPLE
ALL OVER THE WORLD, AND AS SUCH,
HER IMMINENT DEATH HAS CAUSED
SOME CONCERN FOR THE COMPANY'S
BOARD.

SO THAT'S WHERE YOU COME IN!
YOU'RE GONNA GO TO HER DEATH
BED, YOU'RE GONNA BITE HER, SHE'LL
BE REVIVED AS A VAMP UP, AND THE
PUBLIC (ALONG WITH THE COMPANY) CAN
SPEND MANY MORE YEARS WITH HER!

I... I DON'T KNOW HOW
COMFORTABLE I FEEL
ABOUT DOING THAT-

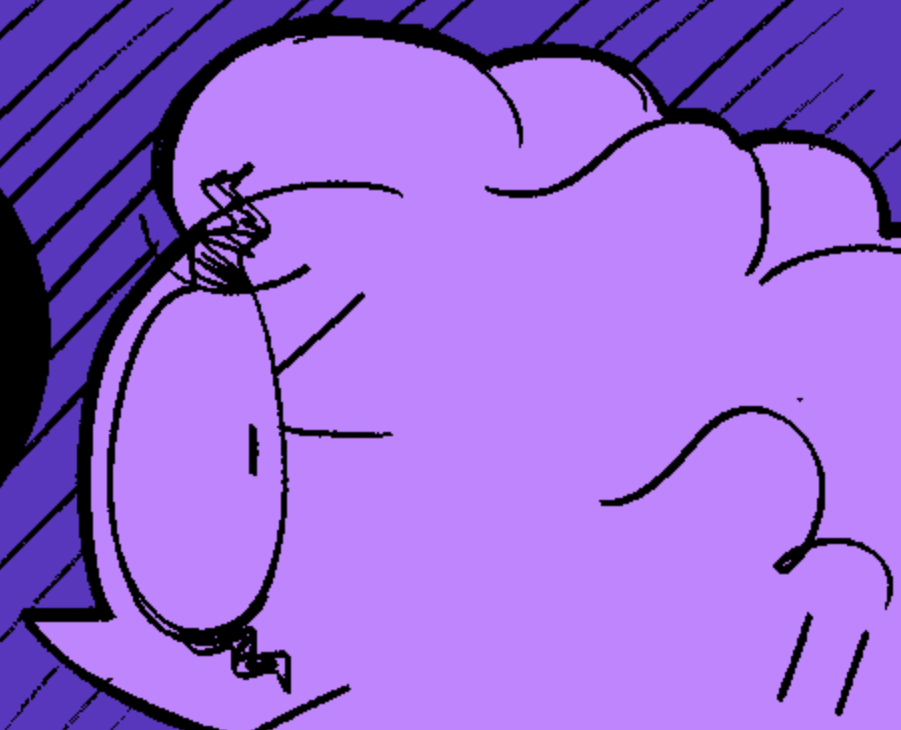


CHILLI, YOU'VE ALREADY AGREED
TO HELP ME, YOU CAN'T BACK
OUT NOW!

I- I KNOW,
B- BUT-



THIS COULD GIVE YOUR
RESURRECTION POWERS
SOME ACTUAL USE! AND IT
CAN ALSO HELP REPAIR
YOUR IMAGE WITH THE
TOWN!

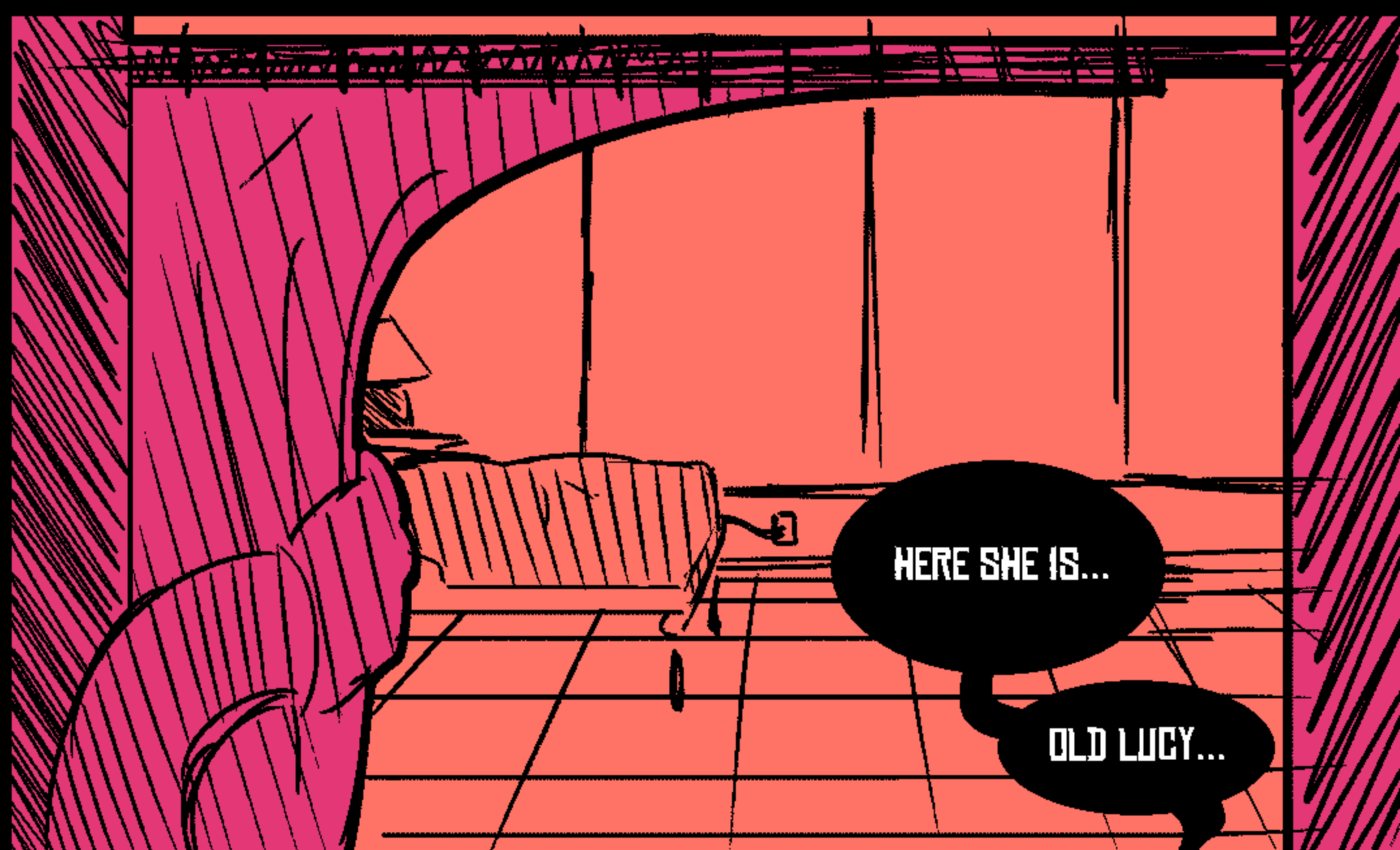
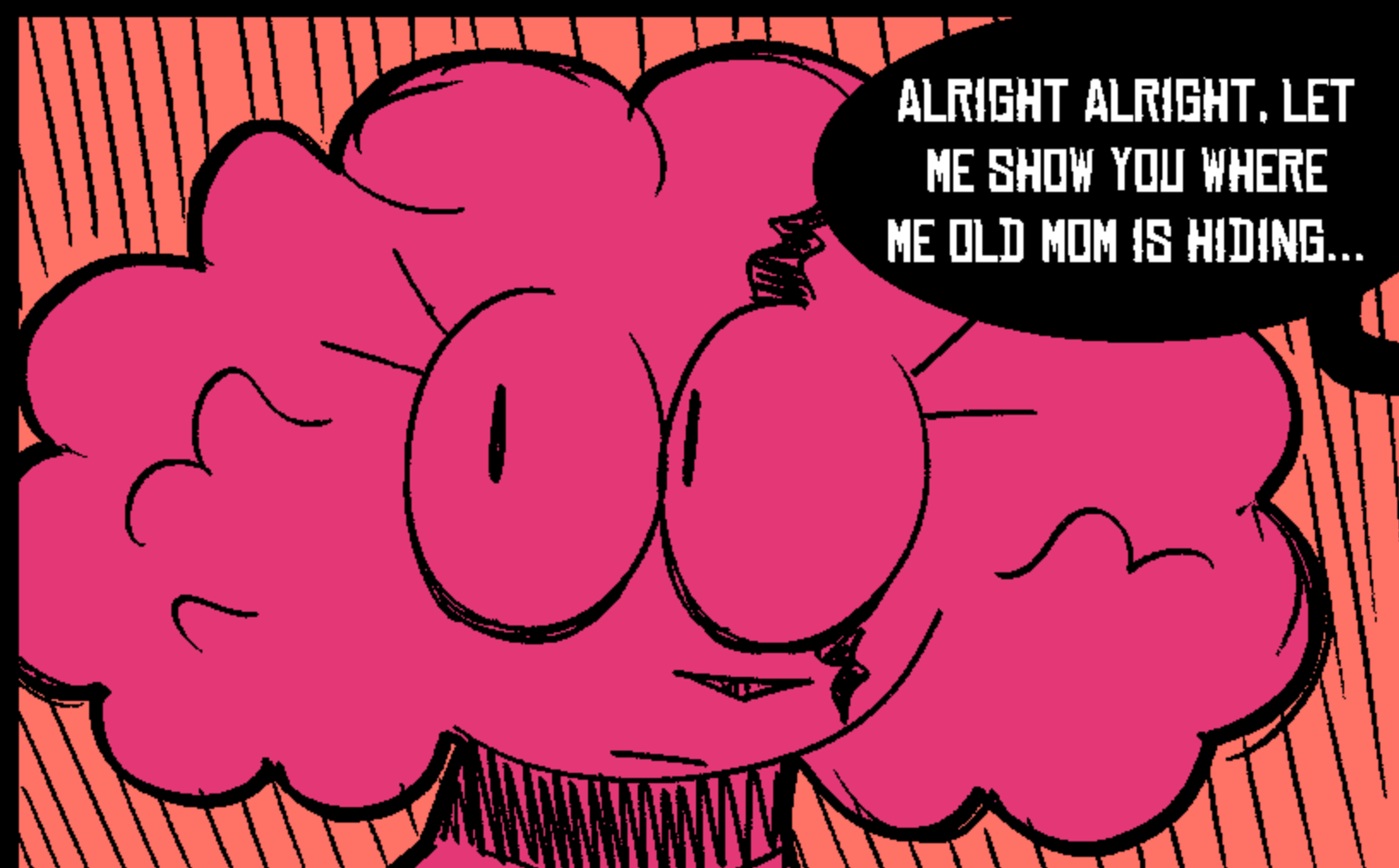
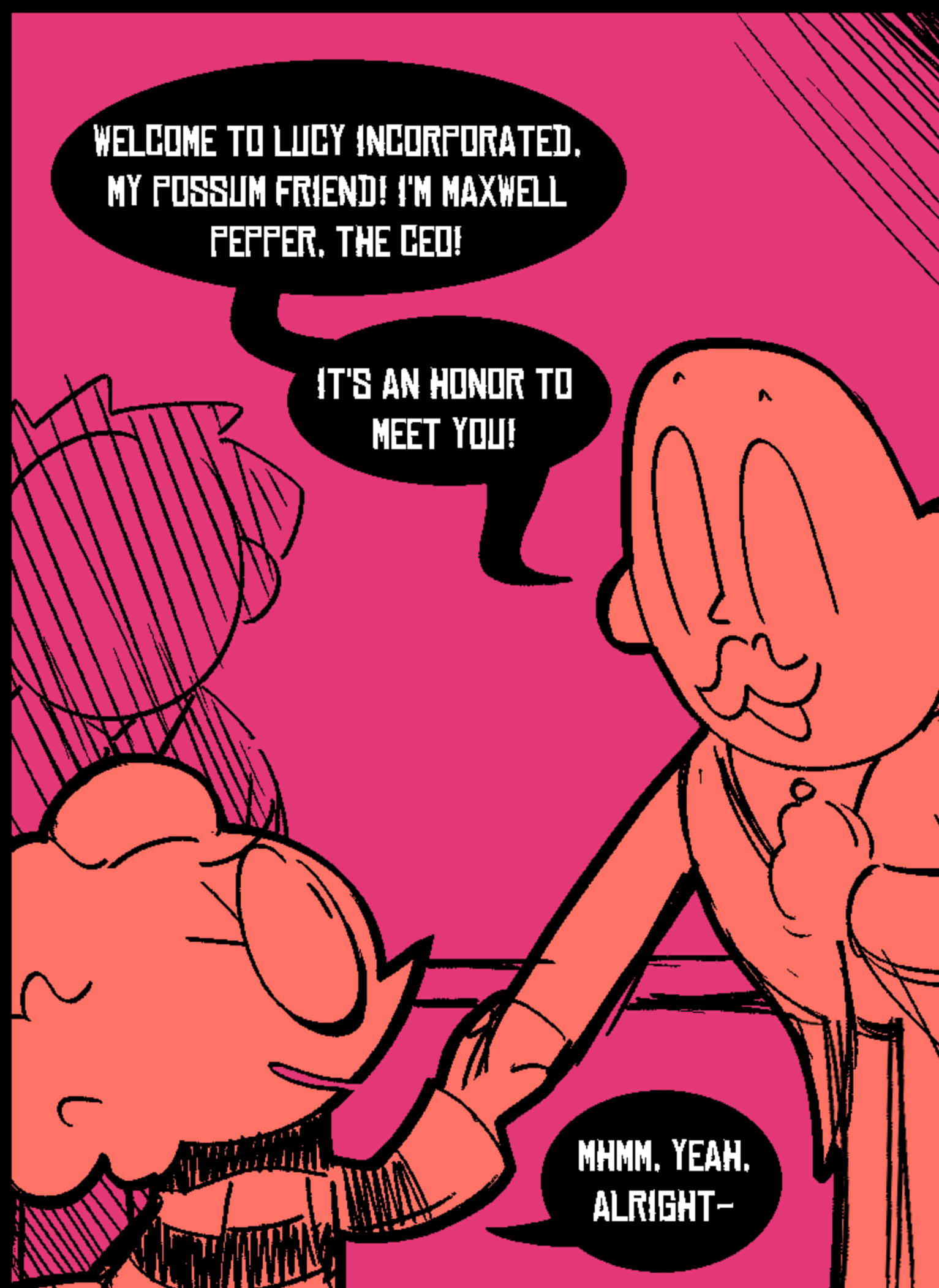


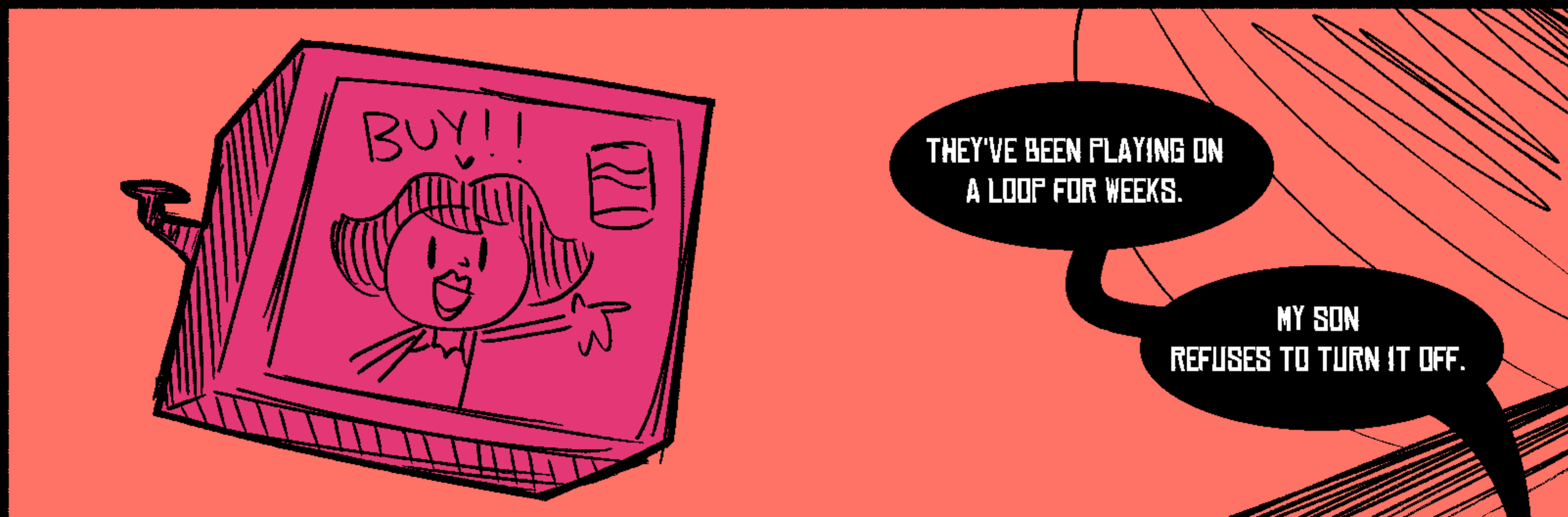
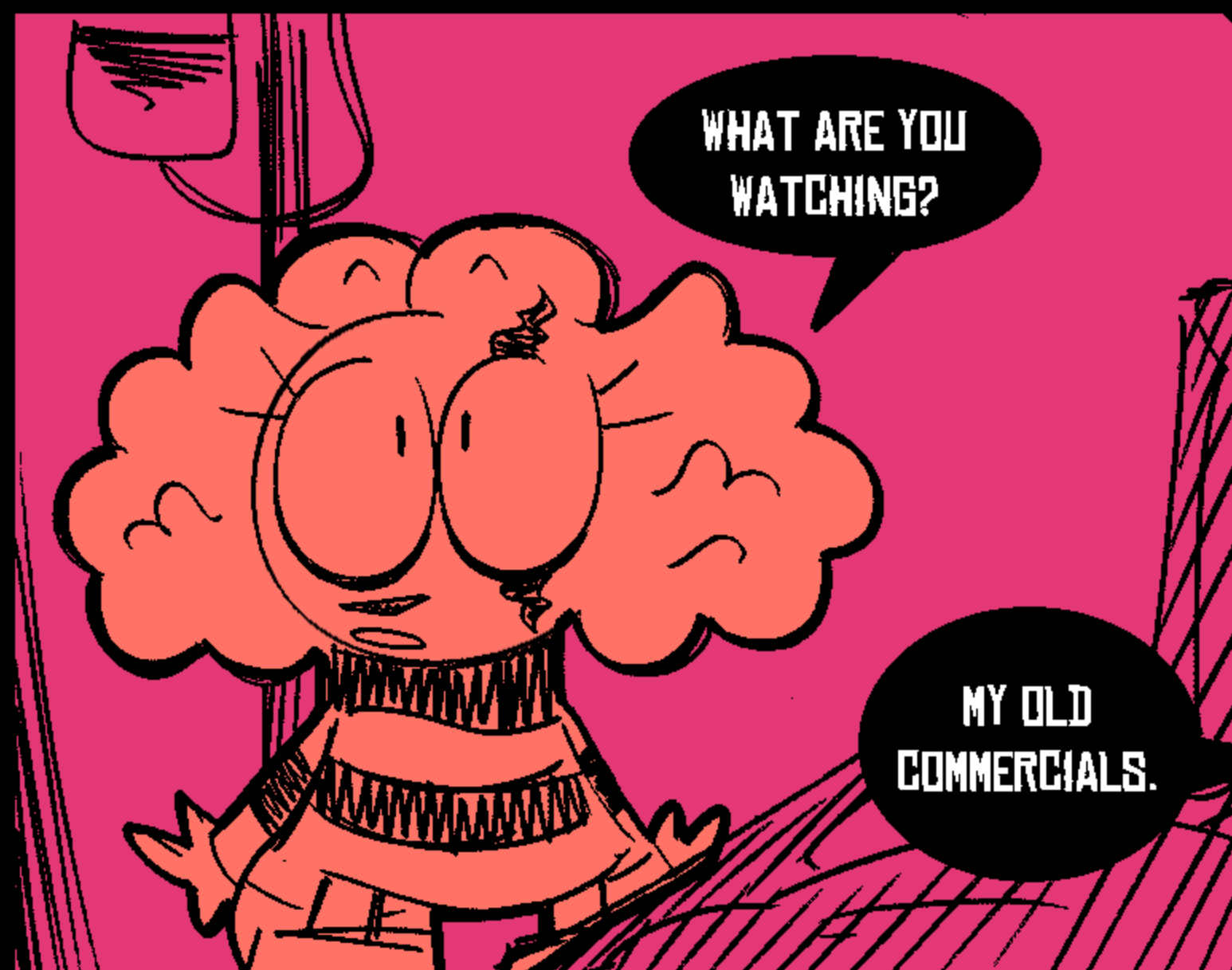
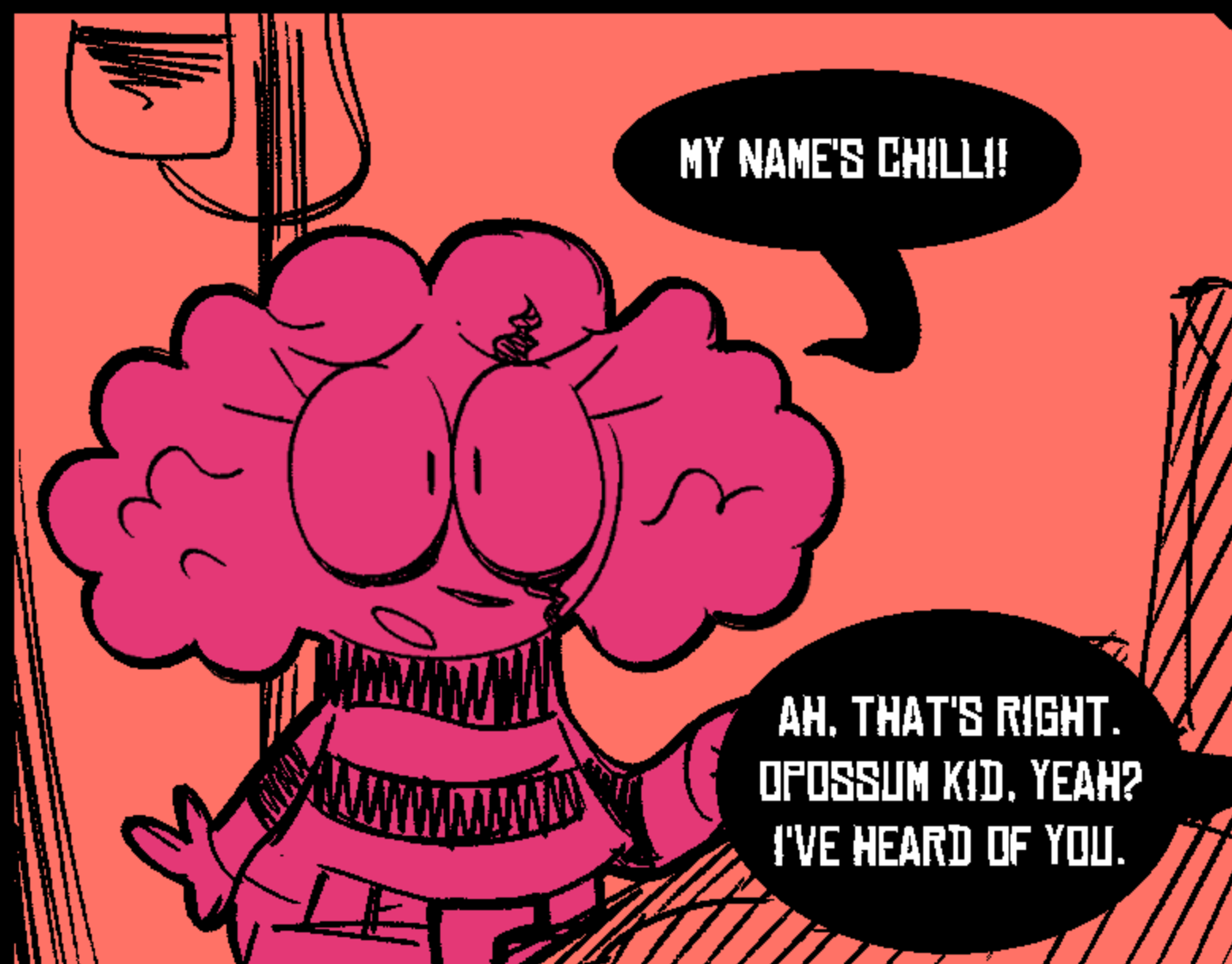
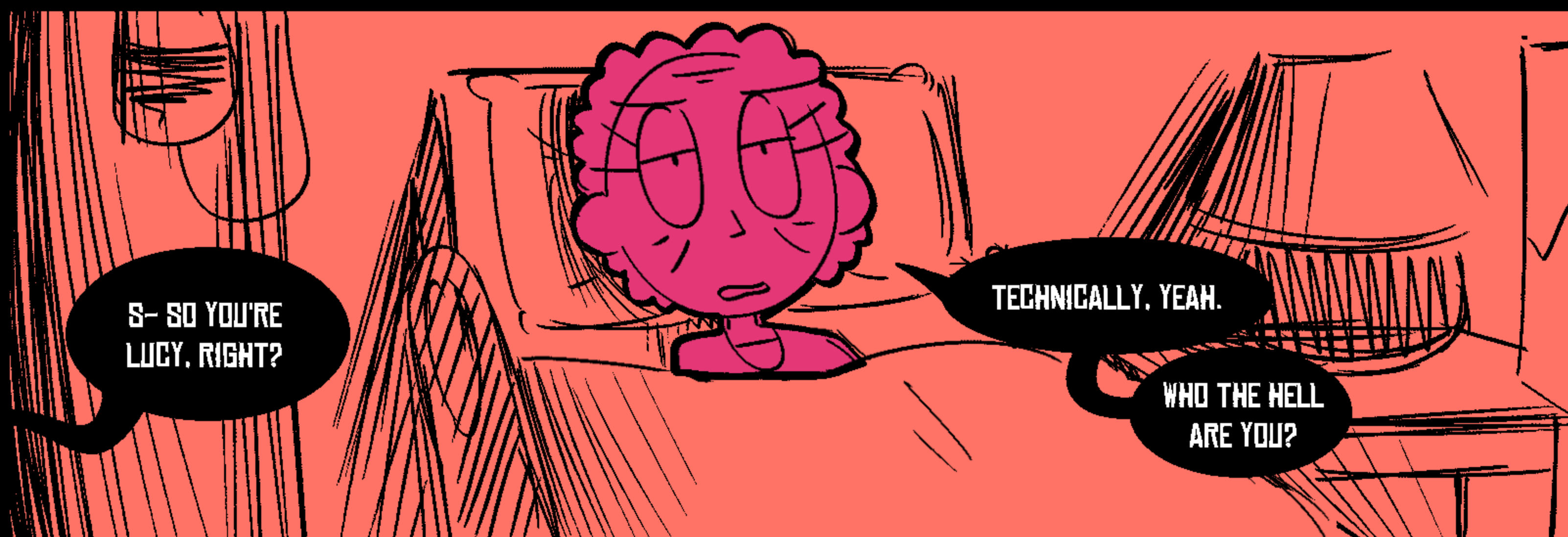
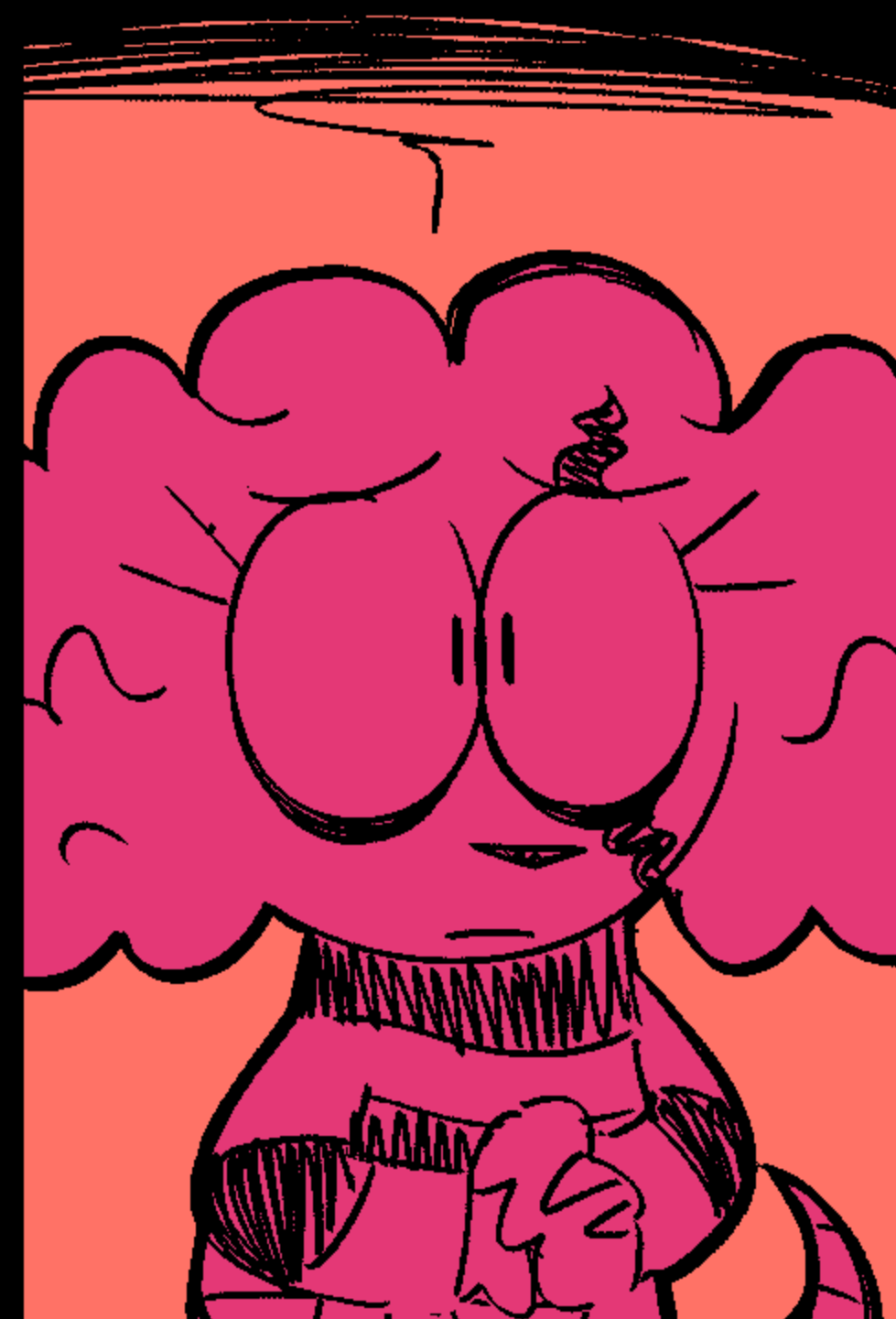
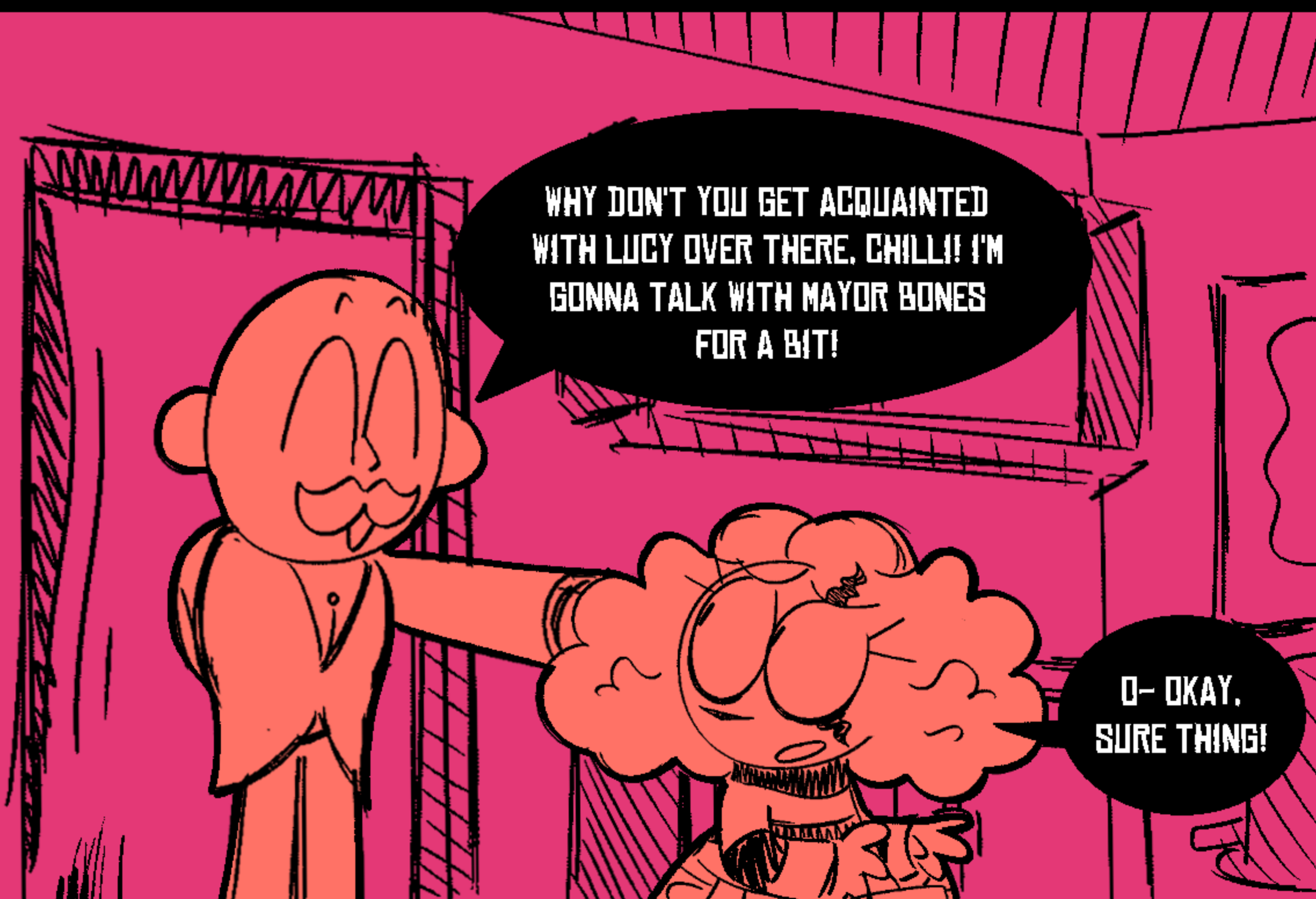
CAUSE GOD,
YOU REALLY
NEED IT.

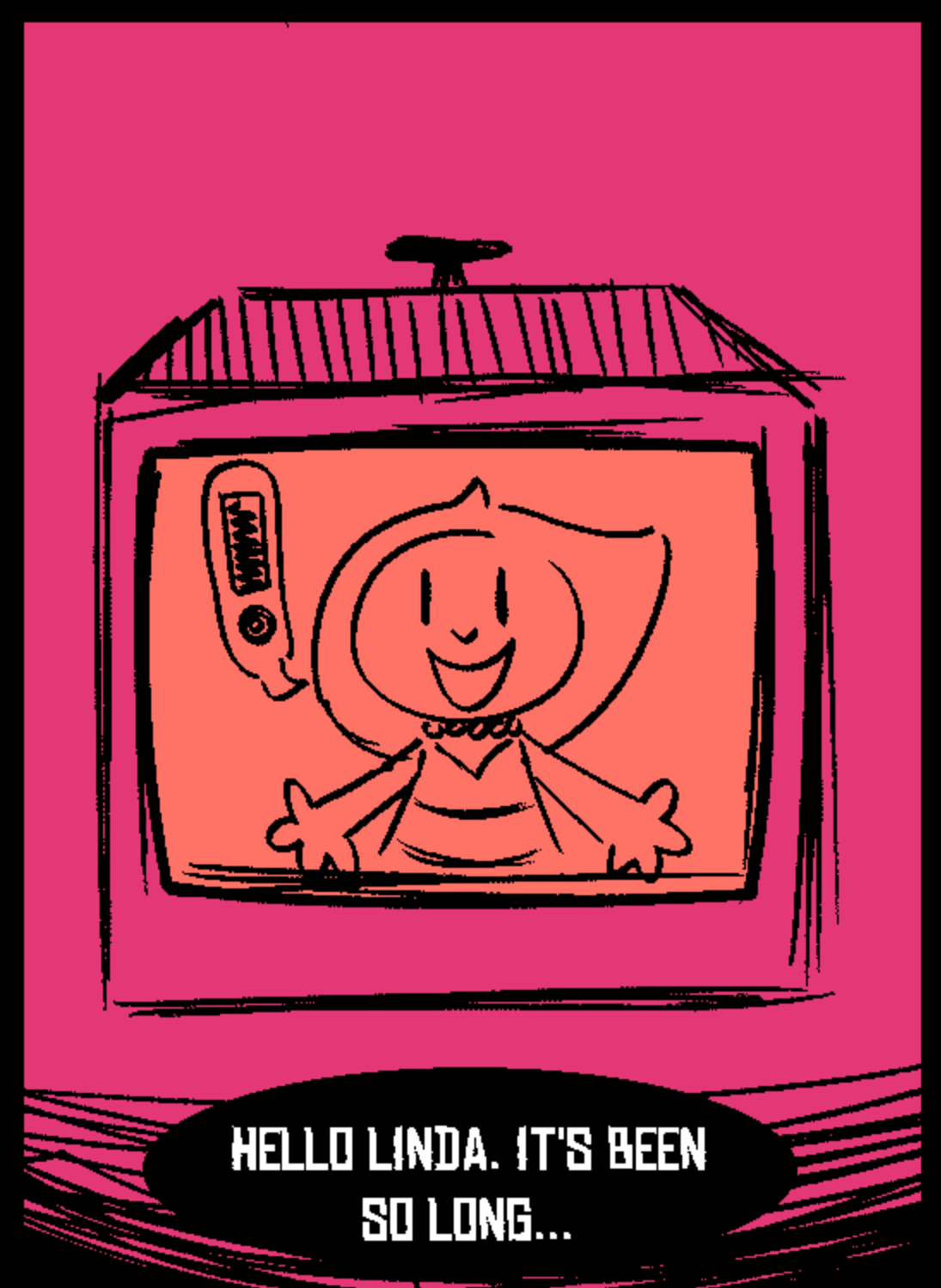
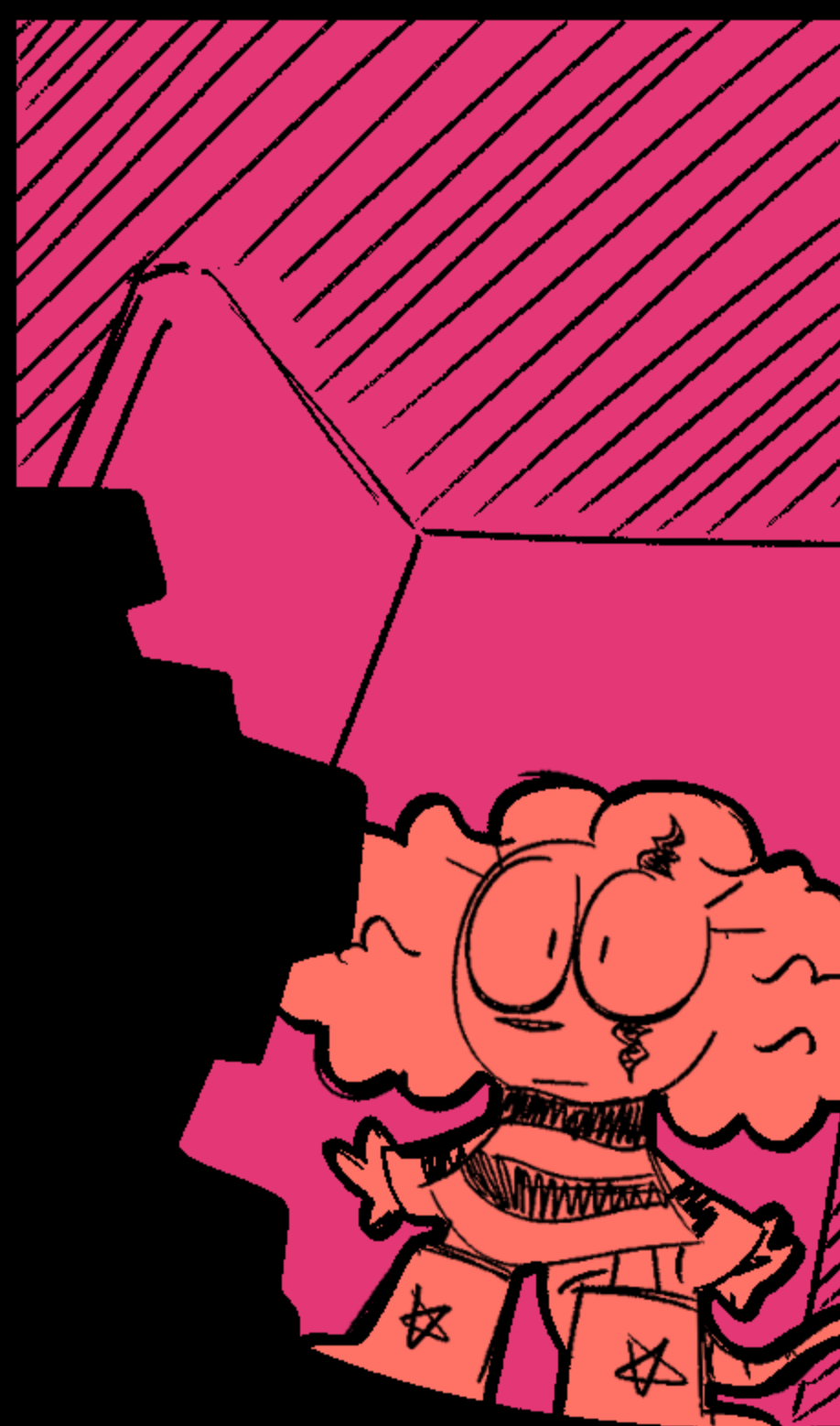
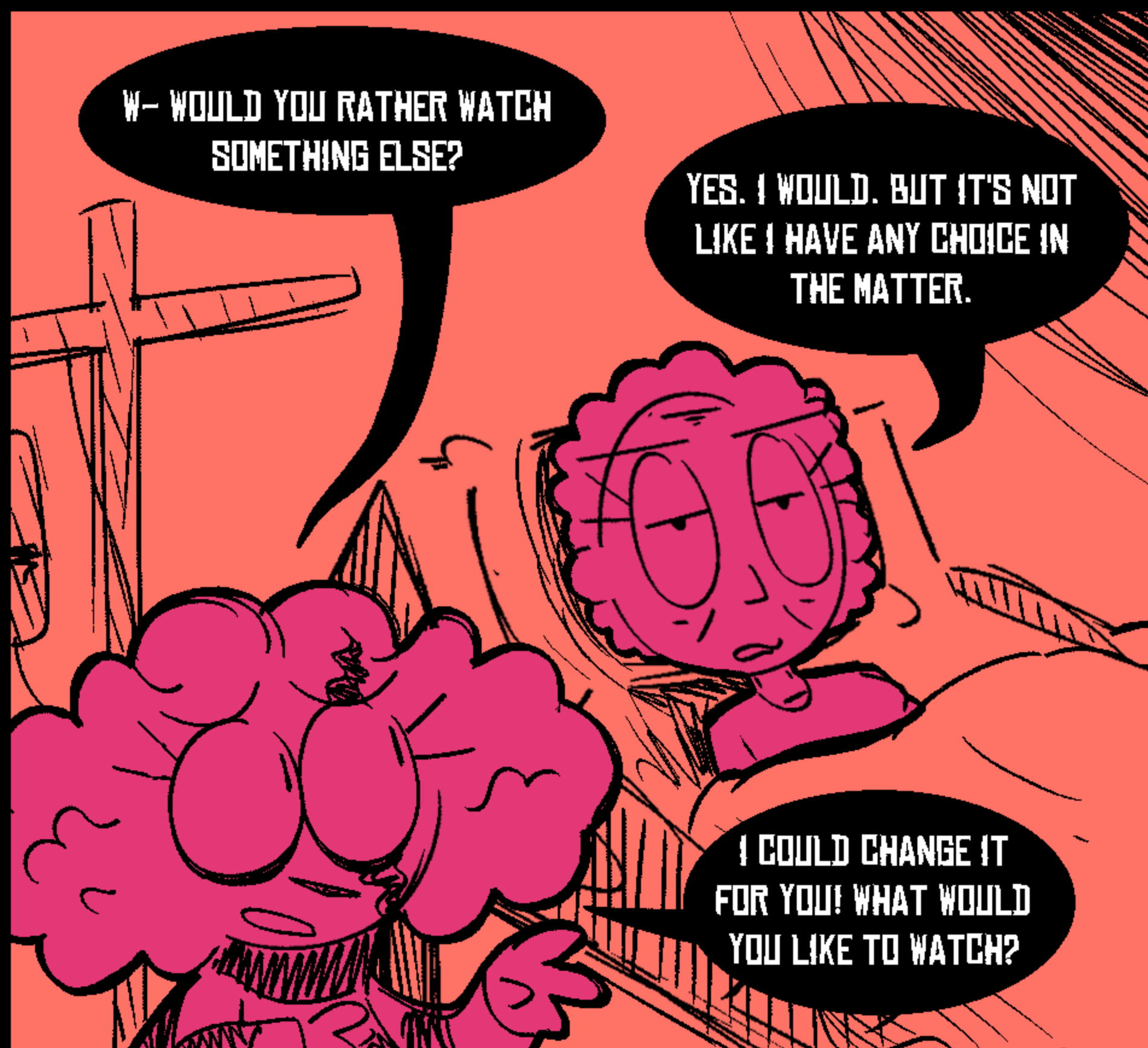


DEATH
TO CHILLI!

UH, BUT I THOUGHT
KILLING WAS
WRONG?? CHILLI
HATERS ARE SO HYPO-
CRITICAL. GET OWNED!









IS CHILLI HOME
RIGHT NOW?

NAH I'M SORRY, SHE'S
BEEN OUT FOR A FEW
HOURS NOW.



I TRIED TEXTING HER BUT
SHE WASN'T RESPONDING
TO MY MESSAGES AND I
GOT REALLY WORRIED!

OH SHE'S BEEN UPSET
LATELY ABOUT... EVERYTHING
GOING ON. SHE MIGHT JUST
WANNA BE ALONE RIGHT NOW.

ODDDHHH YEAH
I GET IT...



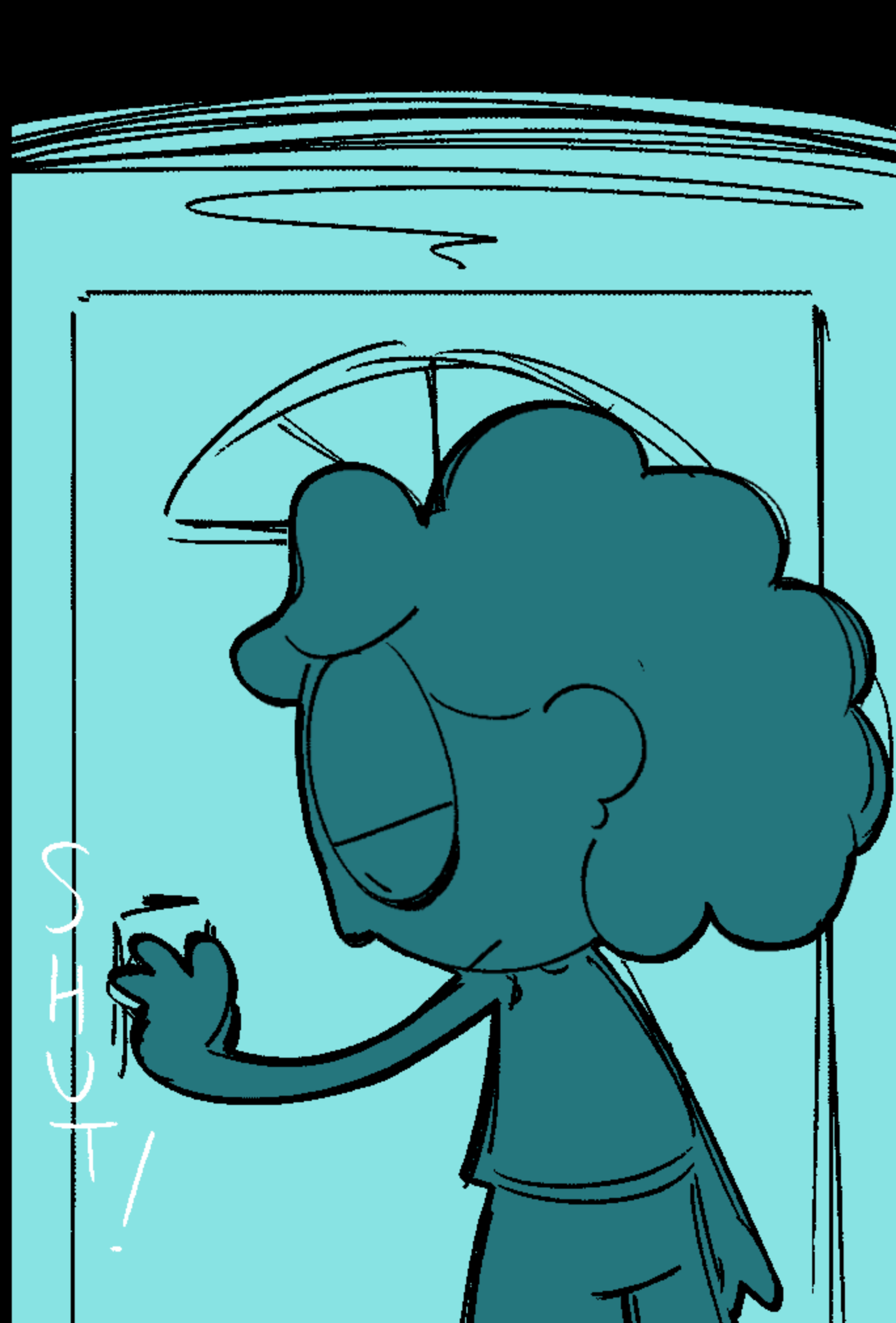
WELL I JUST WANTED
TO CHECK JUST IN CASE!
TELL CHILLI I SAID HI!

AND ALSO TELL
HER MY MOM
SAID HI, TOO!

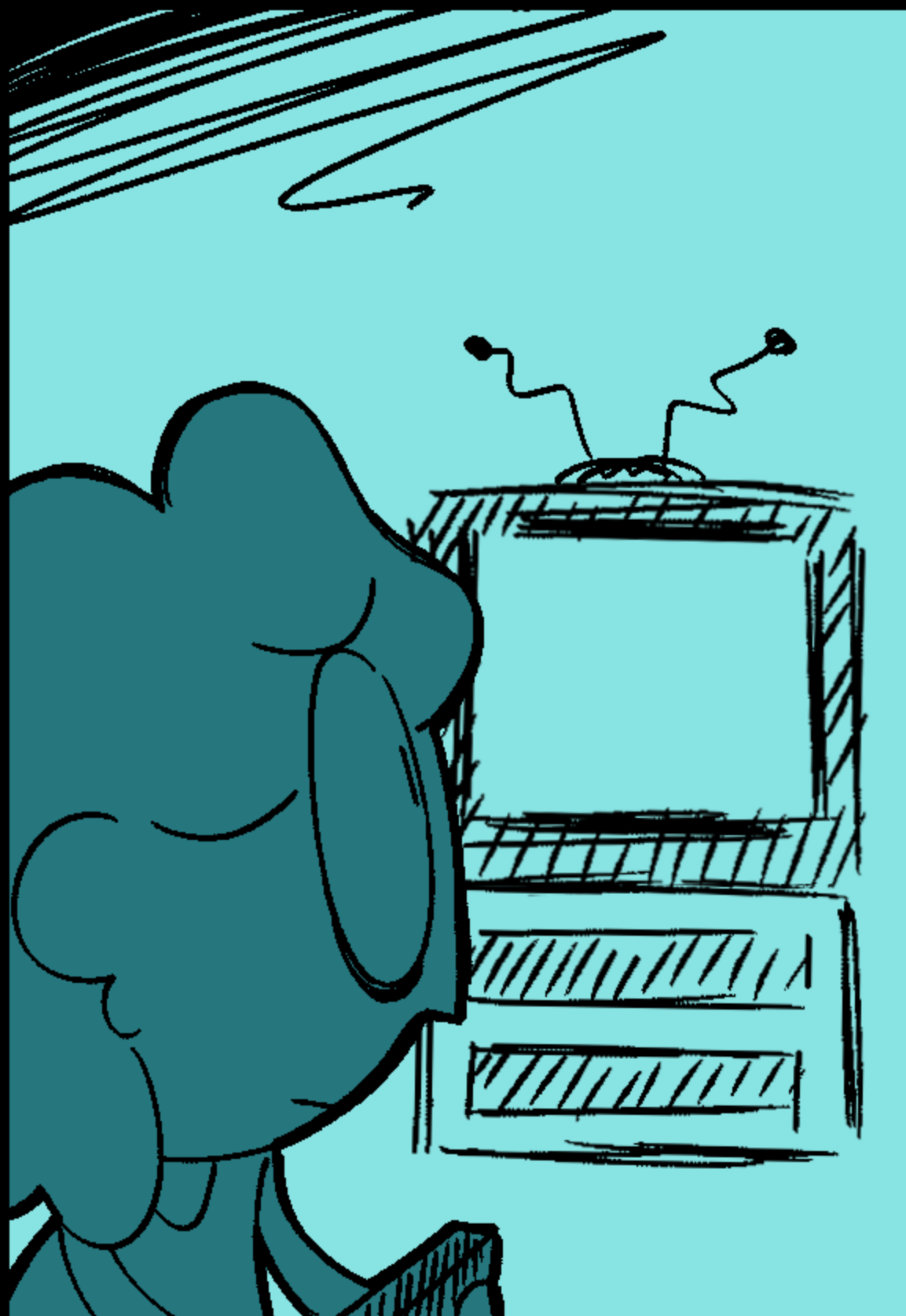
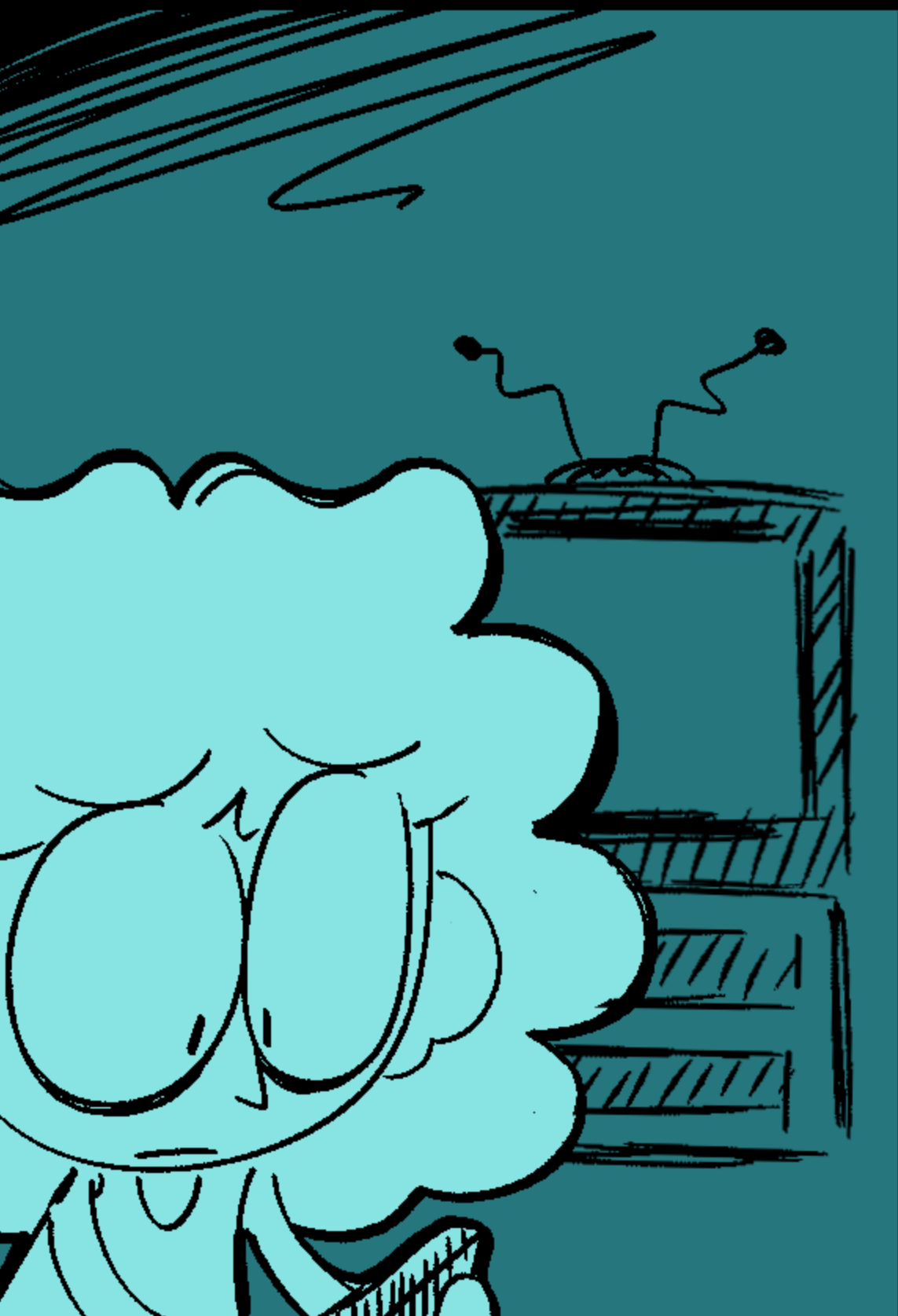
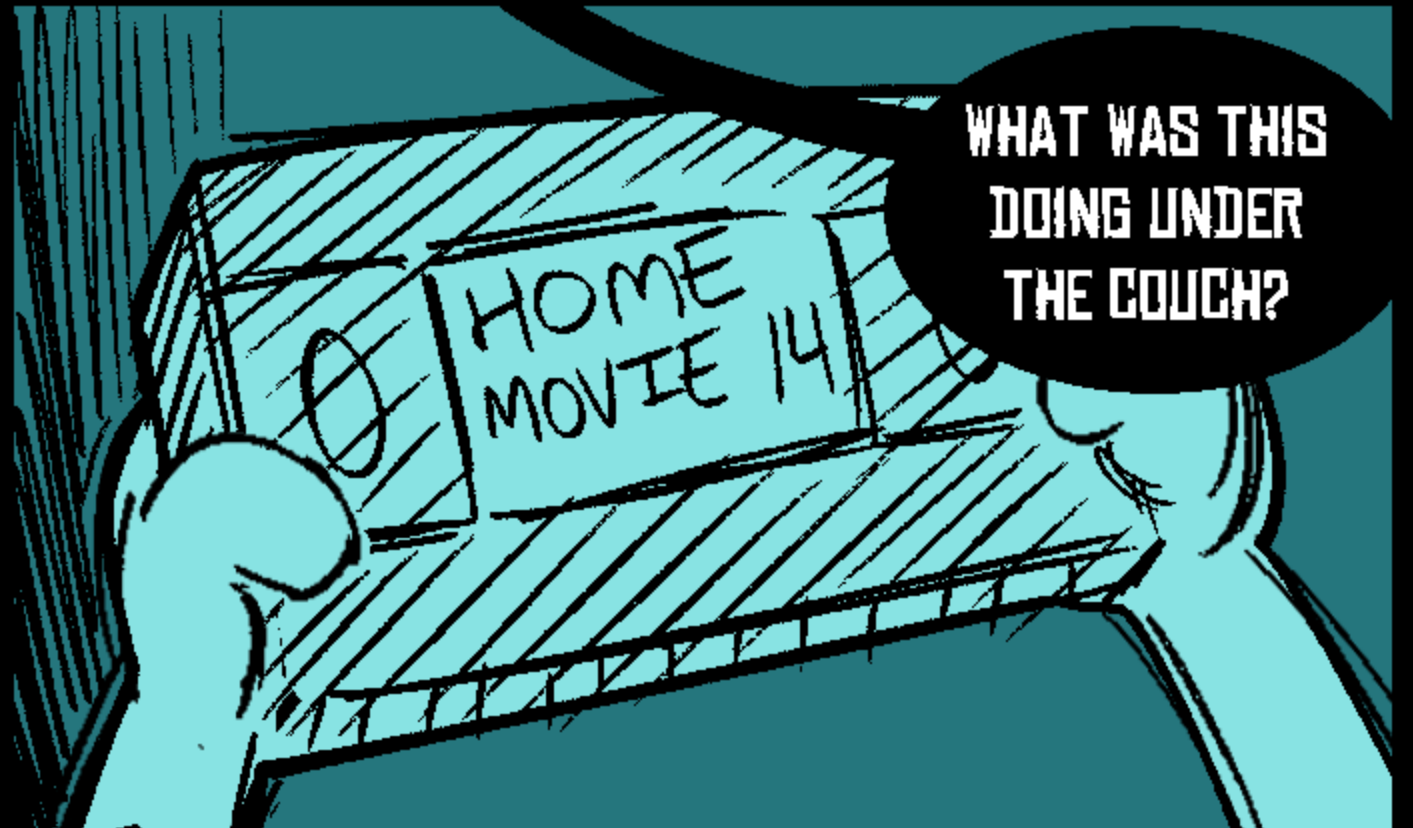
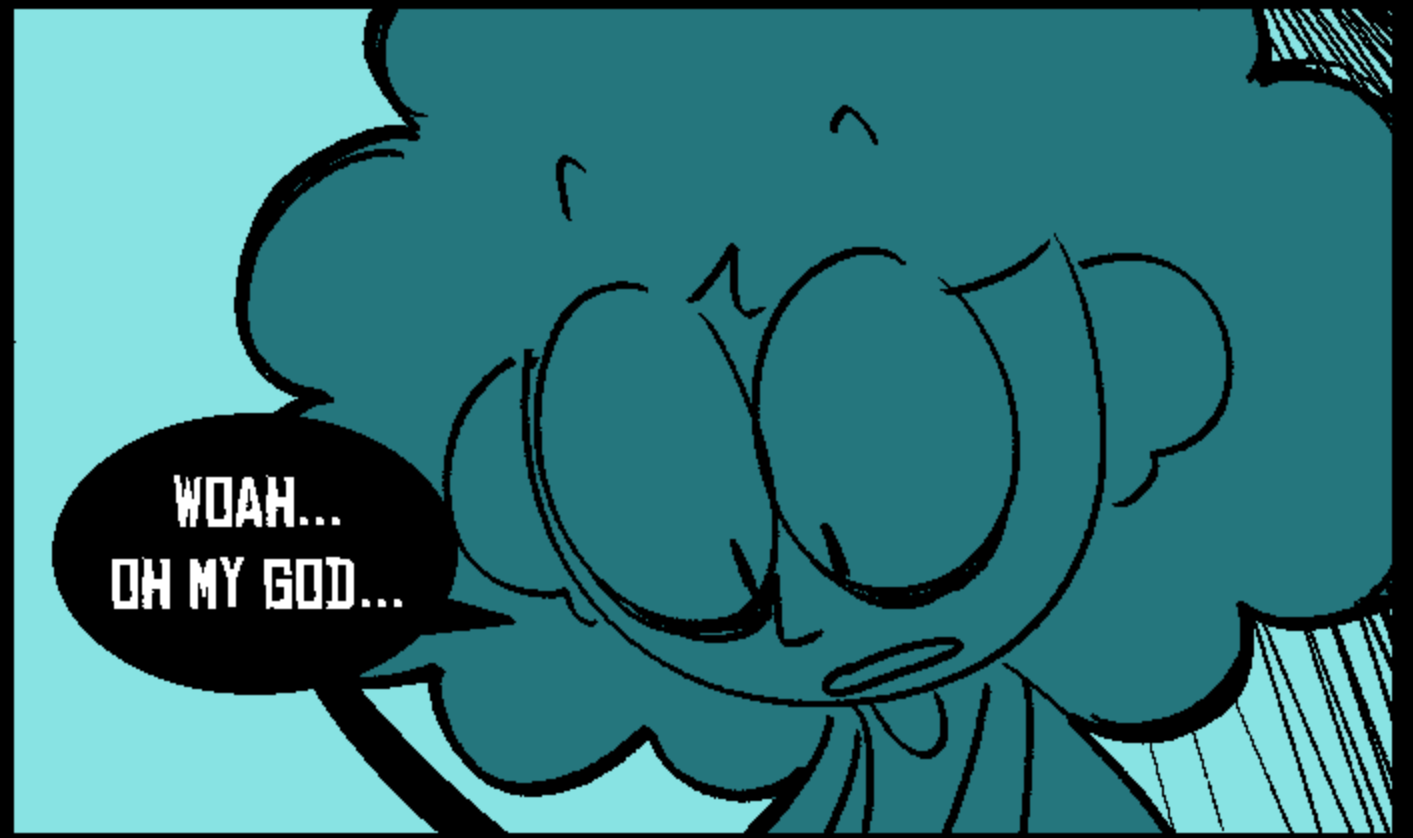
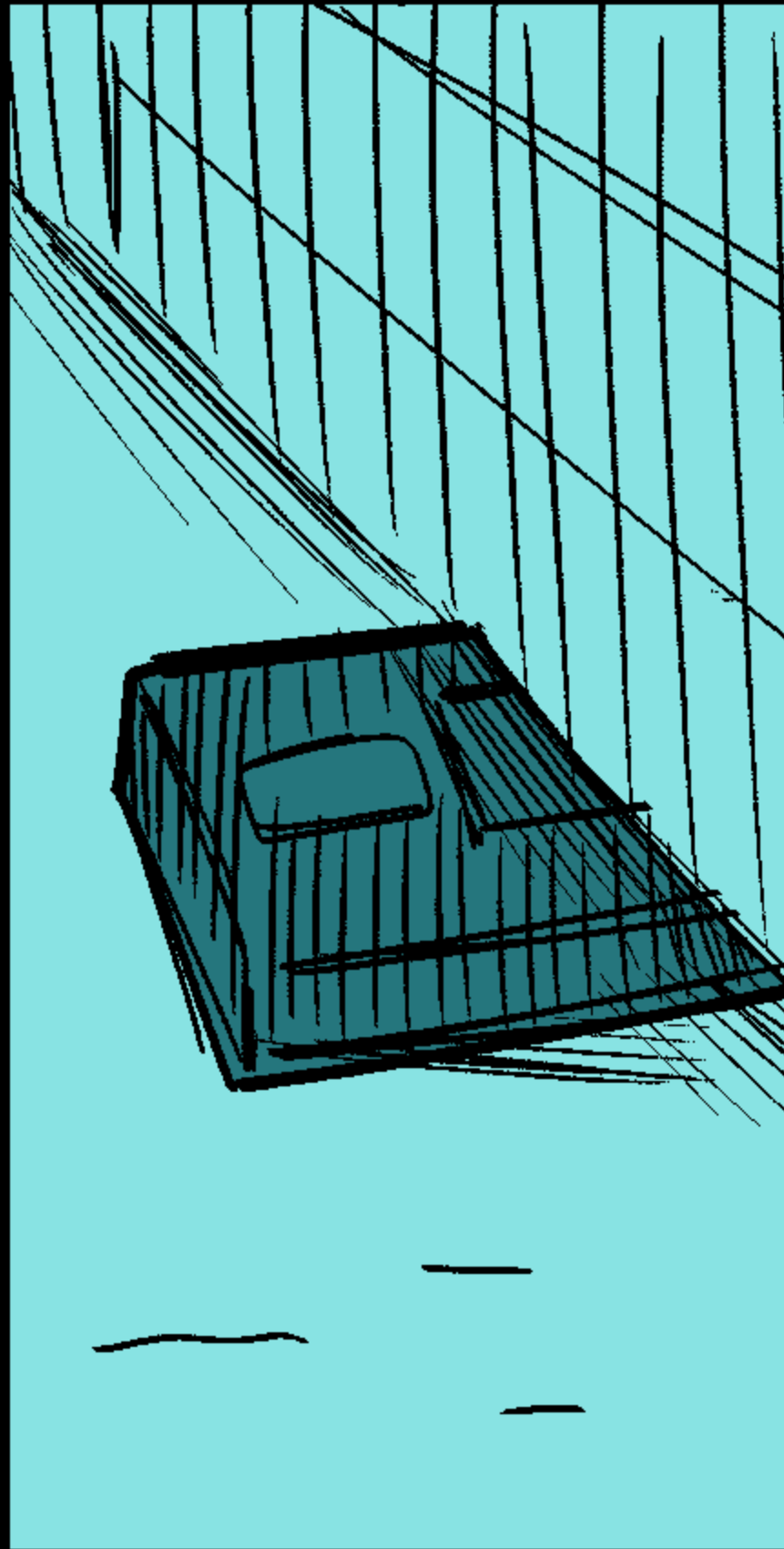
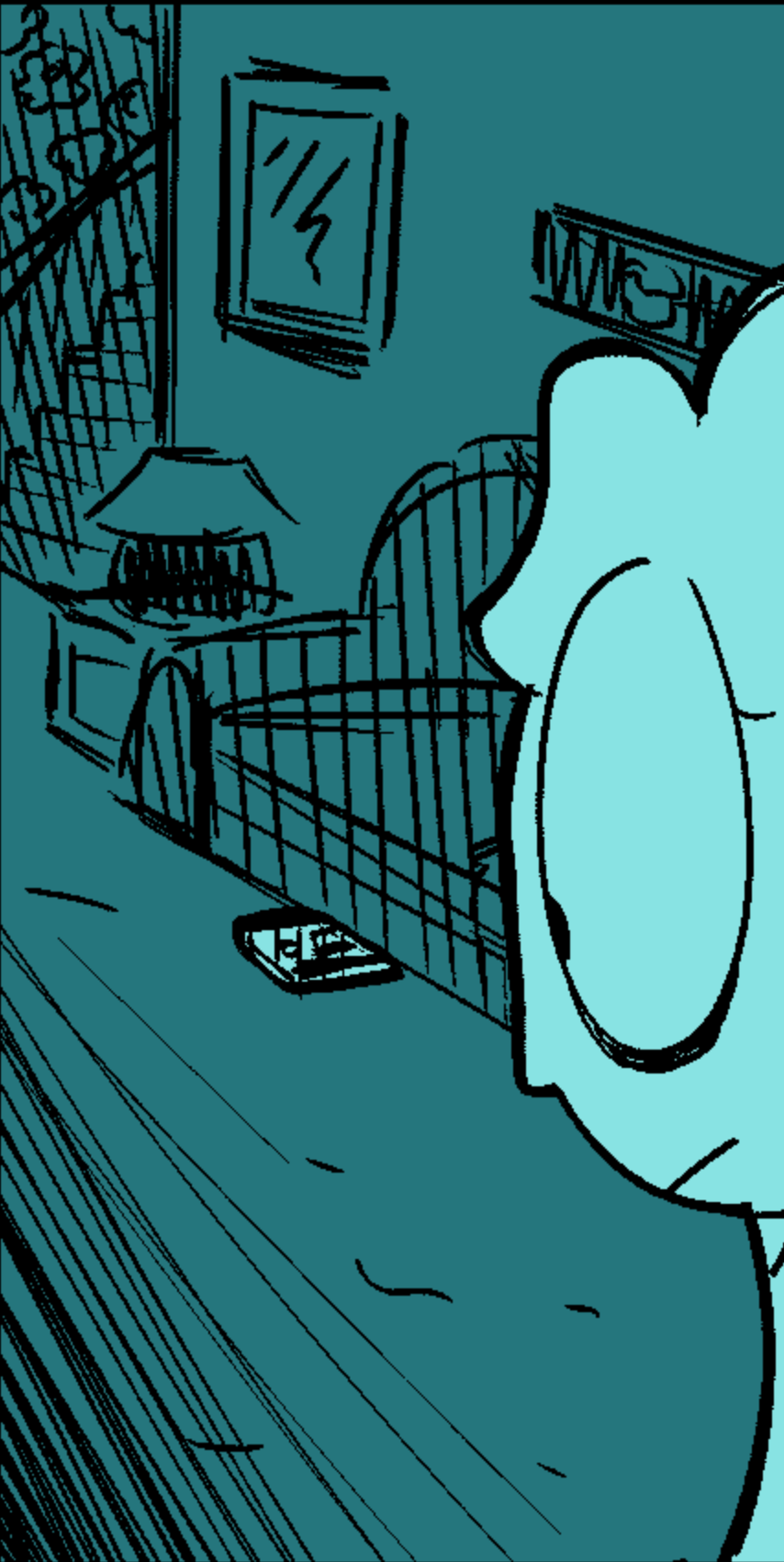
WILL DO!

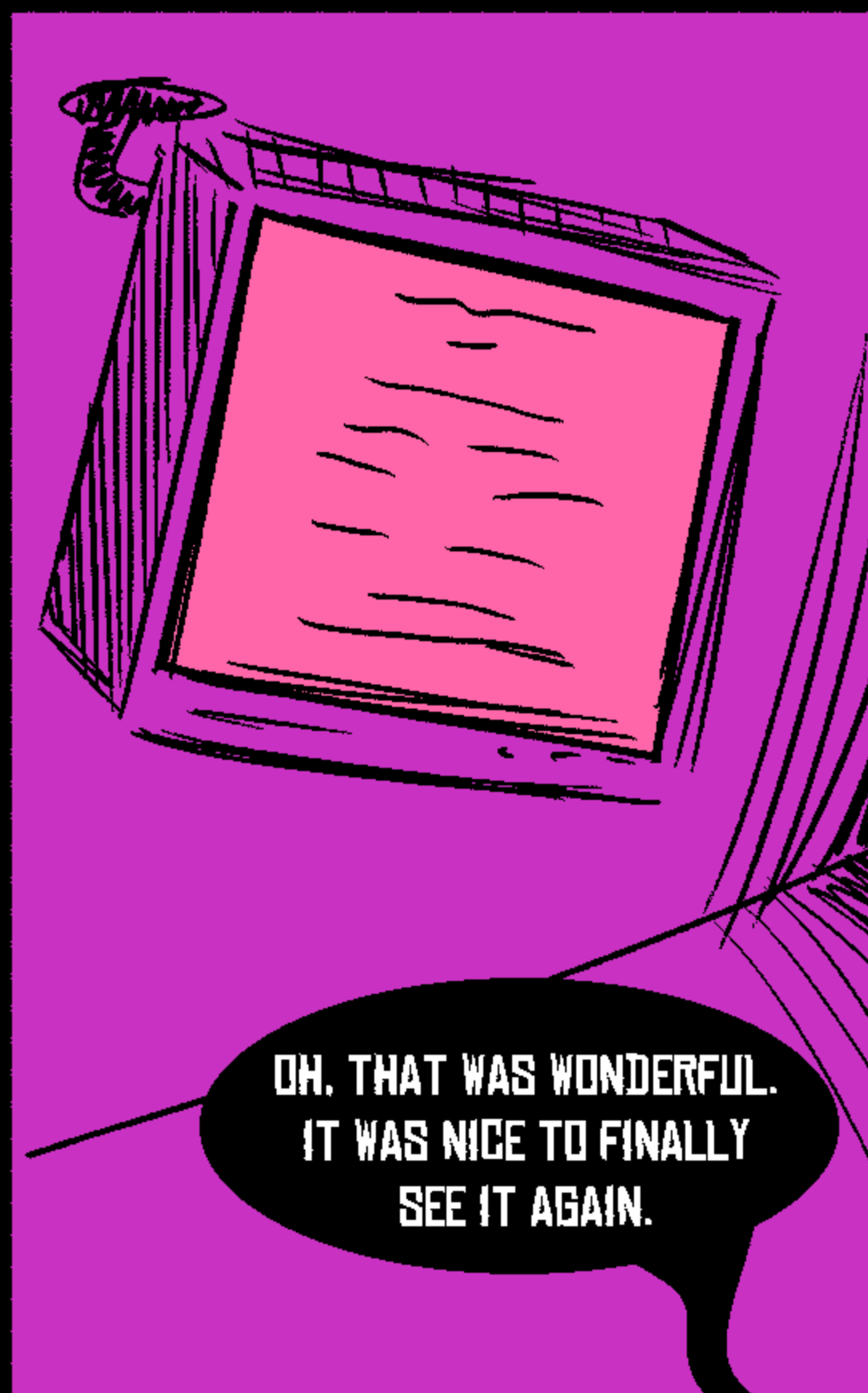


OW! GOD, THIS
HEADACHE WON'T
GO AWAY!

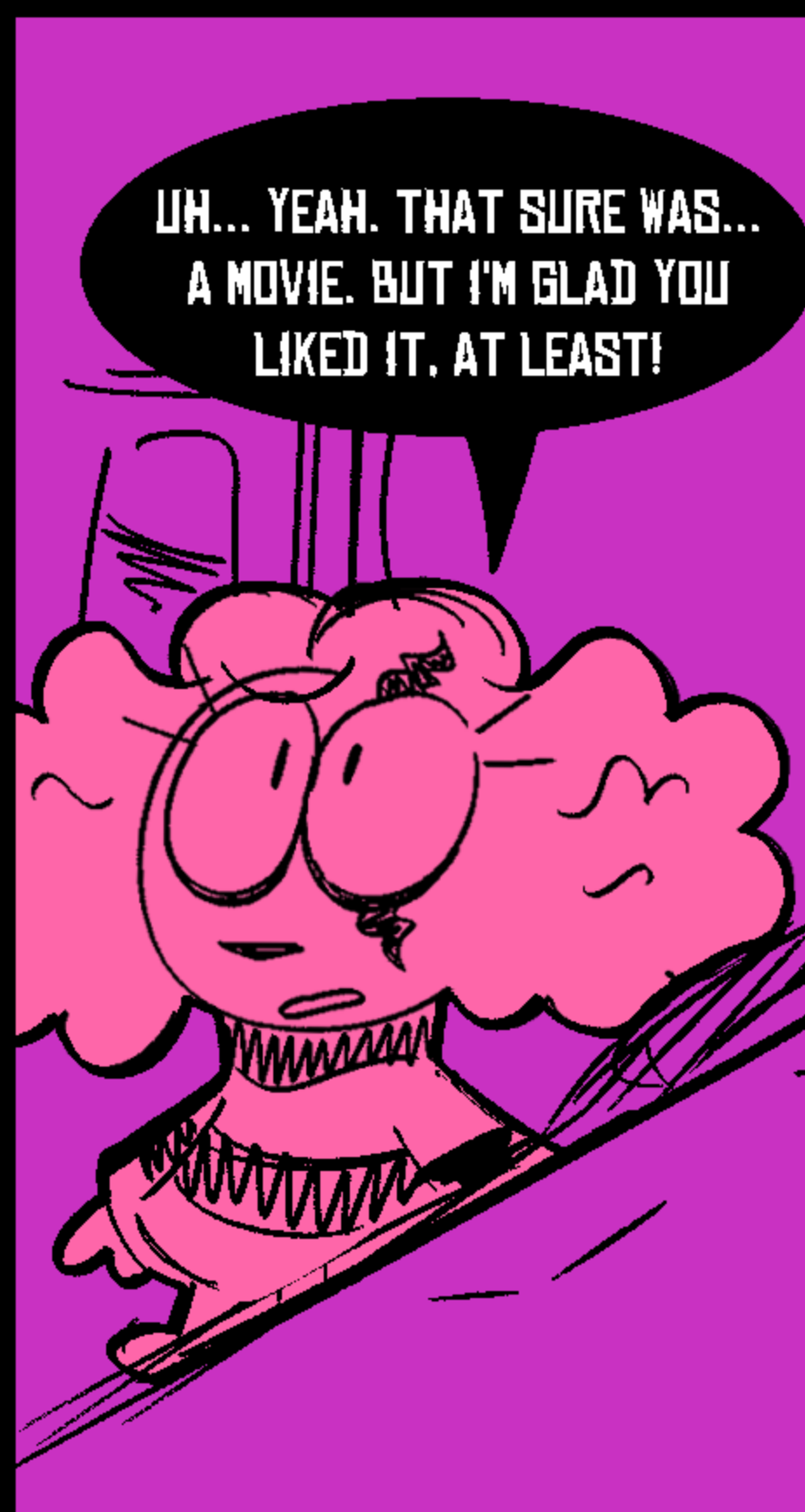


SHUT!





OH. THAT WAS WONDERFUL.
IT WAS NICE TO FINALLY
SEE IT AGAIN.



UH... YEAH. THAT SURE WAS...
A MOVIE. BUT I'M GLAD YOU
LIKED IT. AT LEAST!



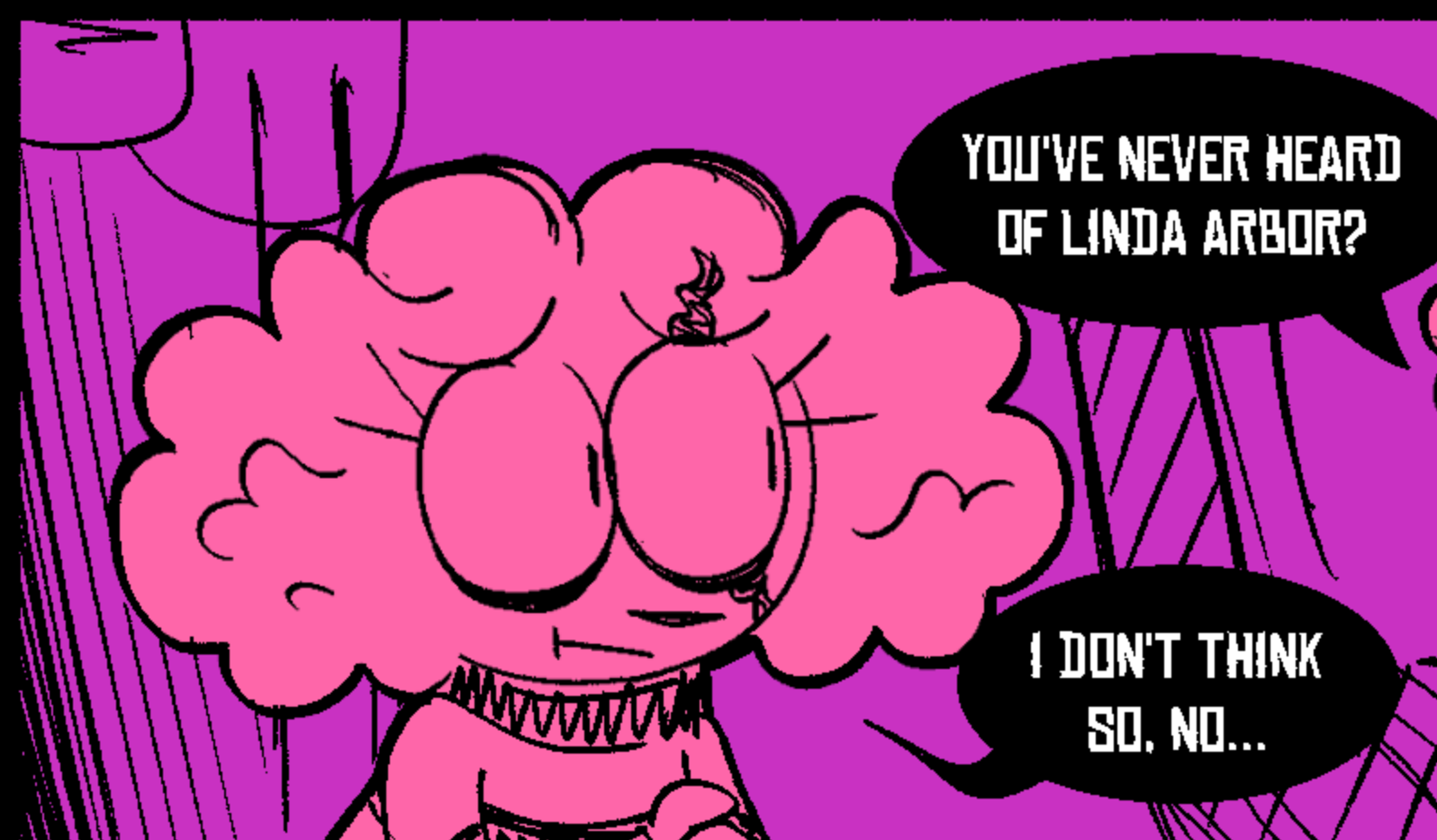
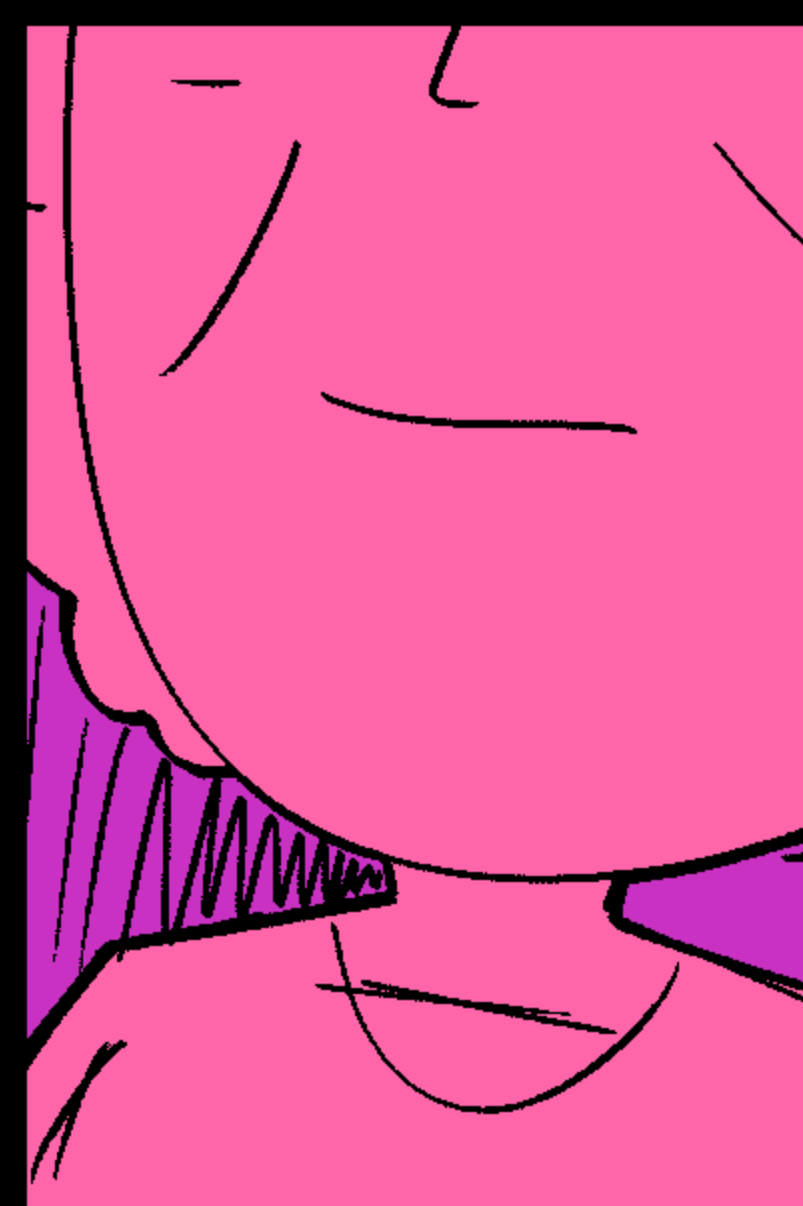
OH NO. I HATE IT! I
THINK IT'S ABSOLUTE
GARBAGE.



BUT... YOU SAID IT'S ONE
OF YOUR FAVORITES?

YES. BECAUSE LINDA
IS IN IT.

WHO'S LINDA?

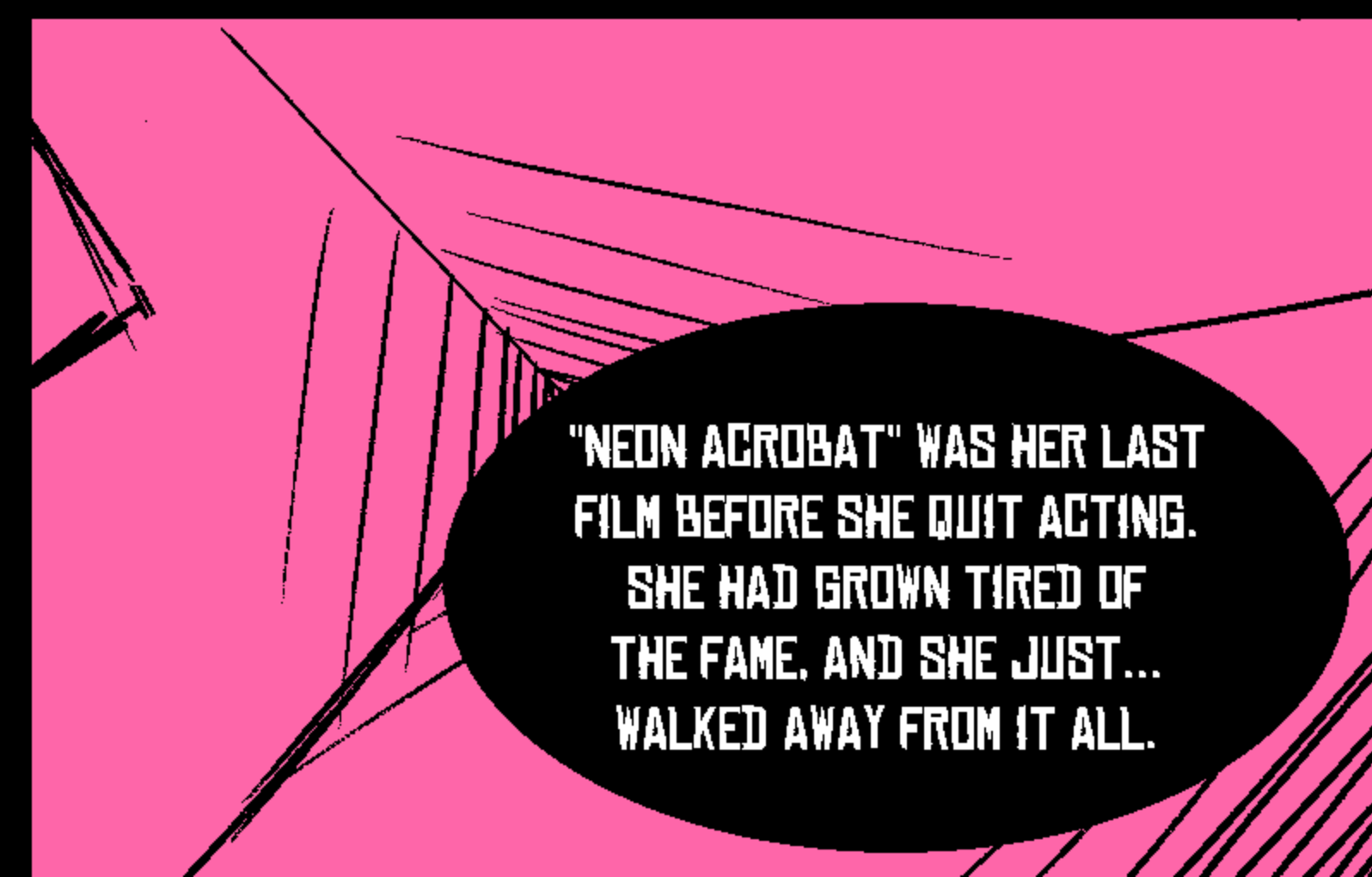


YOU'VE NEVER HEARD
OF LINDA ARBOR?

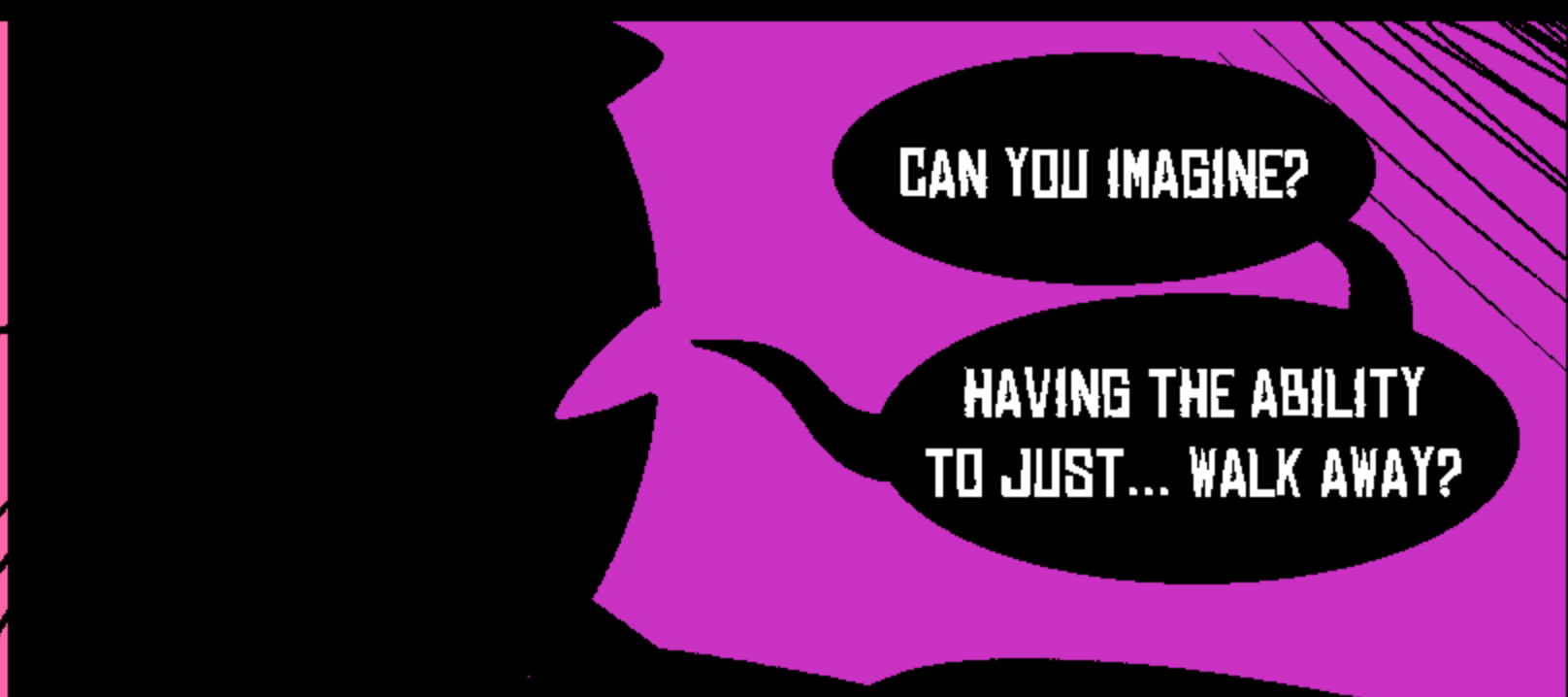
I DON'T THINK
SO. NO...



OH SHE WAS ONE OF THE
GREATEST ACTRESSES OF
ALL TIME! SHE WAS A HUGE
STAR BACK IN HER DAY.



"NEON ACROBAT" WAS HER LAST
FILM BEFORE SHE QUIT ACTING.
SHE HAD GROWN TIRED OF
THE FAME. AND SHE JUST...
WALKED AWAY FROM IT ALL.



CAN YOU IMAGINE?

HAVING THE ABILITY
TO JUST... WALK AWAY?

SHE WASN'T BORN INTO A FAMILY OF GREEDY CAPITALISTS WHO USED HER UNWILLINGLY AS THE MASCOT OF MEDIOCRE SOUPS.

SHE WASN'T FORCED TO GIVE UP HER DREAMS IN ORDER TO PROMOTE THOSE SAME SOUPS. ENJOYING "FAME" AT THE COST OF LIVING HER GOD DAMN LIFE.

SHE WASN'T TRAPPED.

OH... WELL UH. WHAT HAPPENED AFTER SHE QUIT ACTING?

WE STARTED DATING.

OH!

THAT'S SO COOL!!

WH- WHAT'S SHE LIKE?!

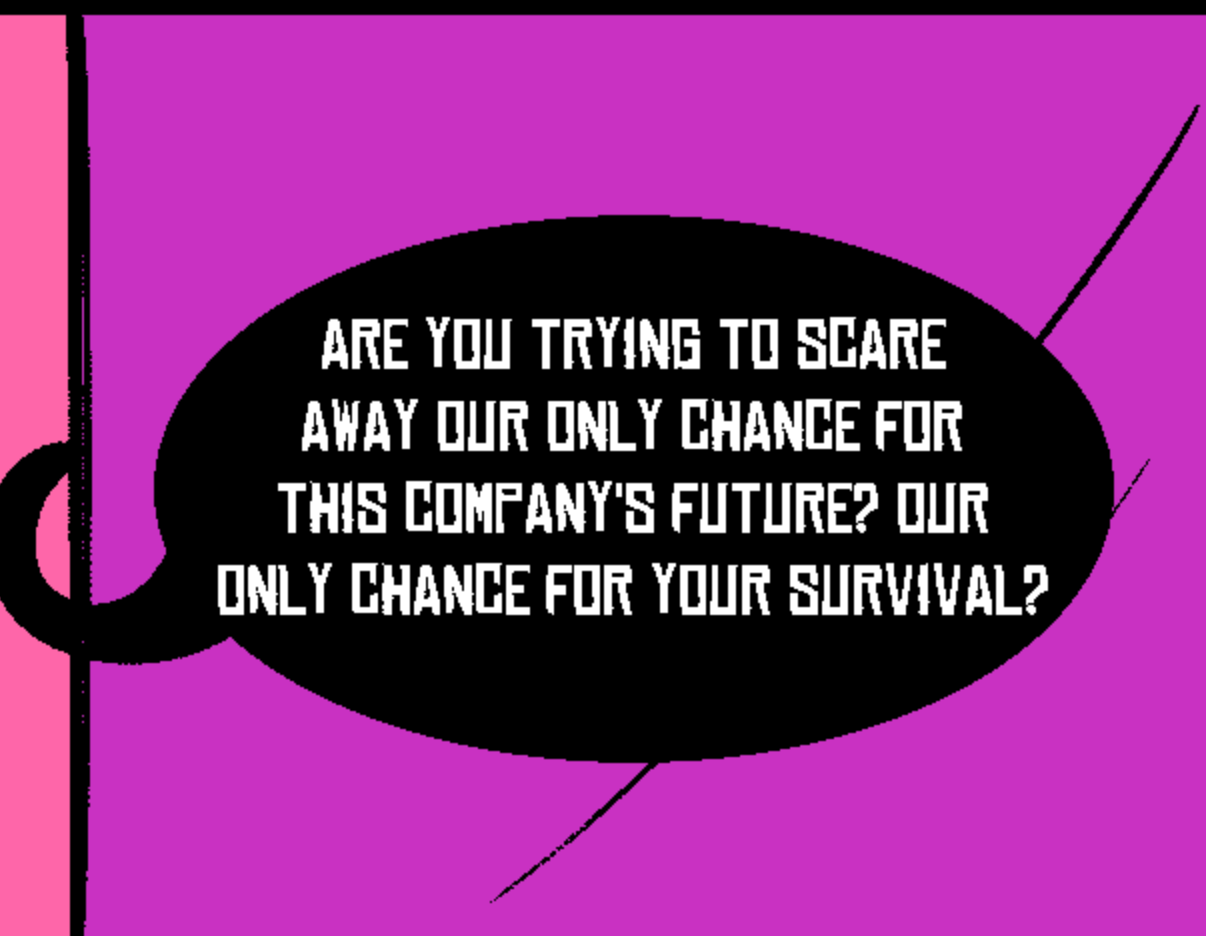
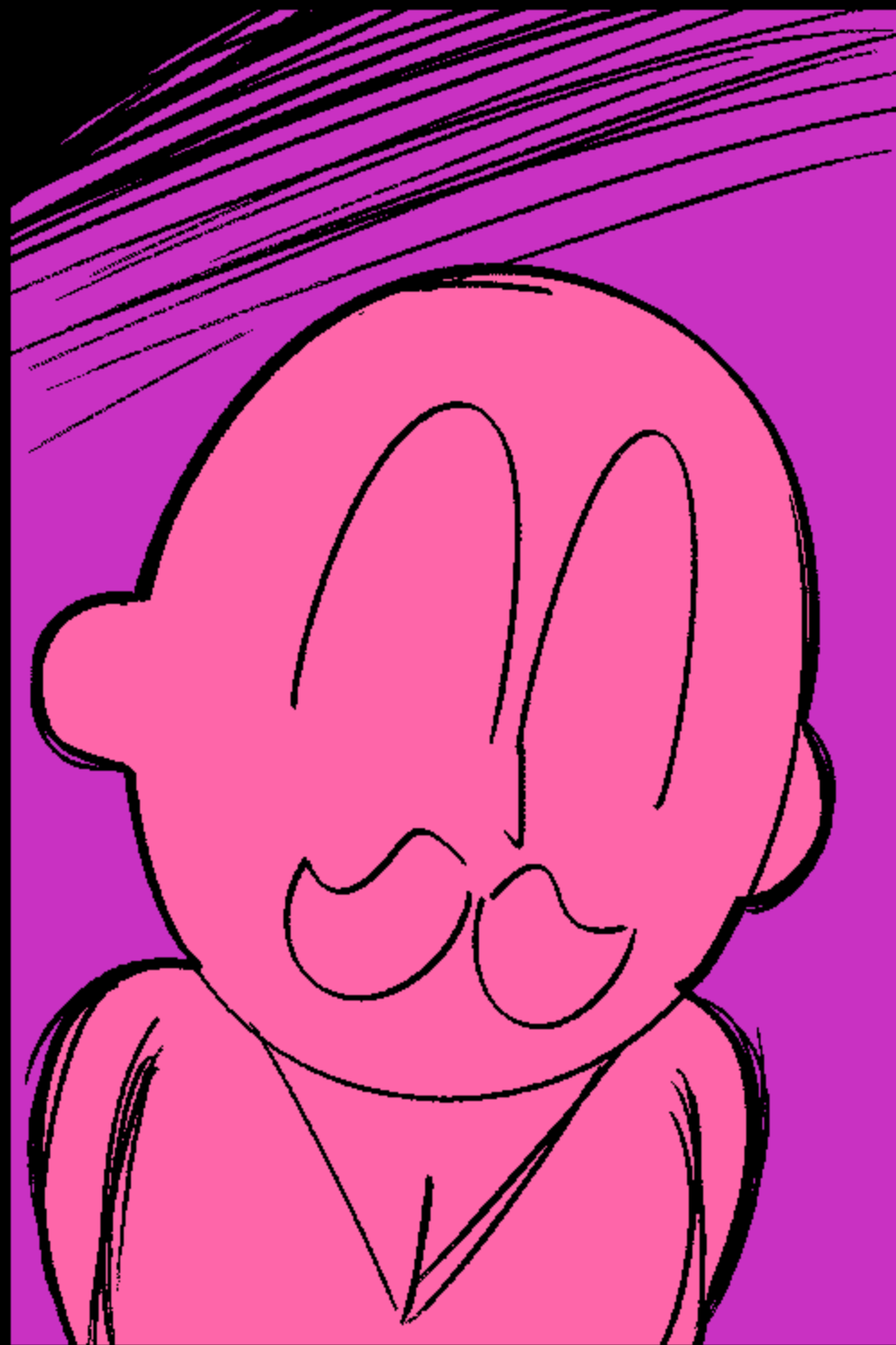
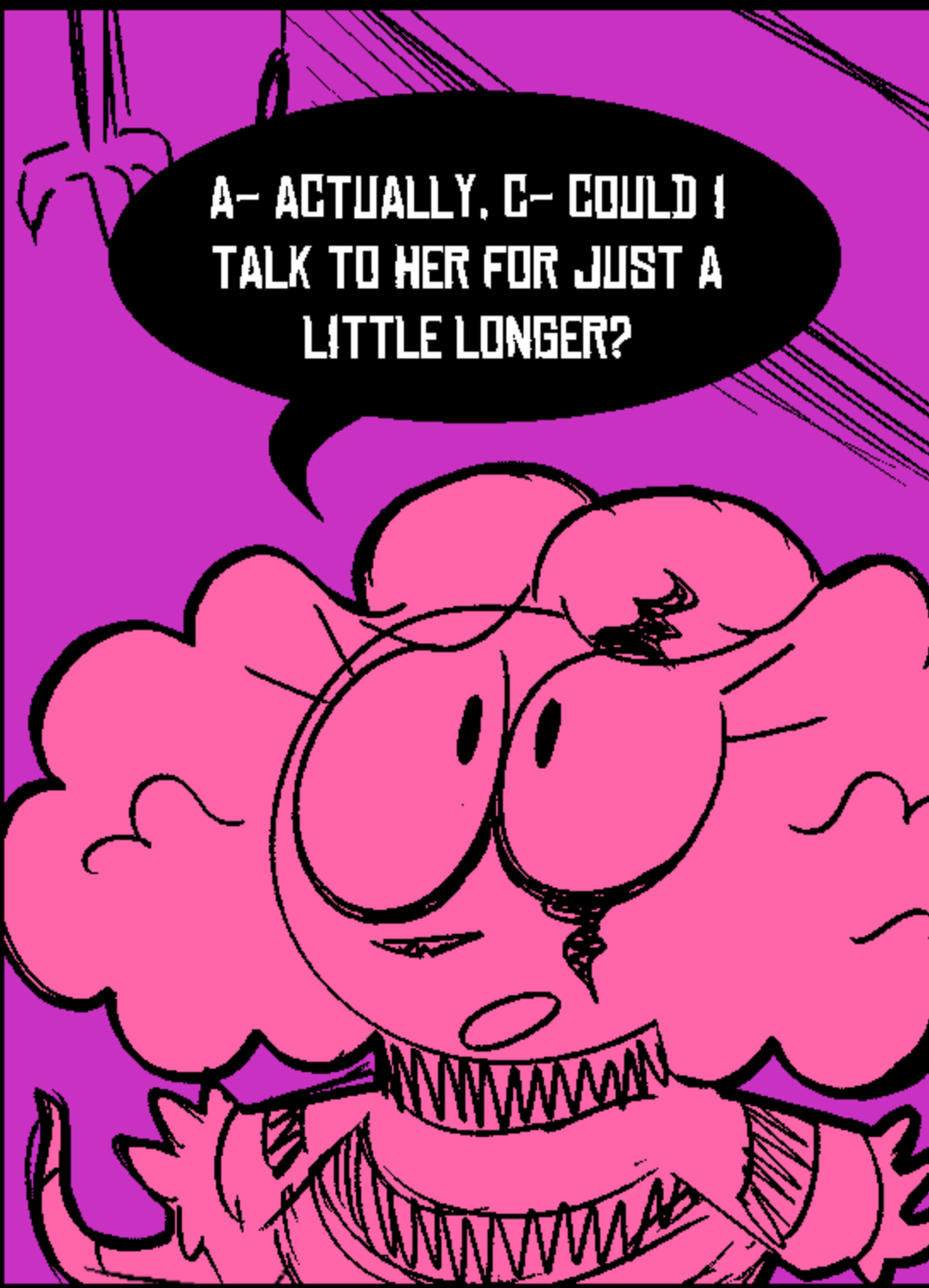
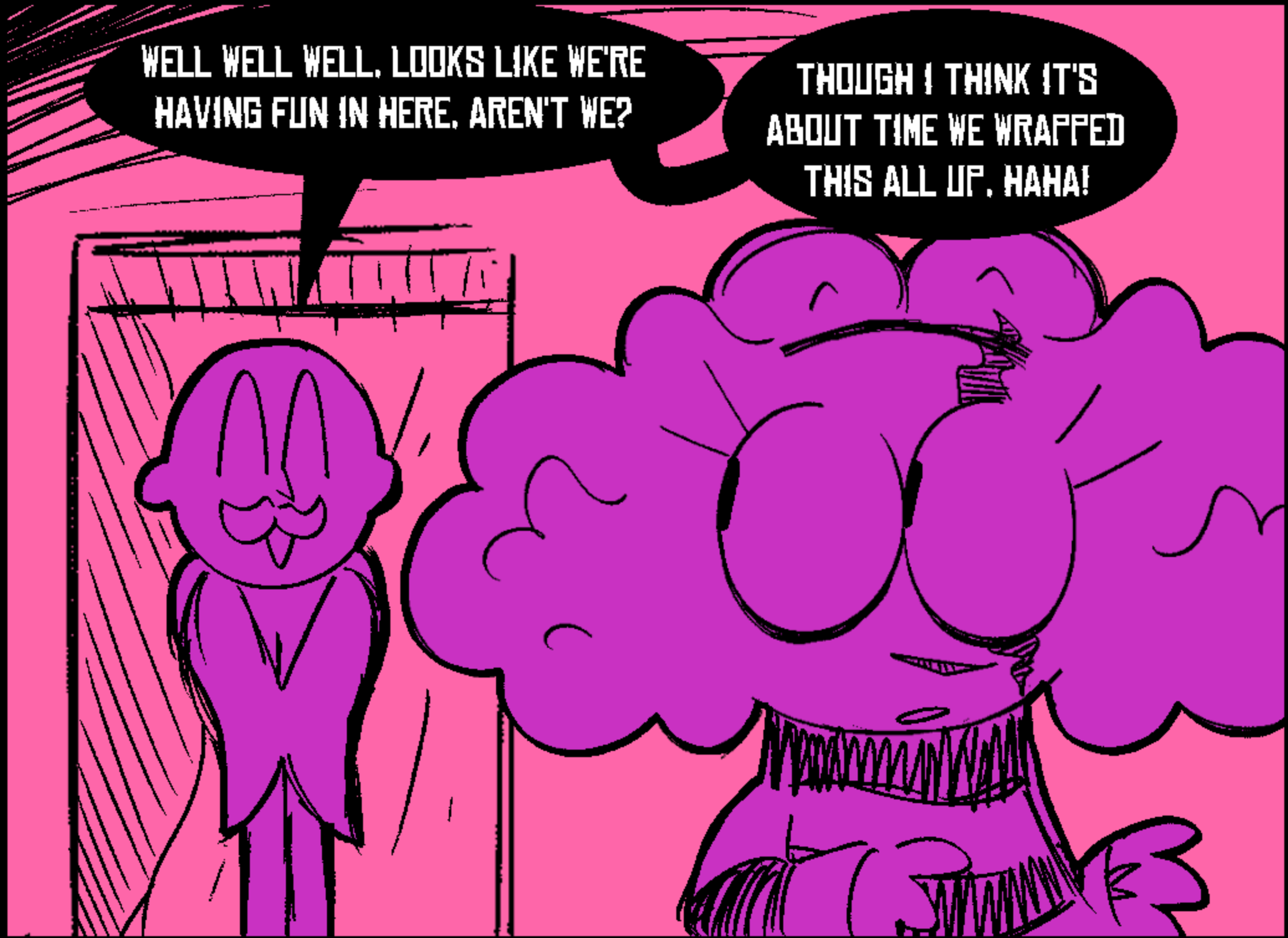
SHE WAS AS SWEET AS A GUMDROP.

SHE WAS ONE OF THE ONLY TRULY GREAT THINGS IN MY LIFE.

BUT SHE PASSED AWAY MANY YEARS AGO.

OH GOD, I'M- I'M SO SORRY...

IT'S ALL FINE. YOU WOULD'VE LOVED HER. SHE WAS FUNNY AS HELL.

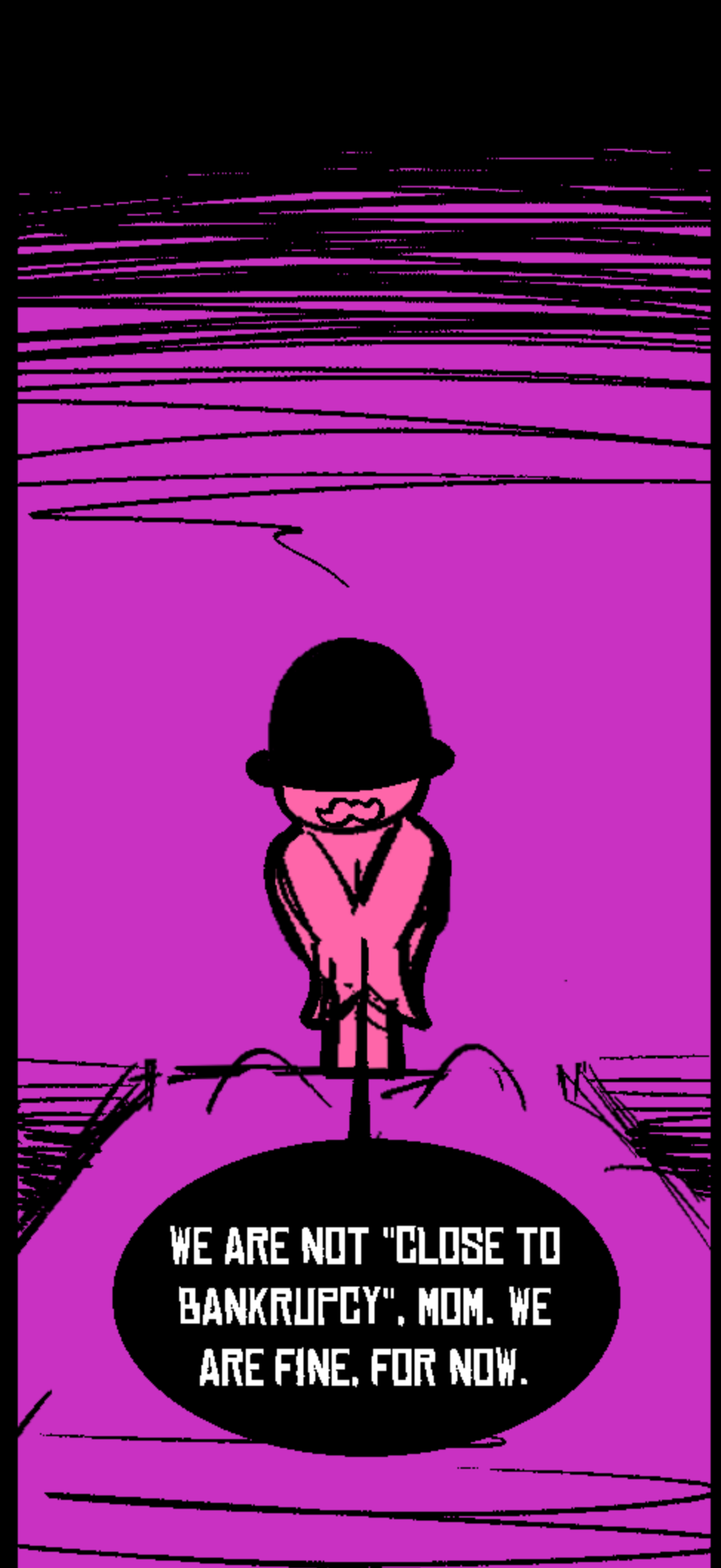




OH BELIEVE ME. I WOULDN'T LOVE ANYTHING MORE THAN TO SEE YOU FINALLY CROAK FOR GOOD. BUT THIS COMPANY CAN'T SURVIVE WITHOUT YOU.

MAYBE LET THE COMPANY DIE TOO. THEN! IT'S CLOSE TO BANKRUPTCY, ANYWAY.

MAYBE THEN YOU CAN ACTUALLY START DOING SOME GOOD IN YOUR LIFE INSTEAD OF BEING A SOULLESS CEO FOR ALL OF ETERNITY!



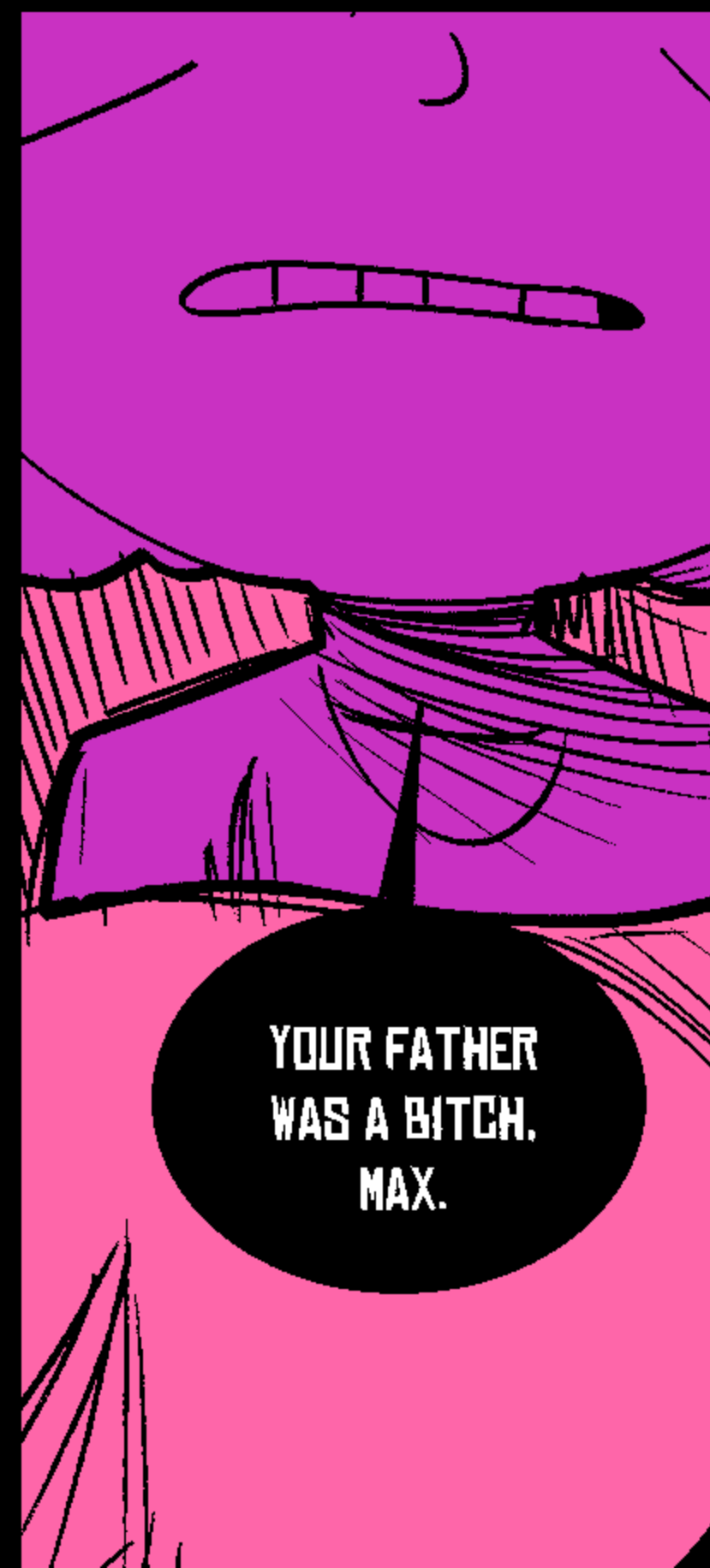
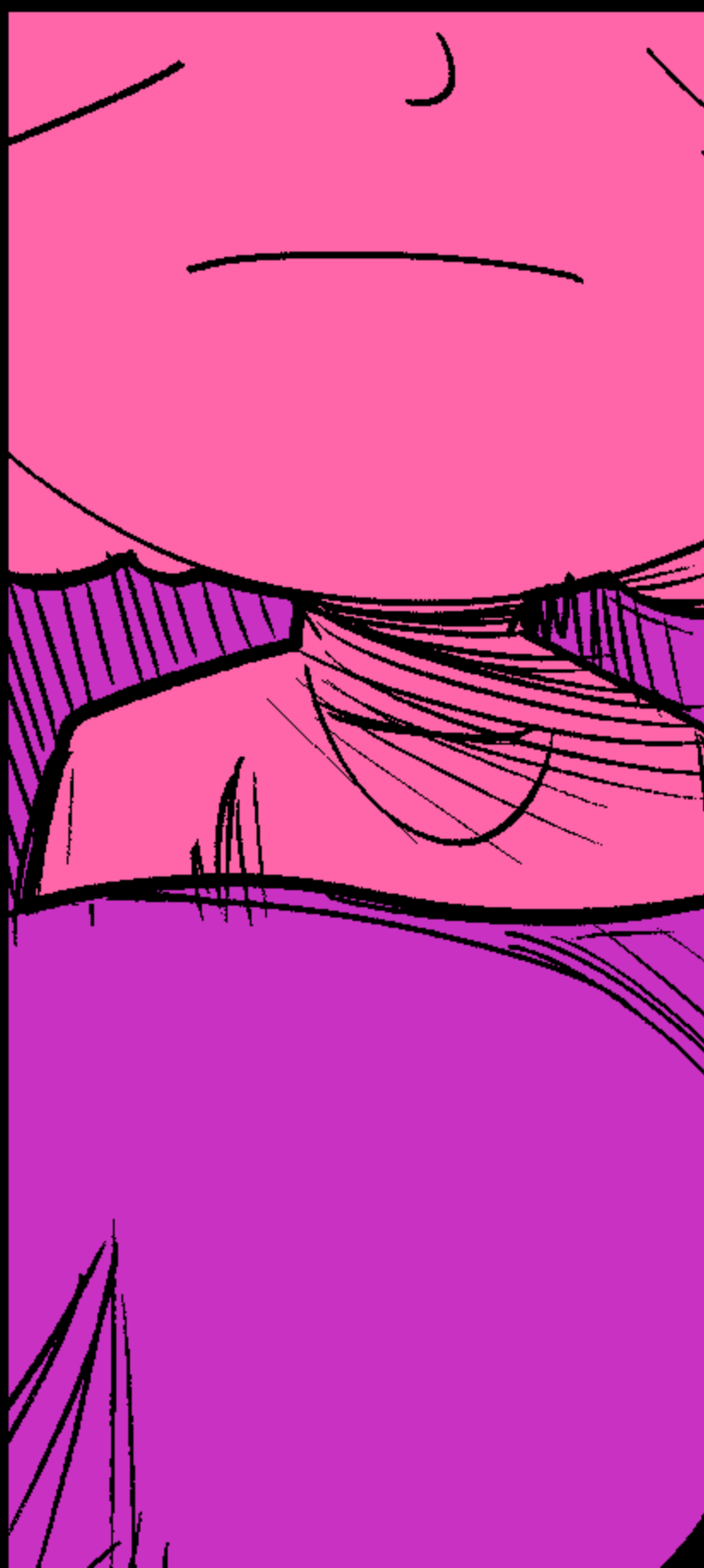
WE ARE NOT "CLOSE TO BANKRUPTCY", MOM. WE ARE FINE, FOR NOW.



I'M NOT LETTING YOU DESTROY THIS COMPANY

IT'S THE ONLY PIECE I HAVE LEFT OF MY FATHER.

IF ONLY HE COULD SEE THE MESS YOU'VE BECOME.



YOUR FATHER WAS A BITCH. MAX.



THIS ISN'T HIS COMPANY. HE DIDN'T FOUND IT.

HE ONLY MARRIED ME SO HE COULD BECOME THE CEO. HE NEVER LOVED ME.

THE "KIND" AND "CARING" FATHER THAT EXISTS IN YOUR STUPID NOBBIN NEVER EXISTED IN THE REAL WORLD.



YOUR FATHER HAS NO
LEGACY FOR YOU TO
PRESERVE.

MOVE ON FROM HIM
AND THIS COMPANY.

IF ANY OF MY PARENTS
WEREN'T KIND AND CARING,
IT WOULD BE YOU. YOU DIDN'T
SUPPORT ME WHEN I BECAME
THE CEO AFTER DAD DIED.

BECAUSE I WANTED YOU TO
HAVE WHAT I NEVER GOT: A
CHOICE! I WAS BORN INTO
THIS COMPANY, BUT LINDA
AND I WANTED YOU TO MOVE
ON FROM IT!

TO FOLLOW YOUR
DREAMS! YOU WANTED TO
BE AN ARTIST! WE WANTED
TO HELP YOU!

WE LOVED YOU! WE GAVE
YOU A CARING HOME! AND
YOU THREW IT AWAY THE
MOMENT YOUR DAD DIED!



HE DIDN'T LOVE YOU!

WE LOVED YOU!

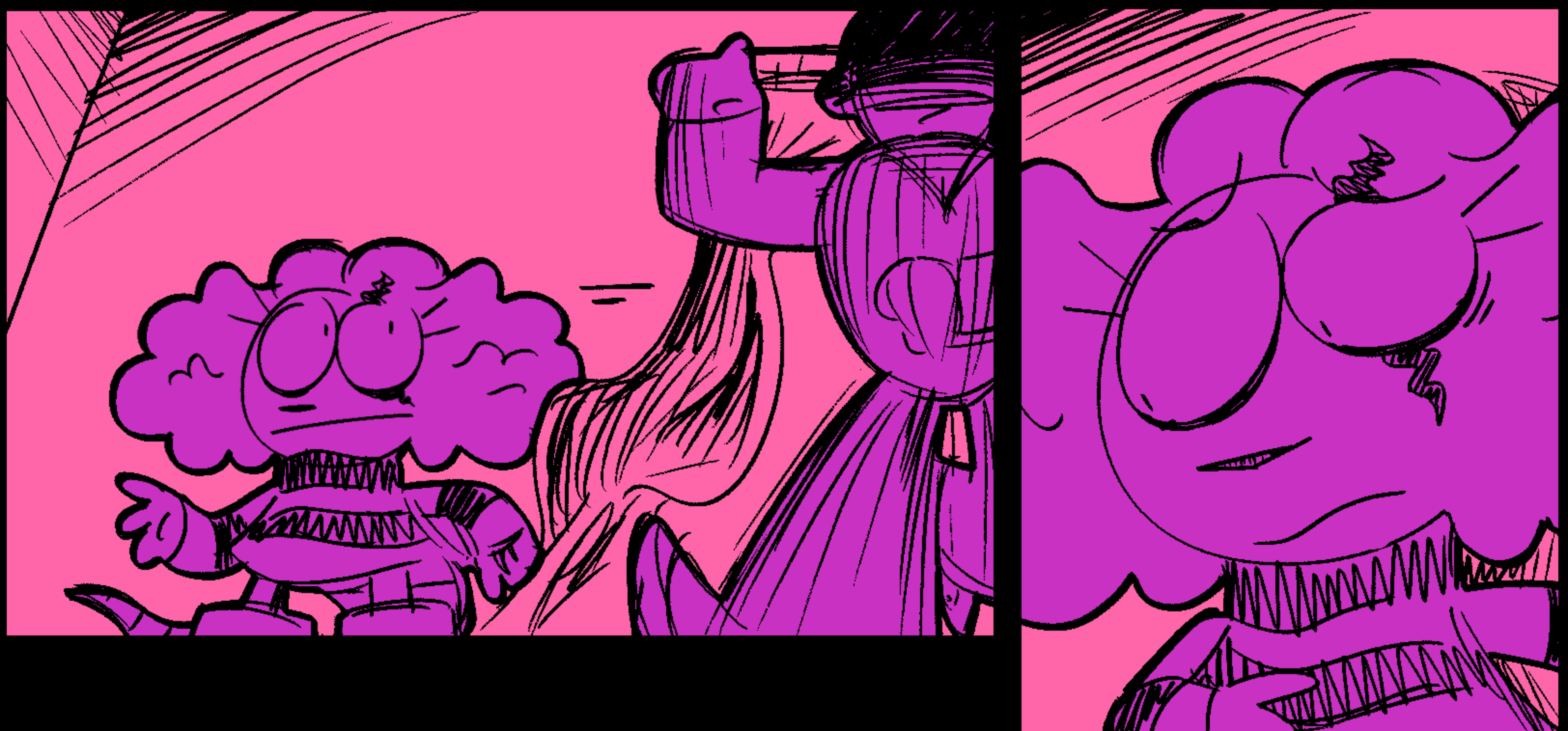
SHUT UP! YOU ABANDONED
DAD! THREW HIM AWAY LIKE
GARBAGE! HE SPENT THE LAST
TWO DECADES OF HIS LIFE ALONE!

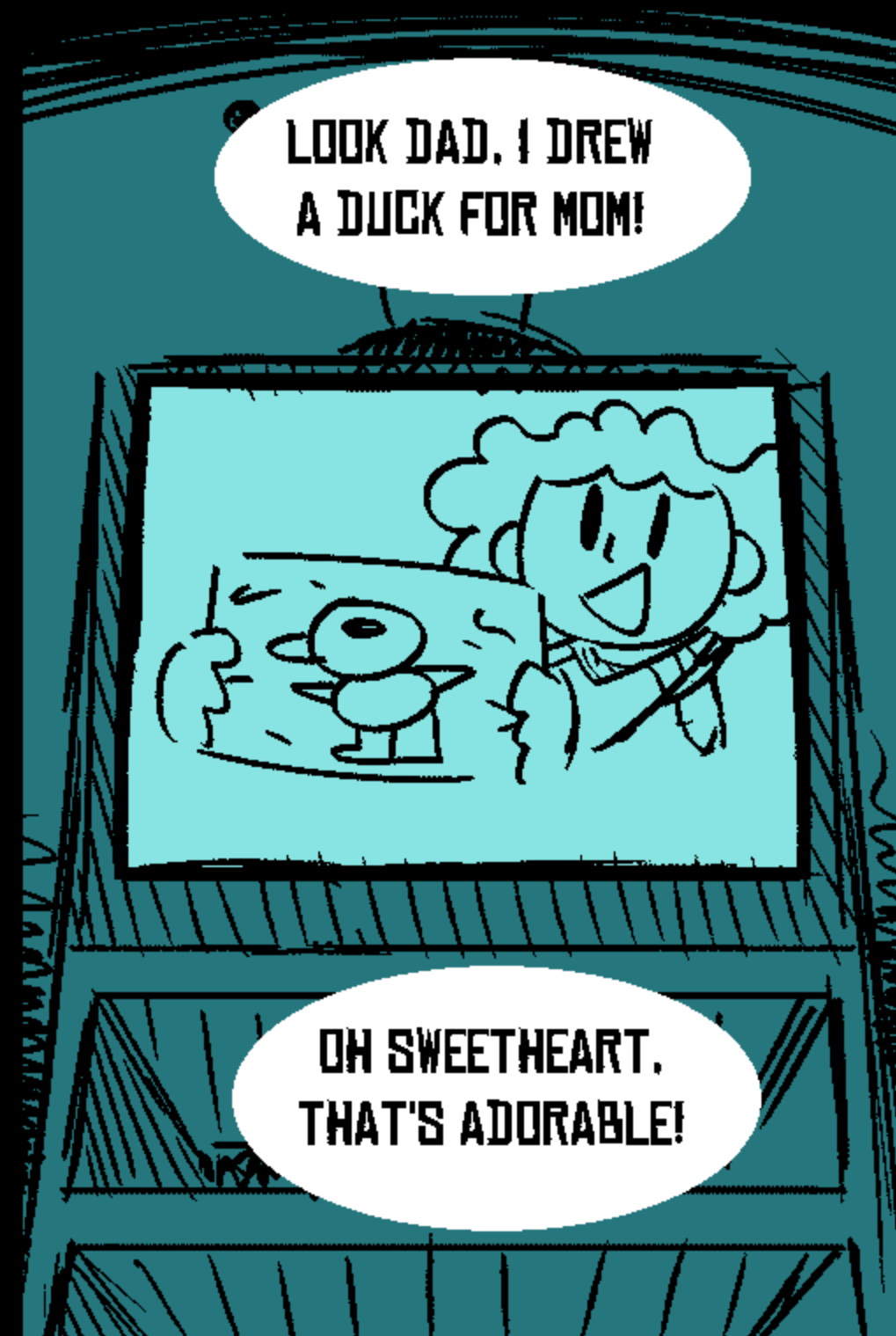
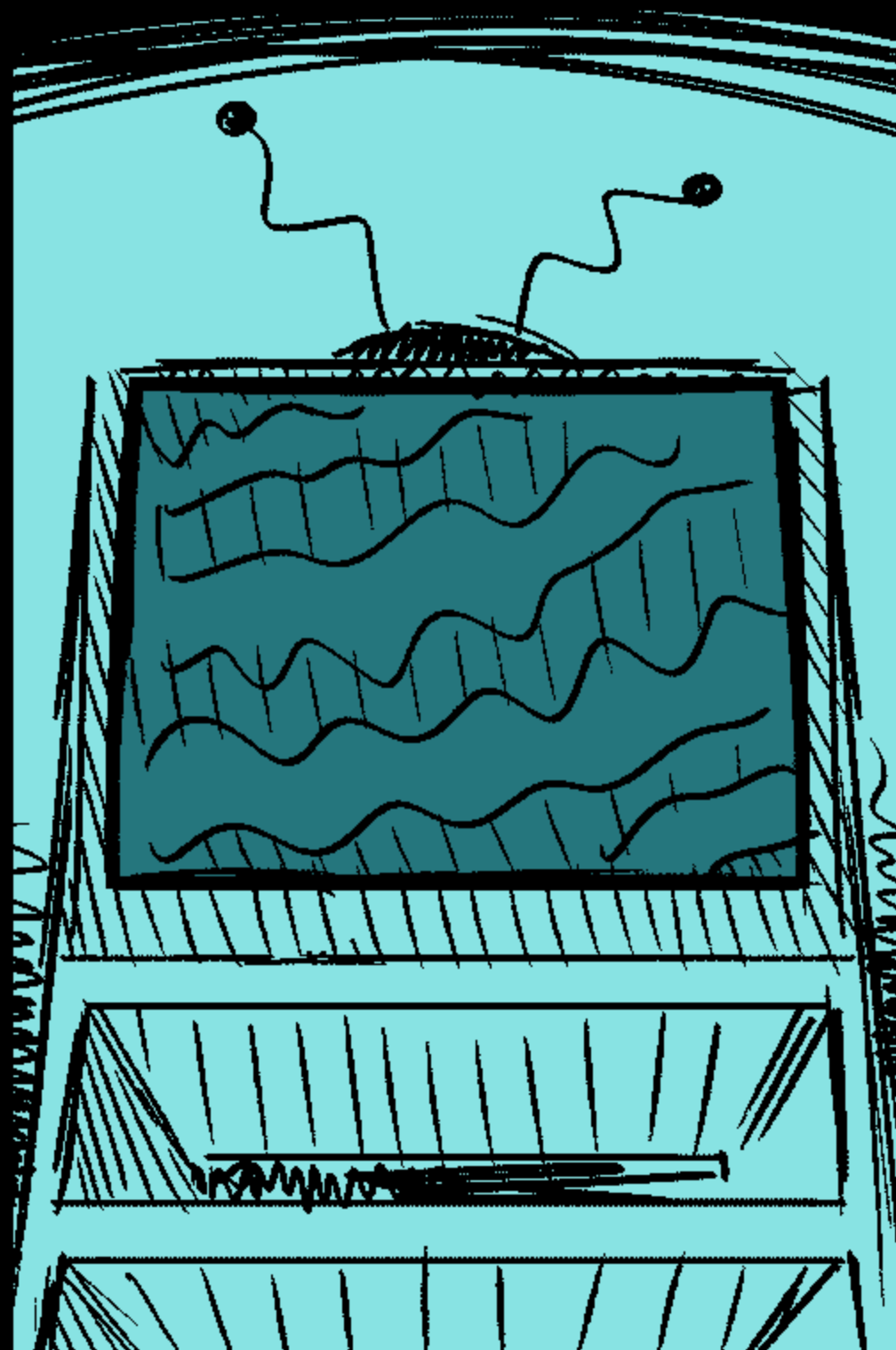


THIS IS MY
APOLOGY TO
HIM.

IF I COULD I WOULD
KILL YOU... BUT YOU'RE
LUCKY YOU'RE IMPORTANT.

DON'T TALK ABOUT
LINDA AGAIN.





LOOK DAD, I DREW
A DUCK FOR MOM!

OH SWEETHEART,
THAT'S ADORABLE!



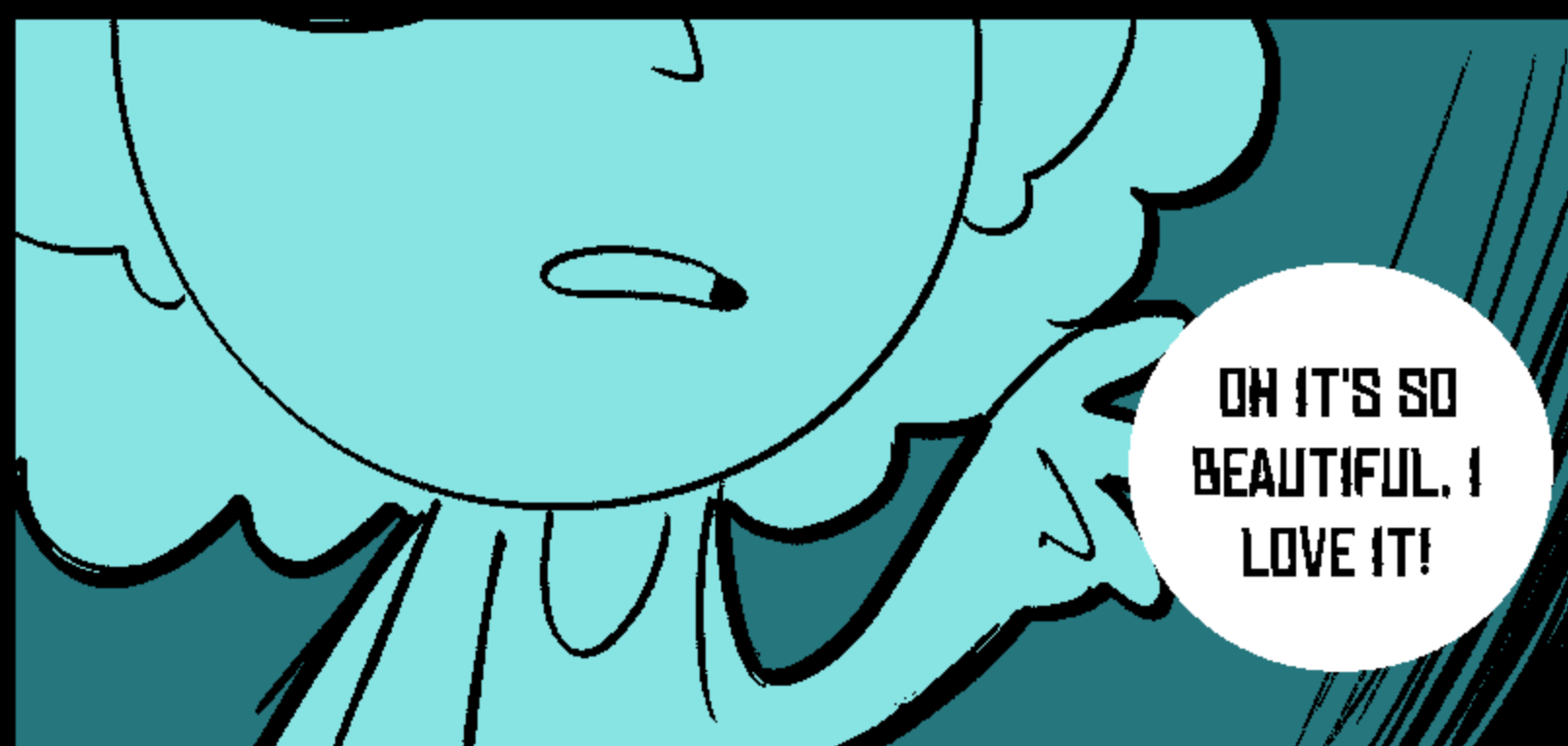
SHE'S GONNA LOVE IT!
LET'S GO SHOW IT
TO HER!

LOOK MOM, I
DREW A DUCK
FOR YOU!

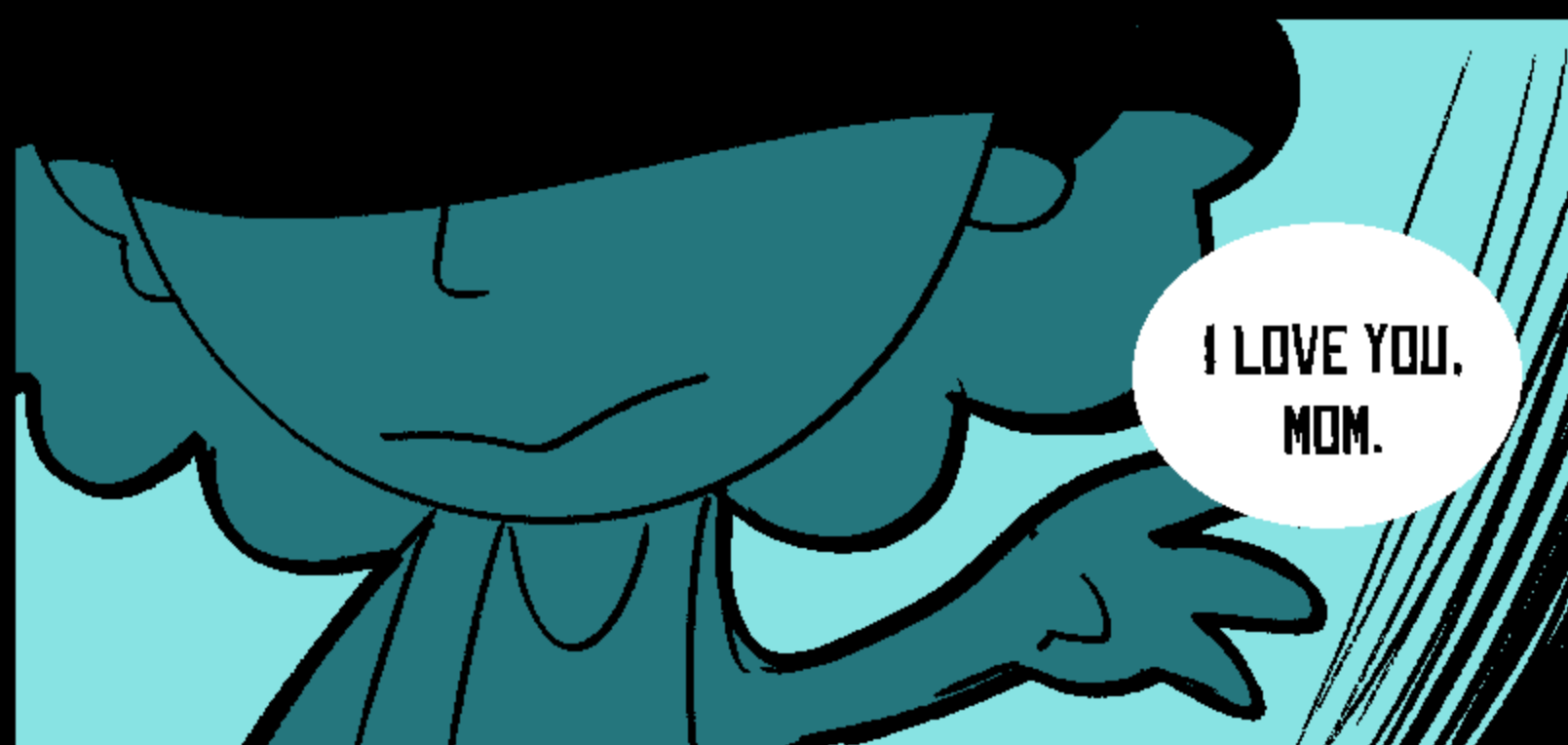


OH HONEY, THIS IS
WONDERFUL! YOU DID SUCH
A GOOD JOB ON THIS!

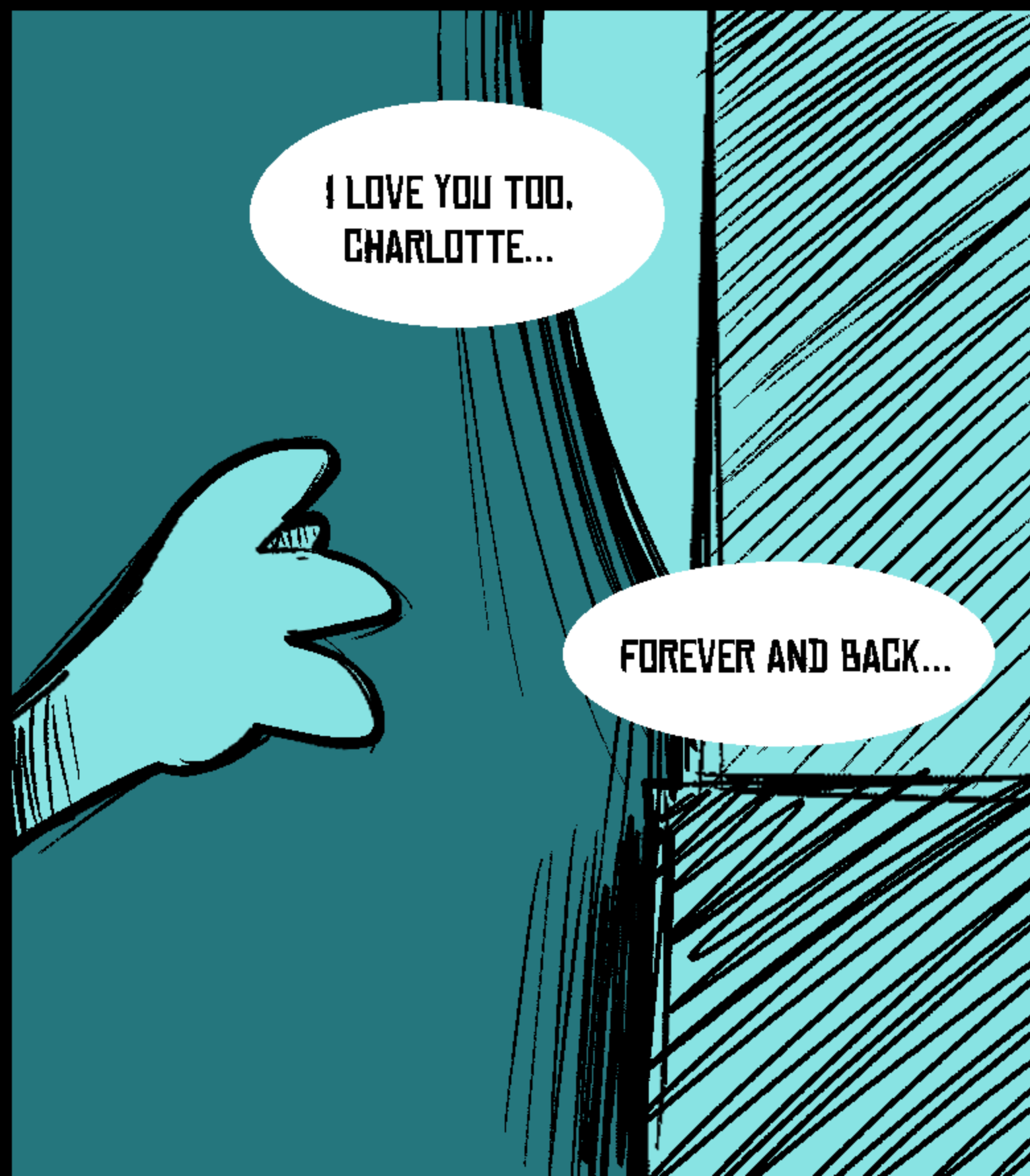
HERE, LET'S HANG IT
UP ON THE FRIDGE!



OH IT'S SO
BEAUTIFUL, I
LOVE IT!



I LOVE YOU,
MOM.

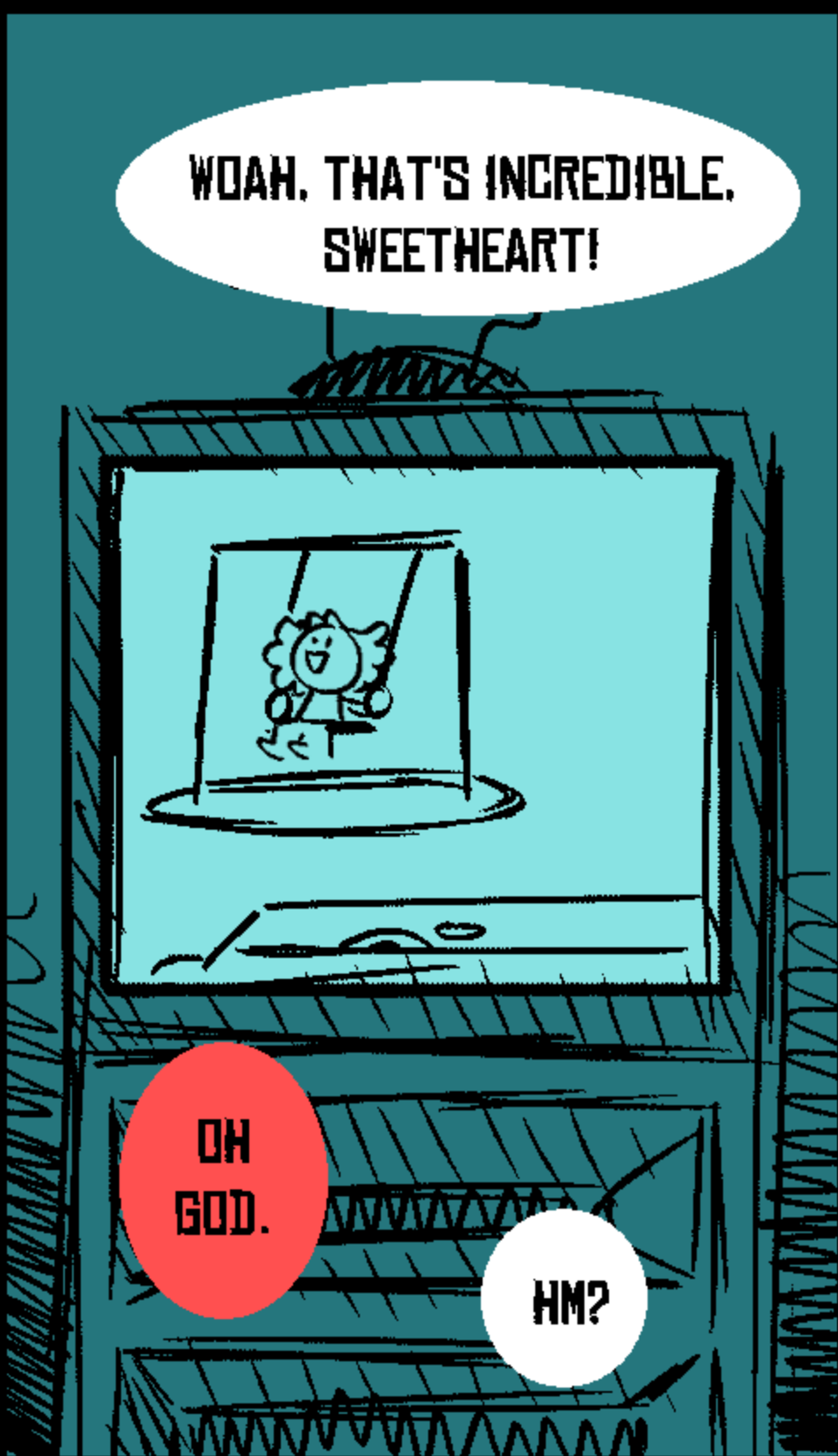


I LOVE YOU TOO,
CHARLOTTE...

FOREVER AND BACK...



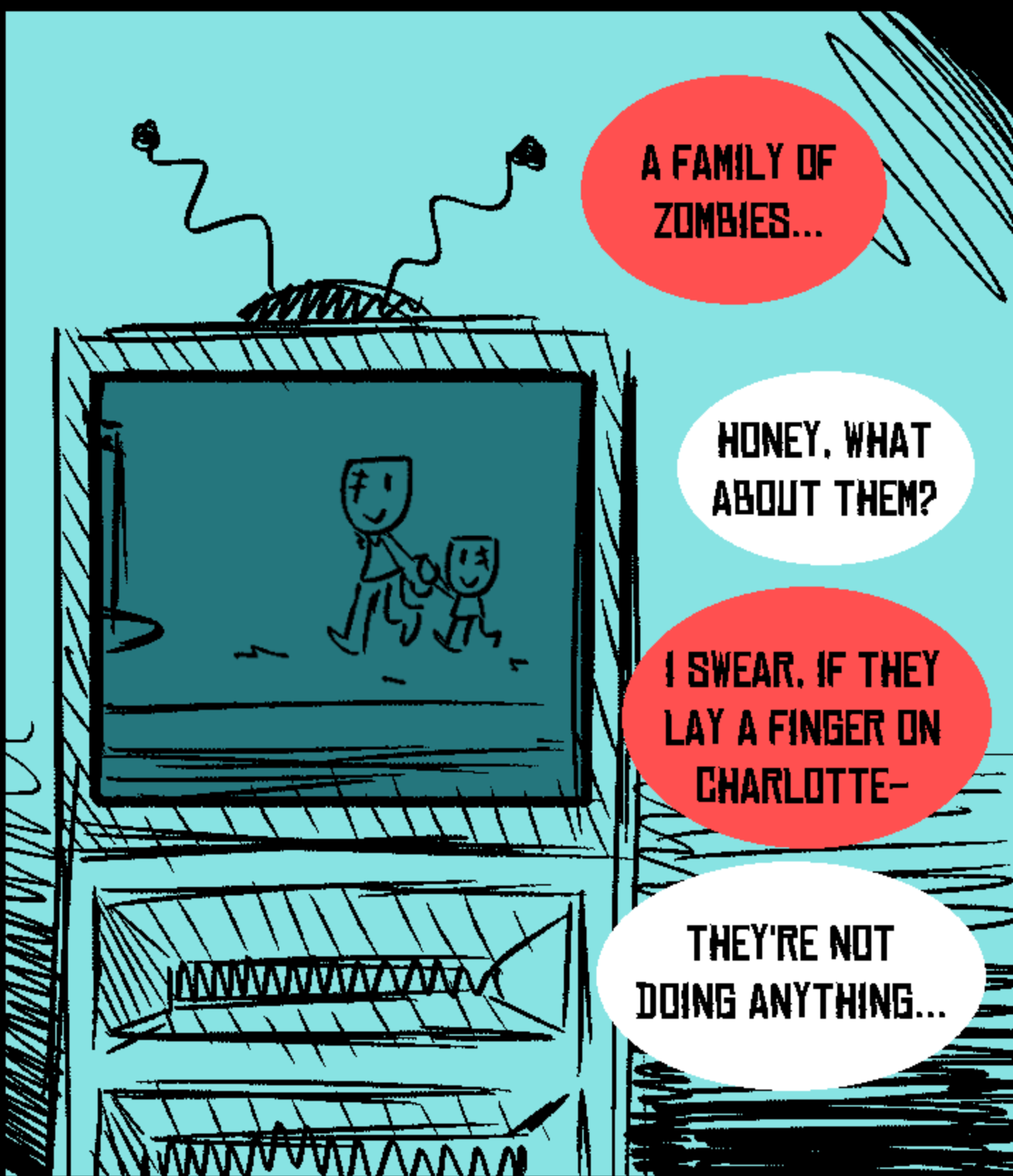
LOOK HOW HIGH I
CAN SWING, DAD!



WOAH. THAT'S INCREDIBLE.
SWEETHEART!

OH
GOD.

HM?



A FAMILY OF
ZOMBIES...

HONEY, WHAT
ABOUT THEM?

I SWEAR, IF THEY
LAY A FINGER ON
CHARLOTTE-

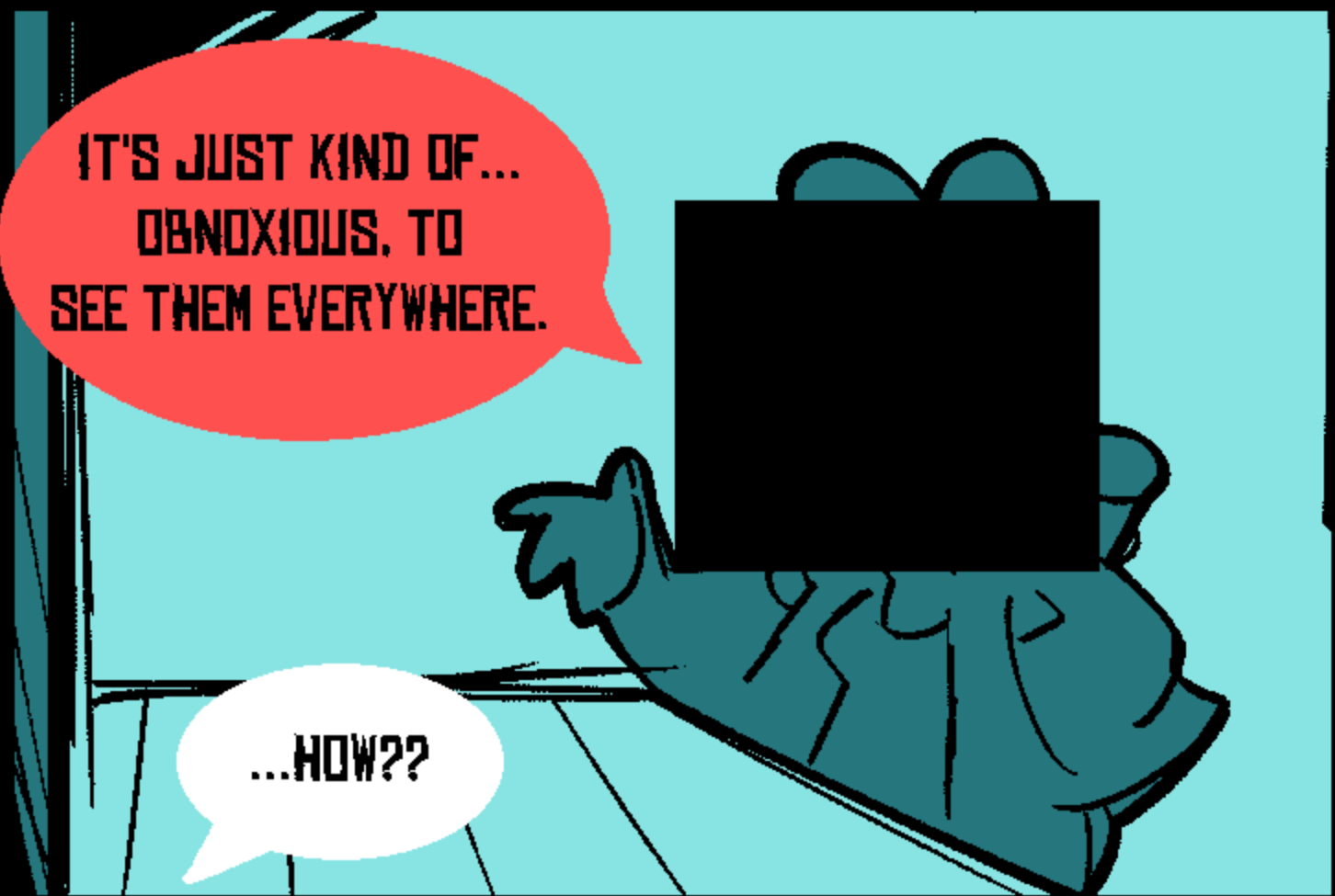
THEY'RE NOT
DOING ANYTHING...



WHY ARE YOU ALWAYS
LIKE THIS ABOUT CRYPTIDS?

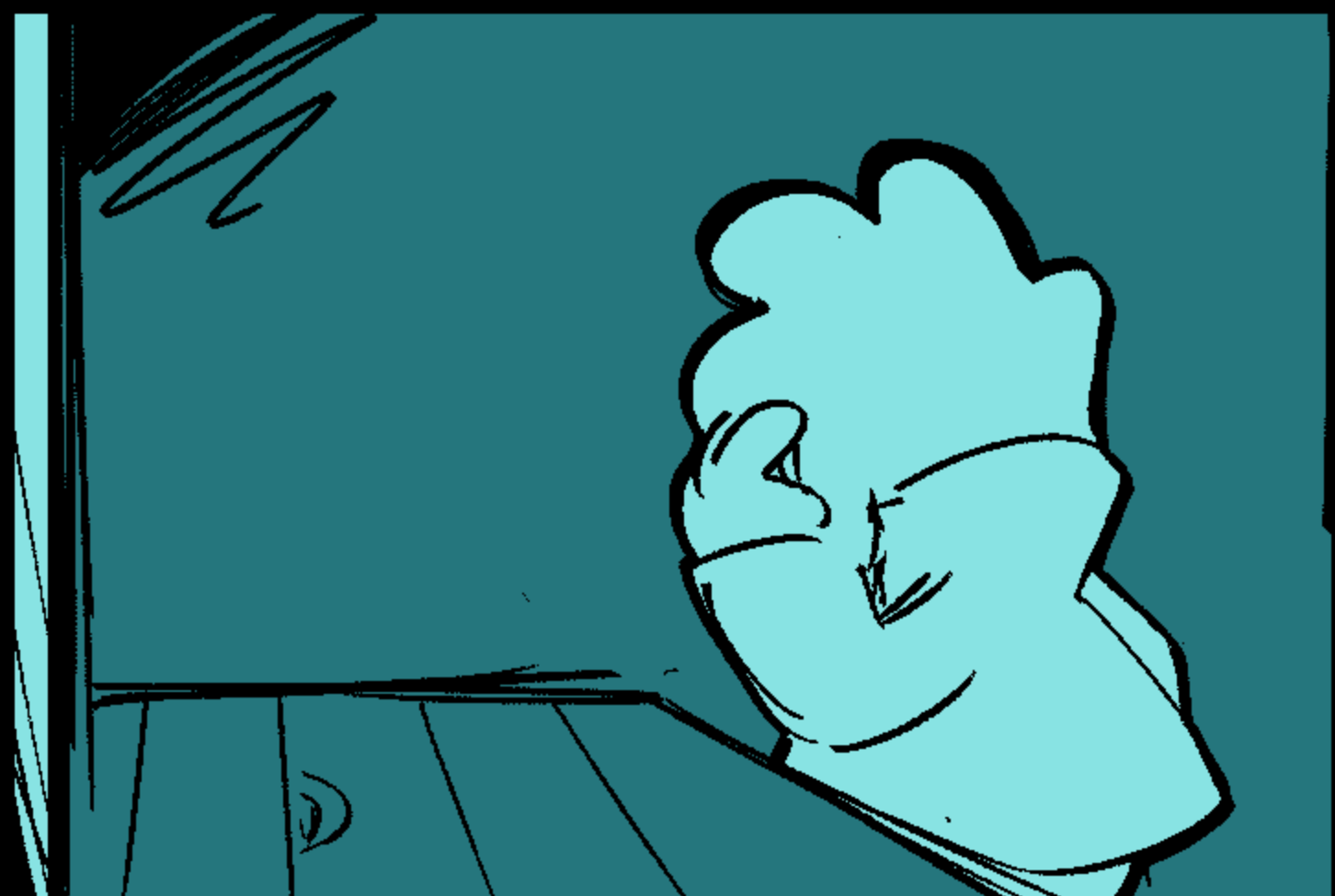
I'M NOT! JUST...
UGH...

I'M SICK OF SEEING THEM
EVERYWHERE. I HOPED THAT
THEY WOULD LEAVE ONCE THE
HELLHOLE CLOSED, BUT THERE
ONLY SEEMS TO BE MORE OF
THEM IN TOWN THAN EVER!



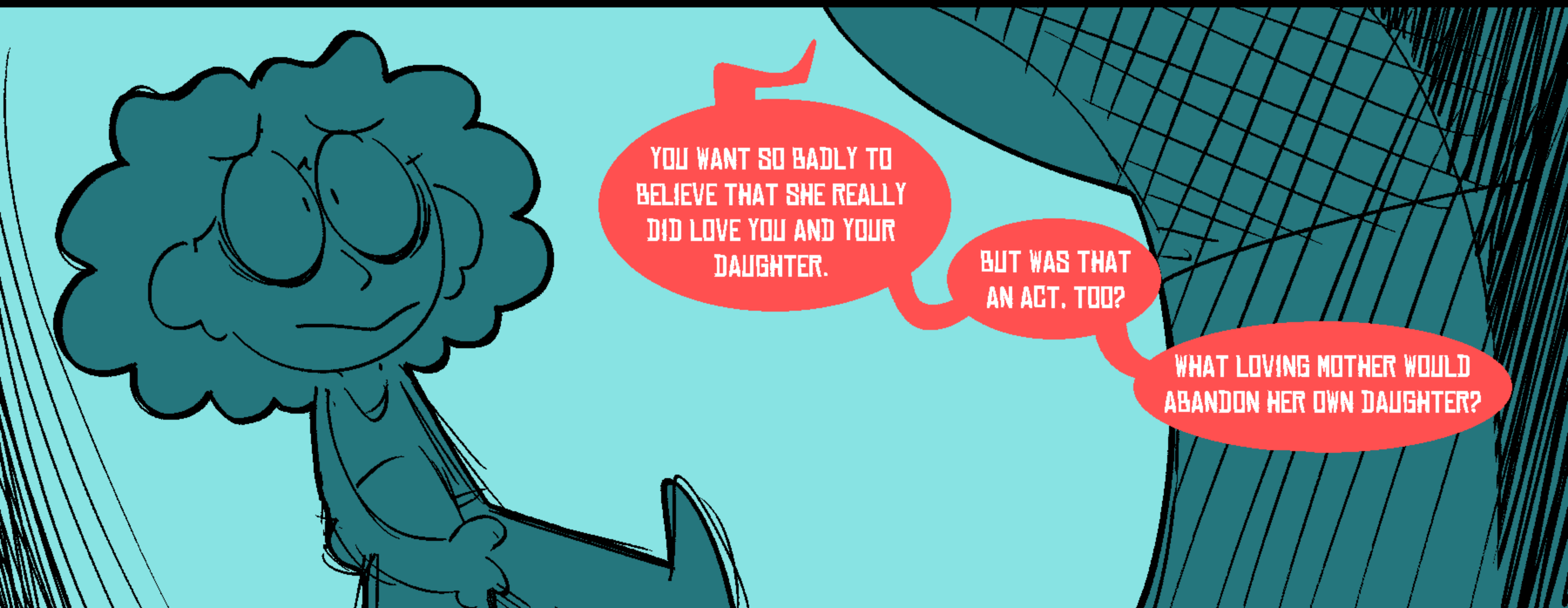
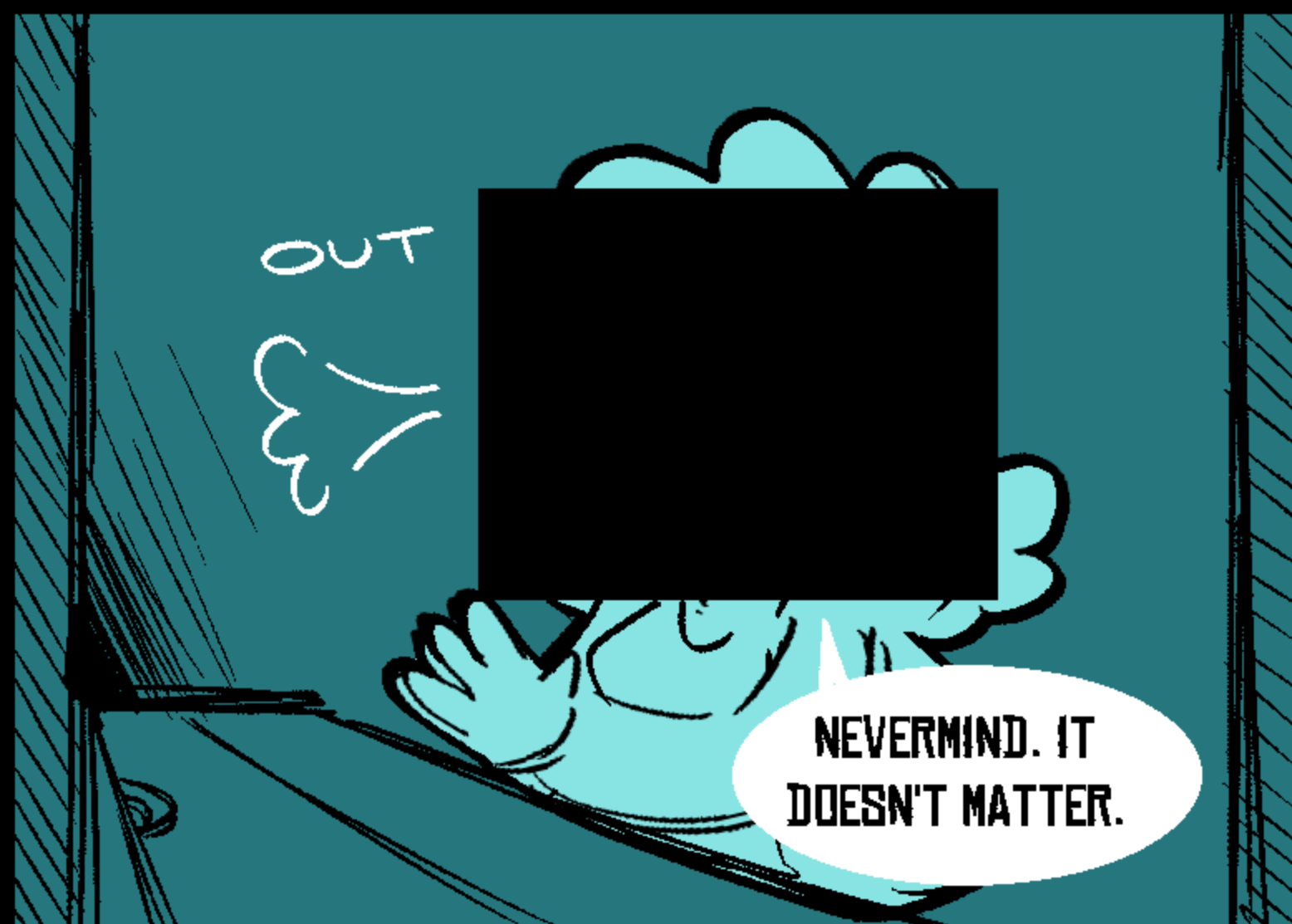
IT'S JUST KIND OF...
OBVIOUS, TO
SEE THEM EVERYWHERE.

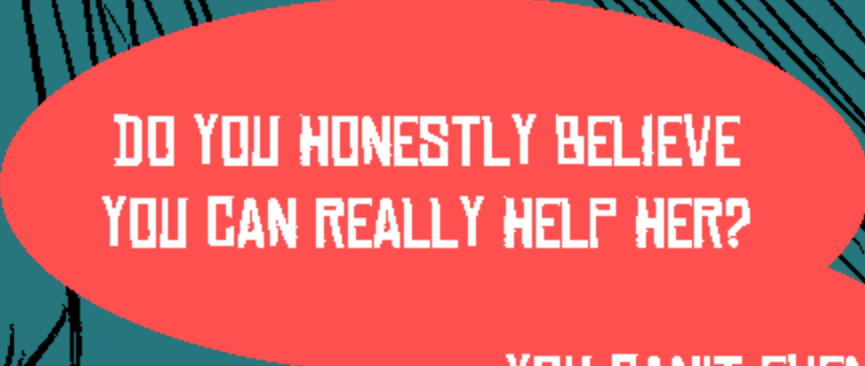
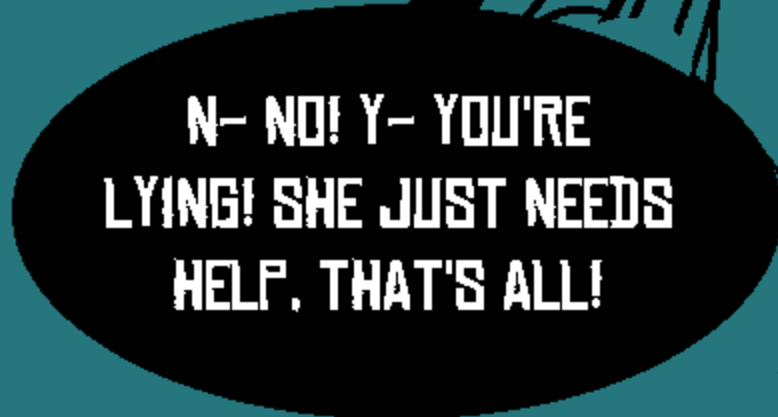
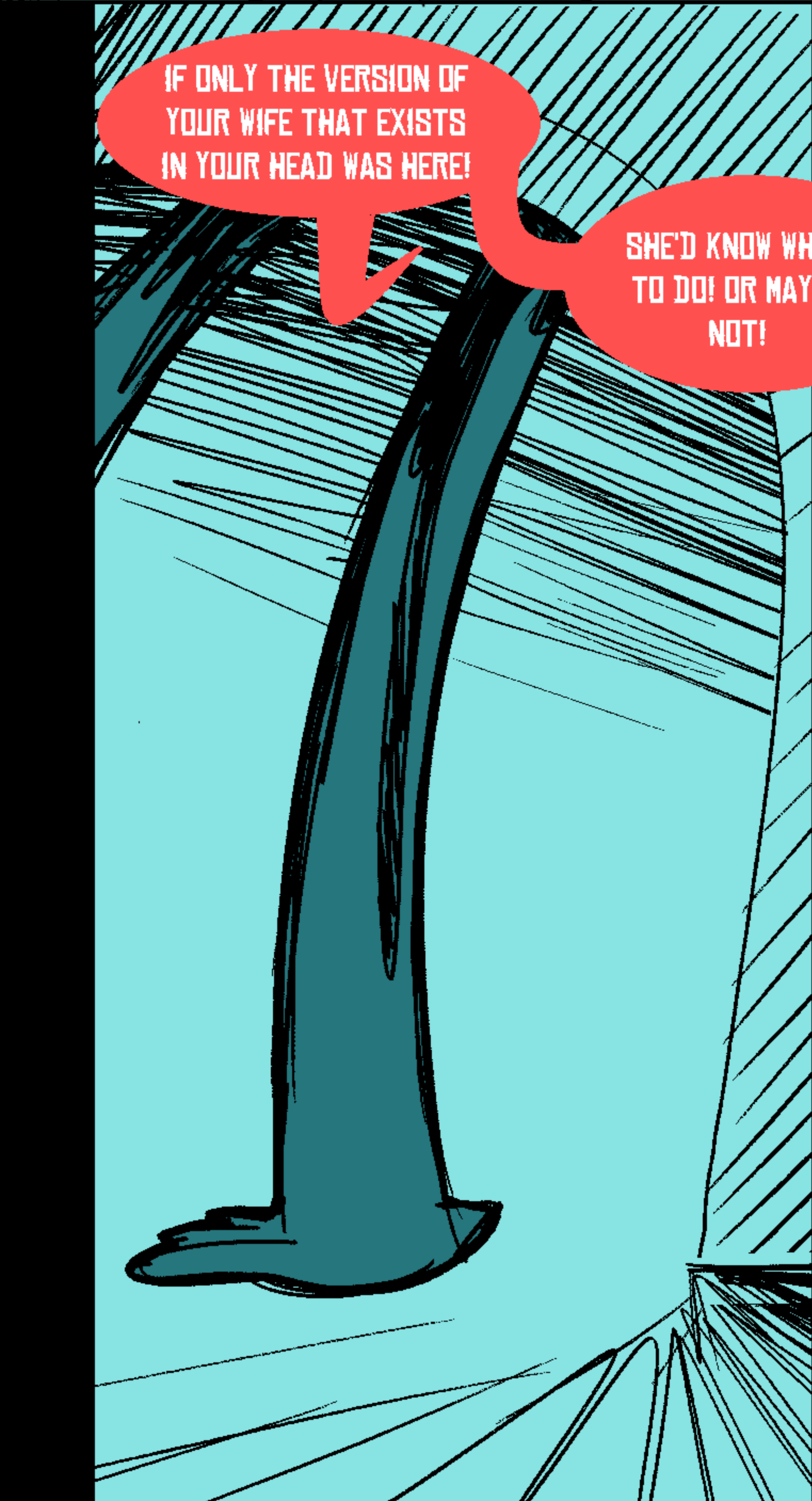
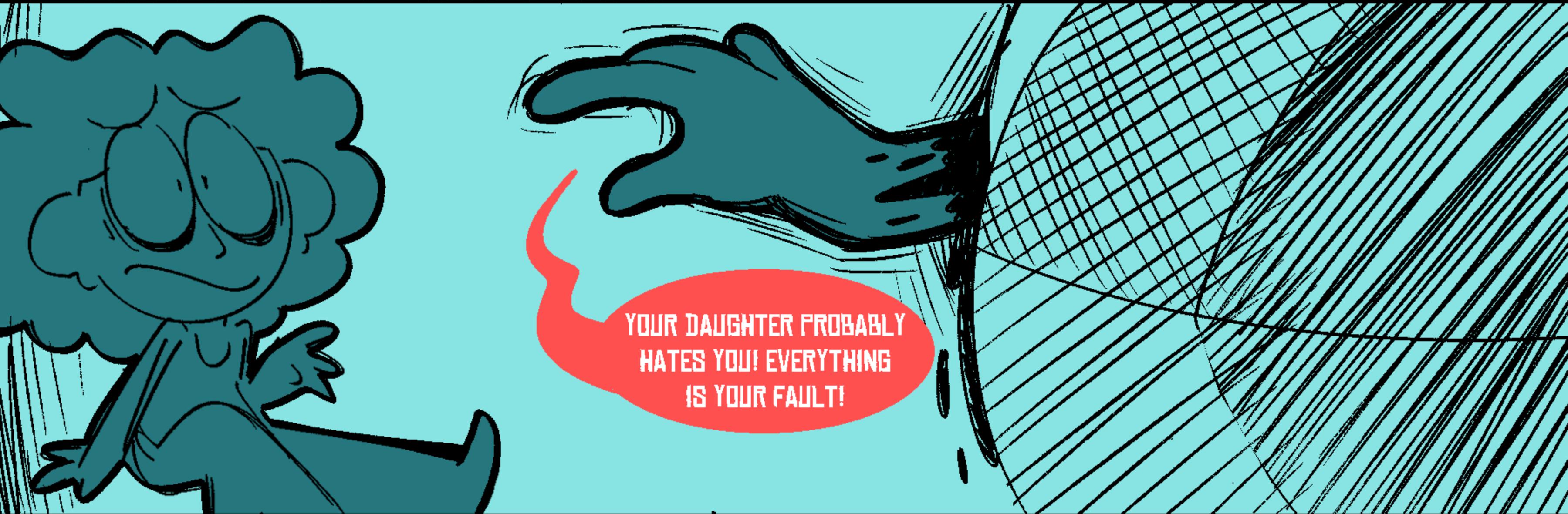
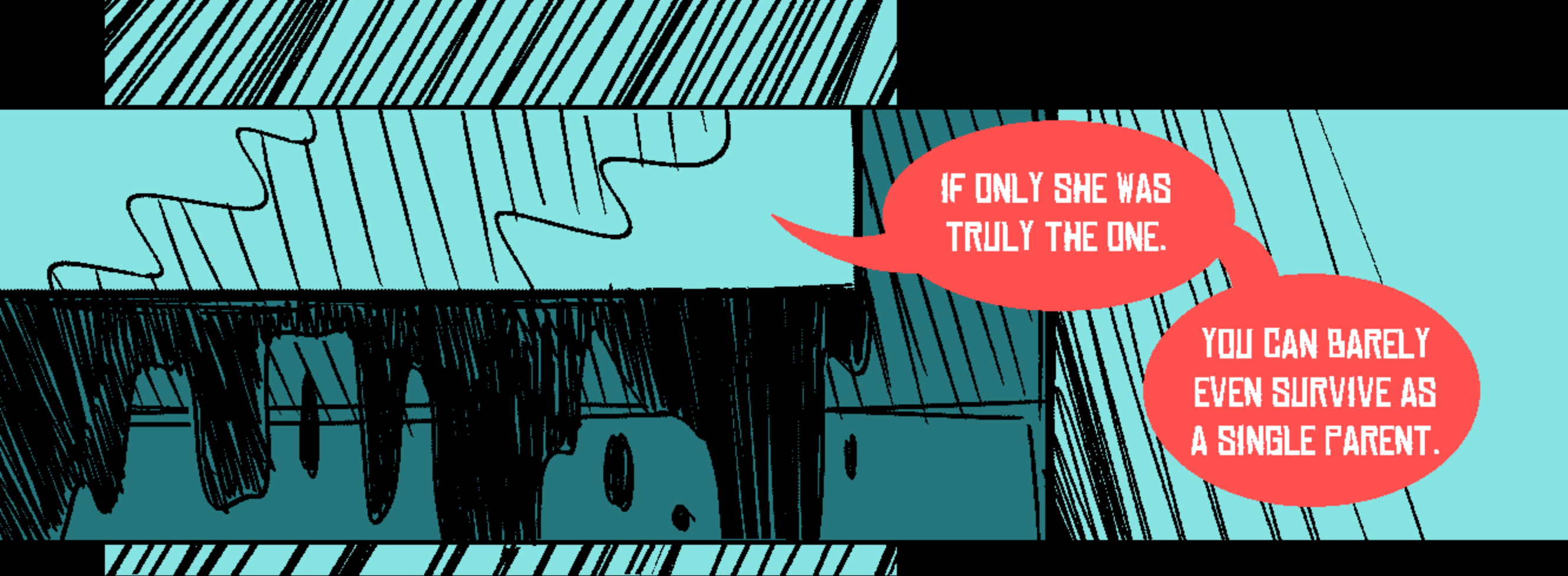
...HOW??



WHY DO YOU INSIST
ON DEFENDING THEM?!

WHY DO YOU INSIST
ON HATING THEM?!







THE LAST PERSON SHE NEEDS
HELP FROM IS YOU. SHE SAID
IT HERSELF!

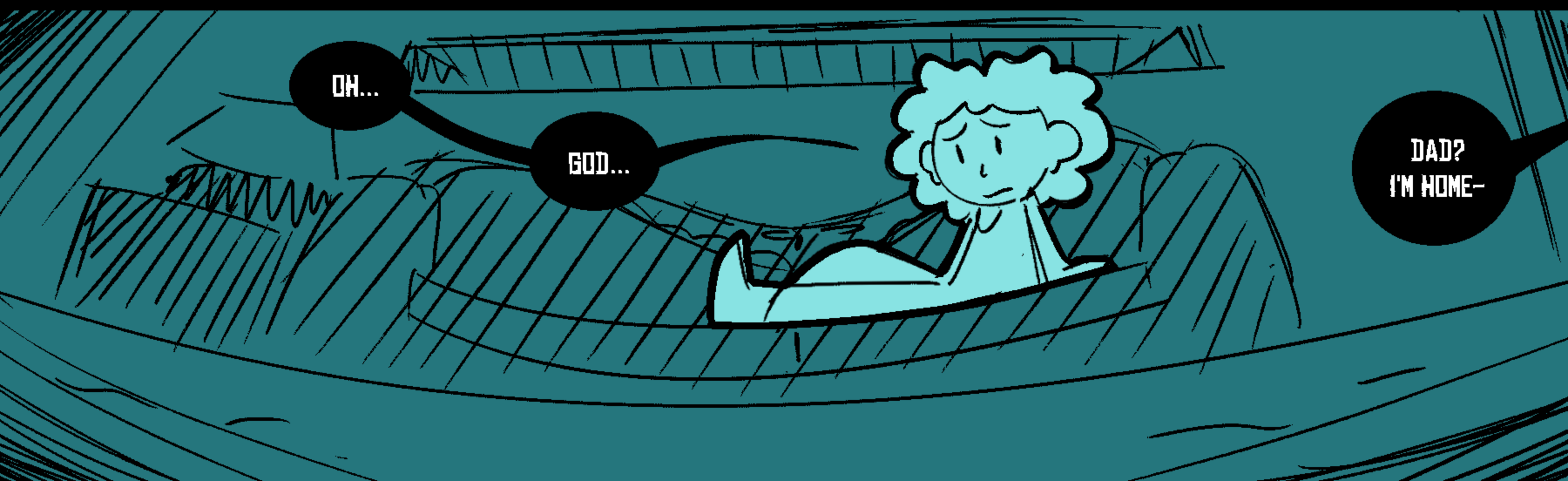
AND WHAT KINDA FATHER ARE
YA REALLY, IF YOU CAN'T EVEN
HELP YOUR OWN DAUGHTER!

WHAT A SHAME.



CHILLI DESERVES BETTER
THAN YOU POOR EXCUSES
FOR PARENTS-

NO!



OH...

GOD...

DAD?
I'M HOME-



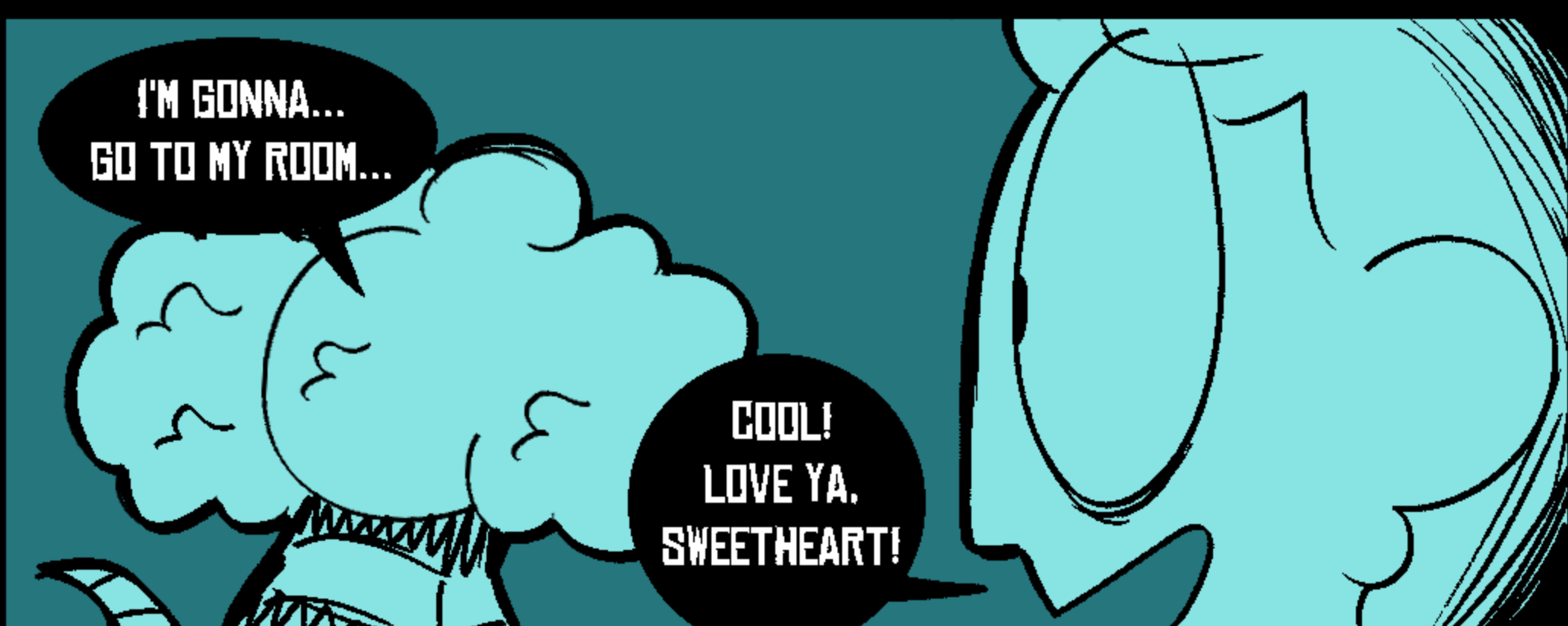
SORRY MY UH... WALK WENT ON FOR SO LONG-

NO YOU'RE GOOD, I GET IT!



IS EVERYTHING OKAY IN HERE? I THOUGHT I HEARD A SCREAM-

OH NO. THAT WAS UH- JUST A LOUD YAWN.

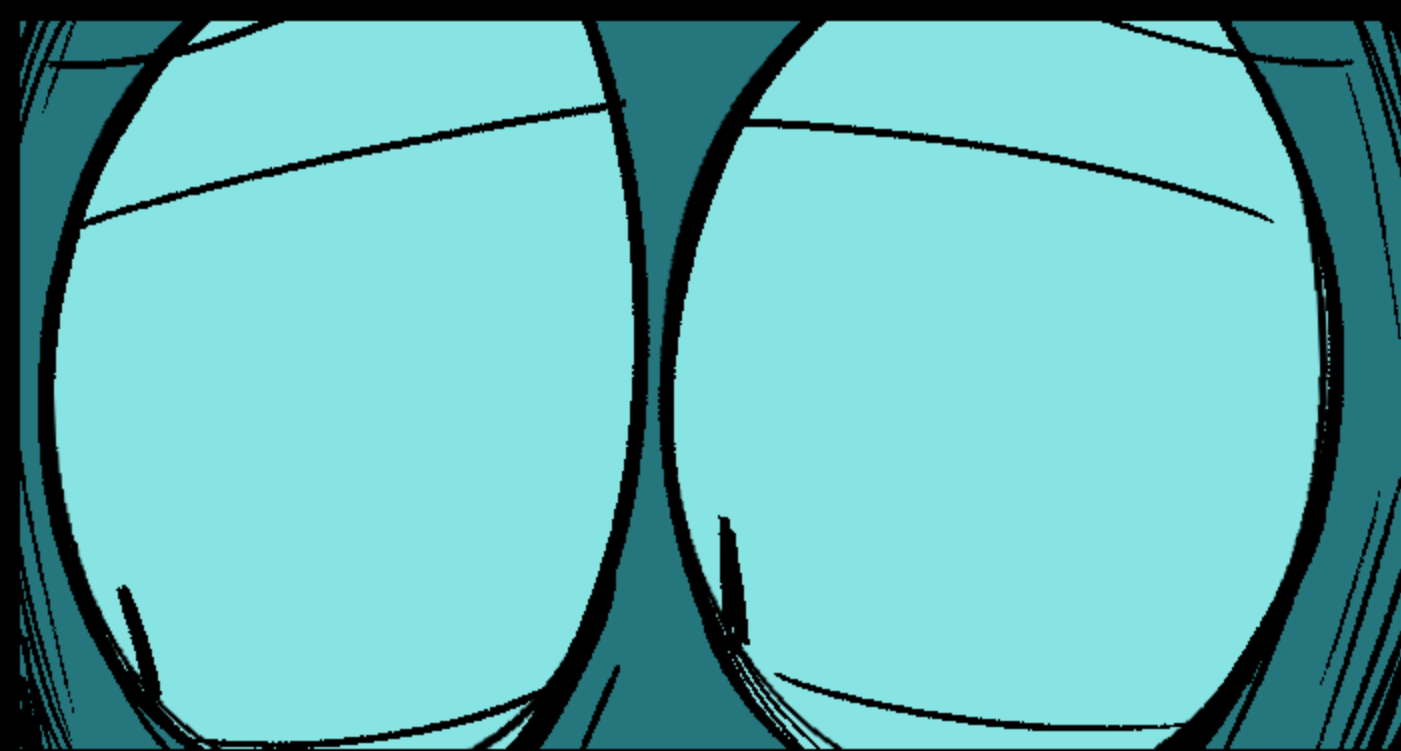
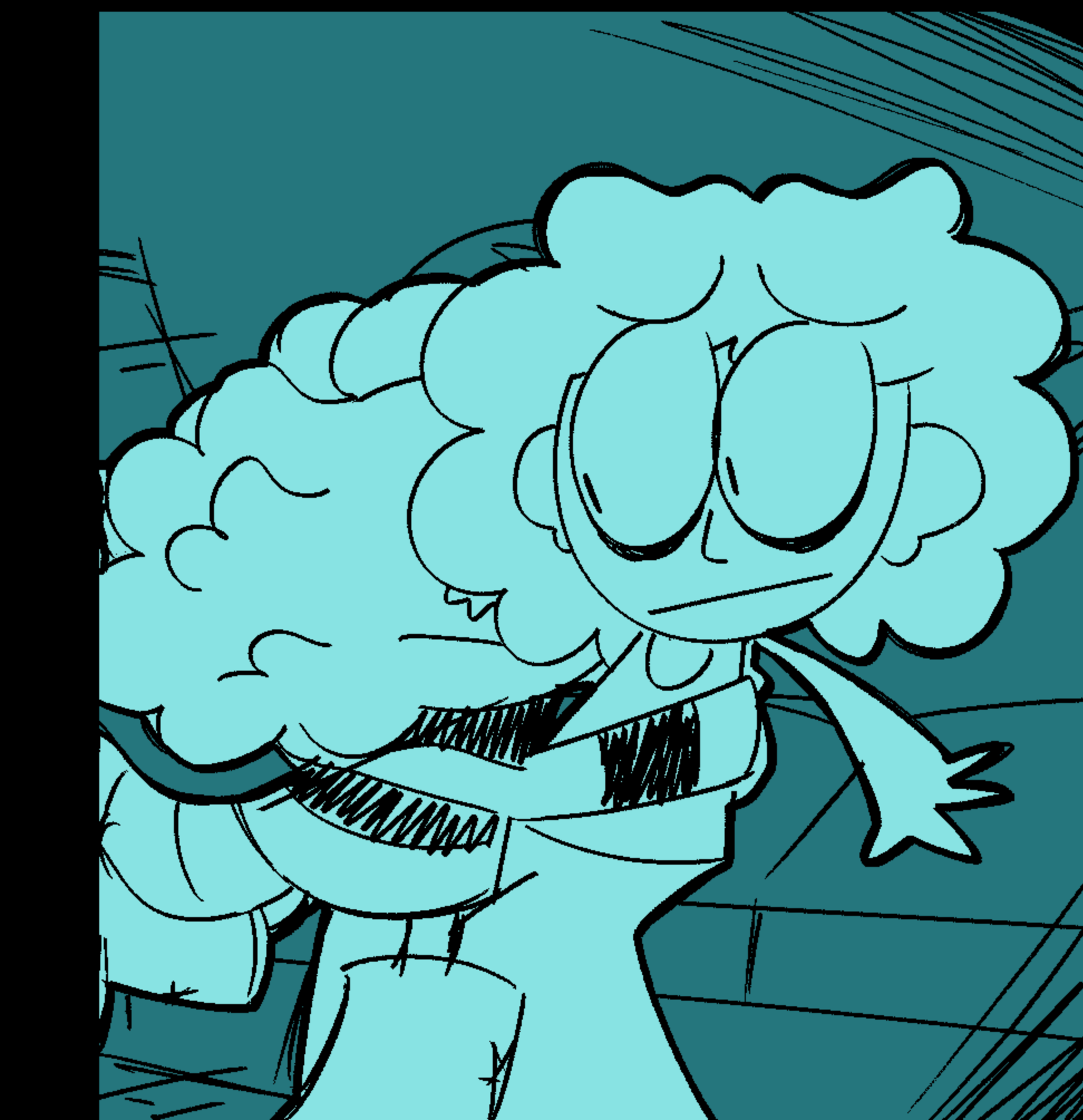


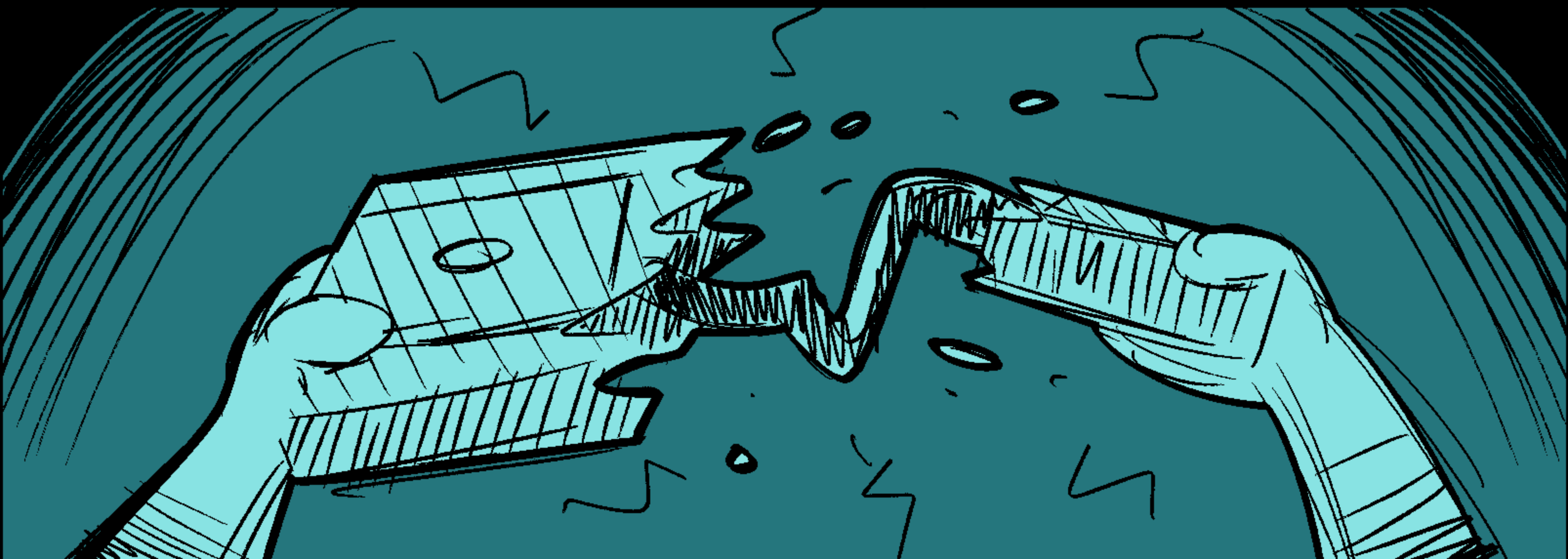
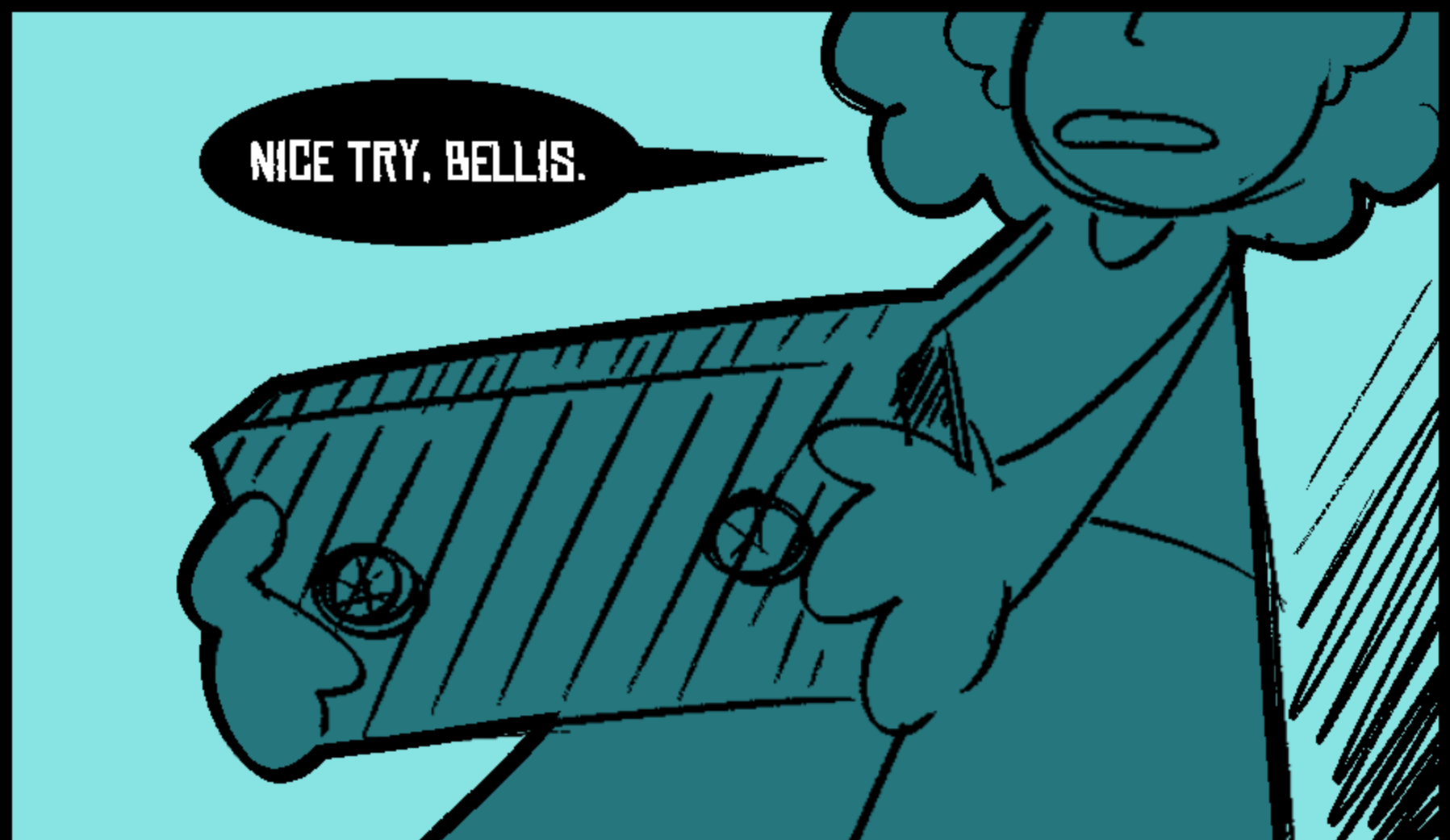
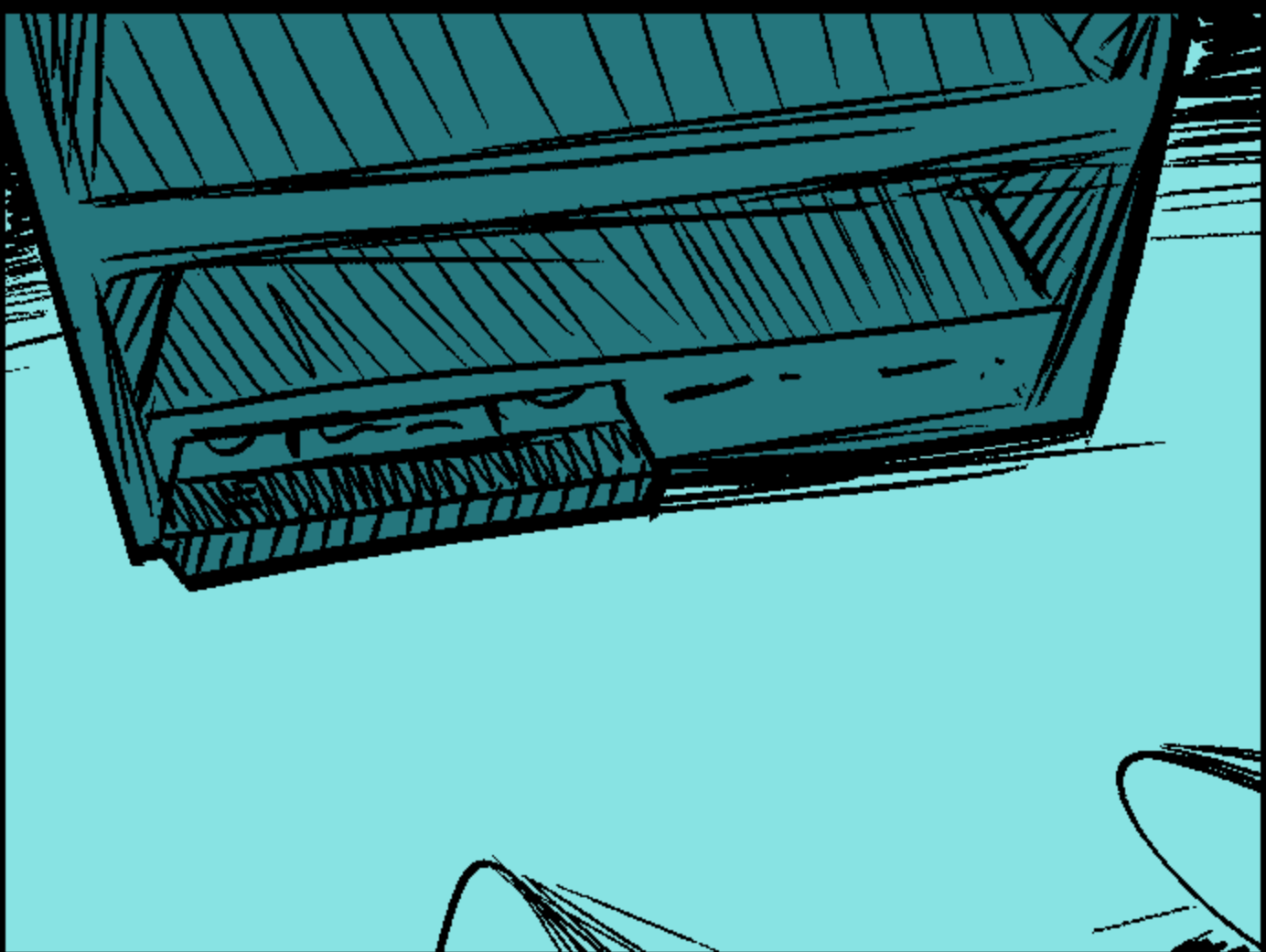
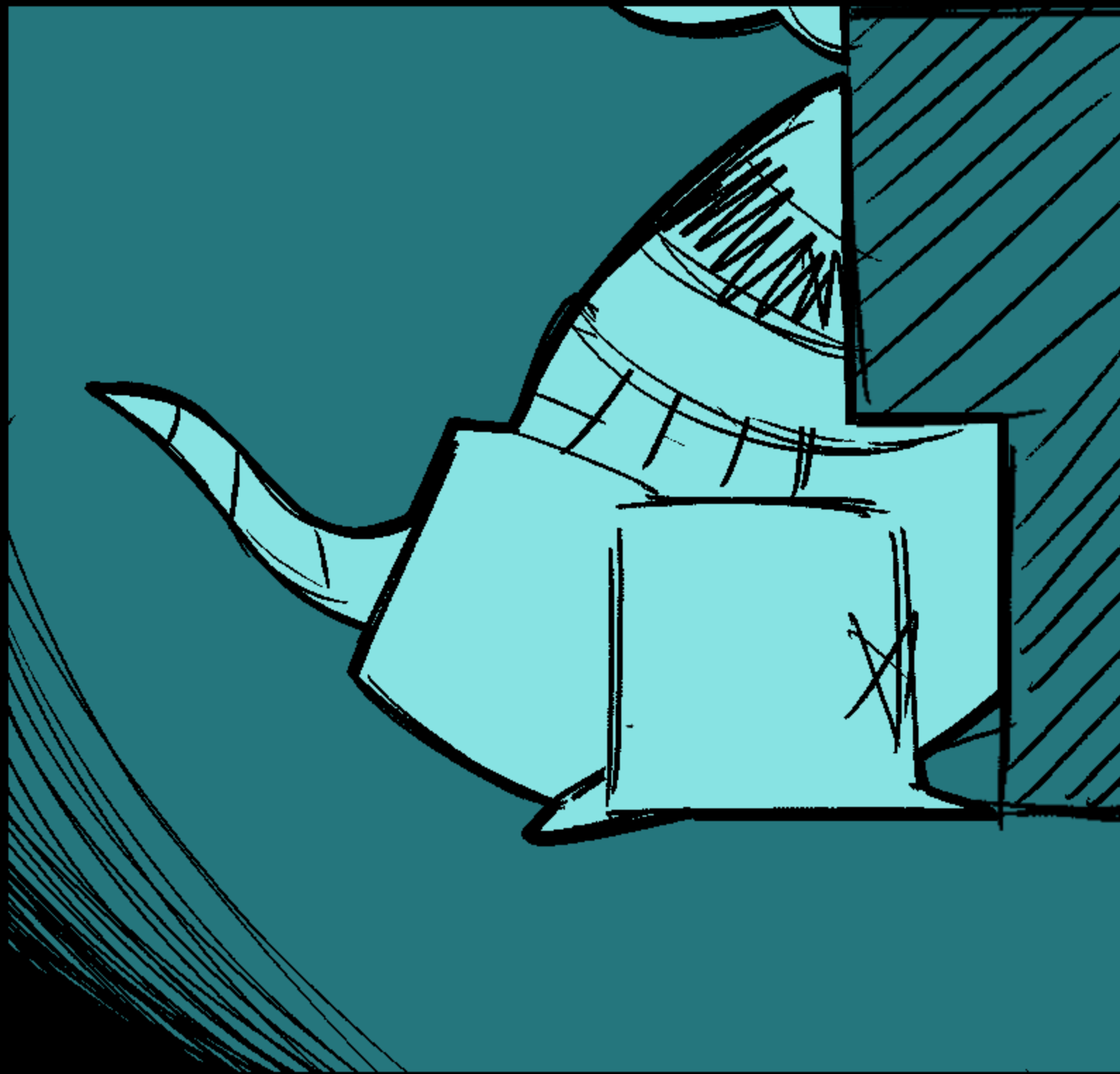
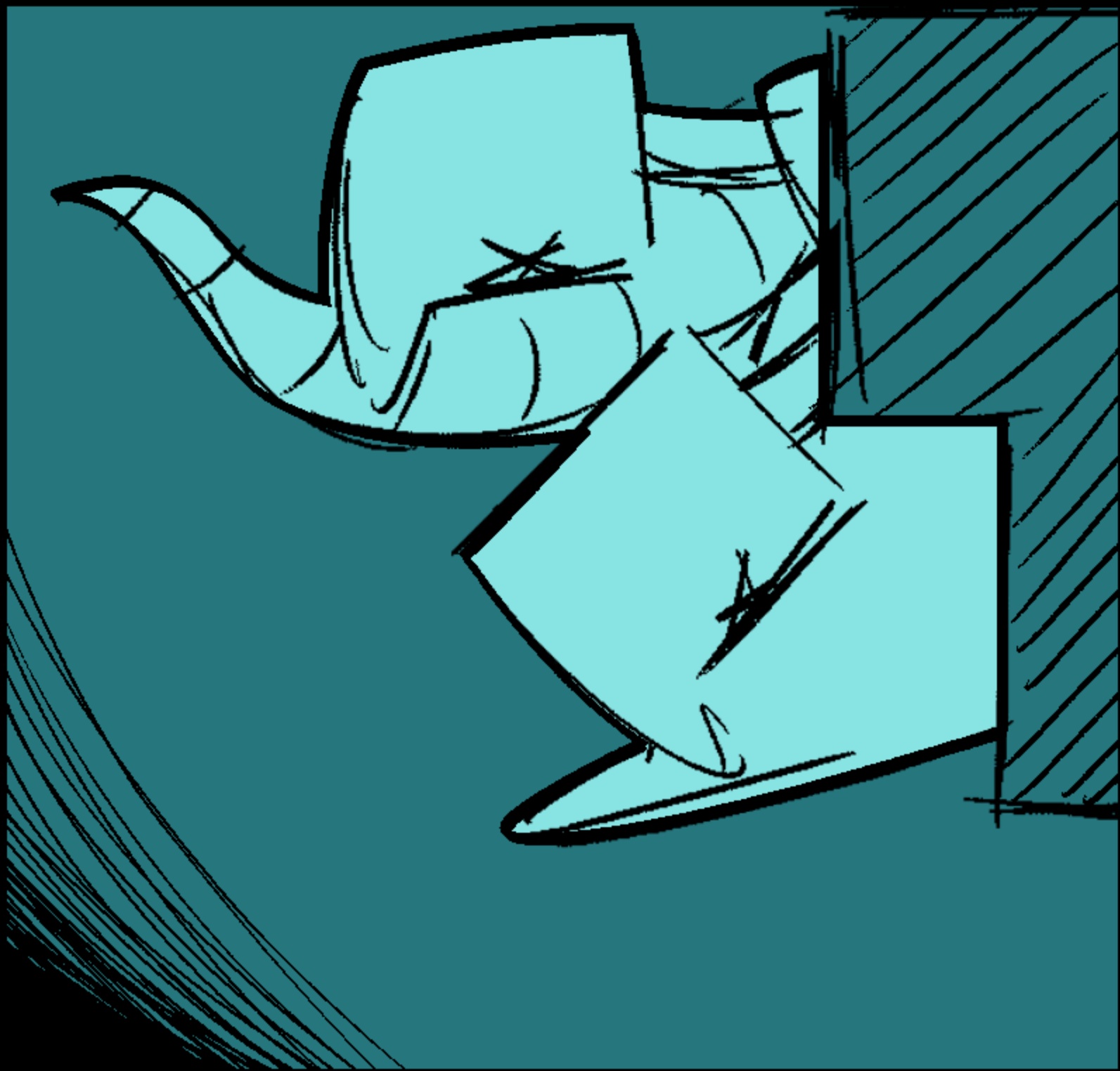
I'M GONNA... GO TO MY ROOM...

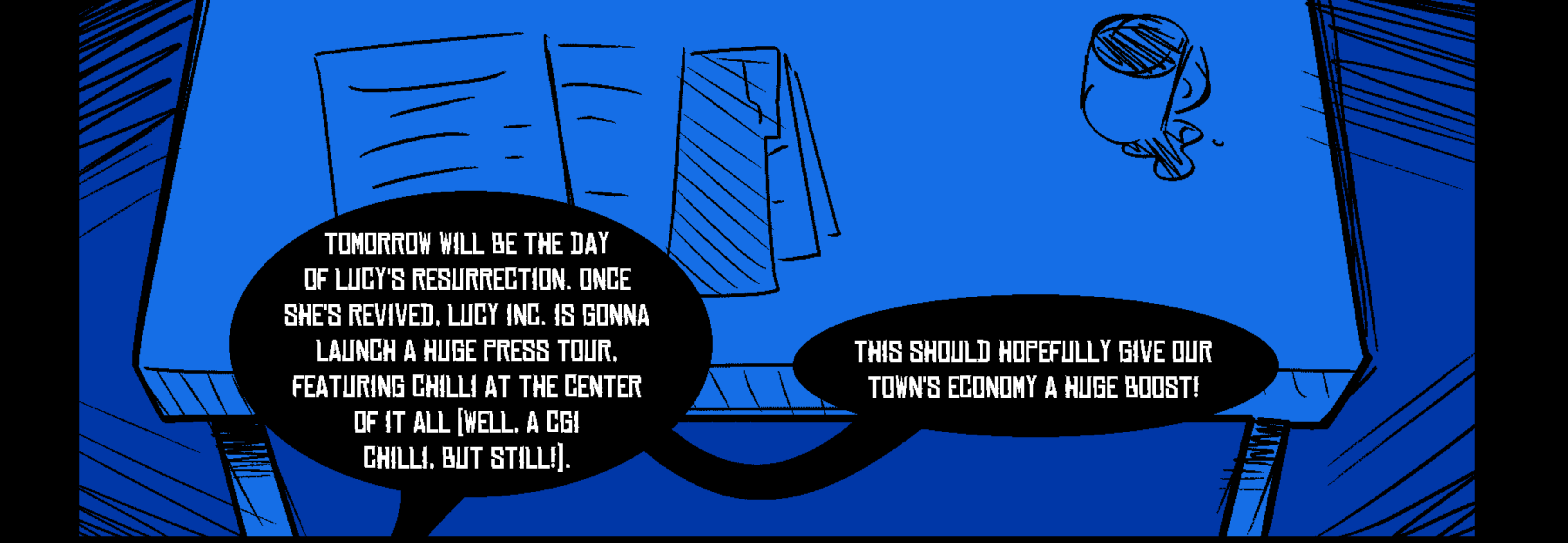
COOL! LOVE YA, SWEETHEART!



CH-CHILL!?

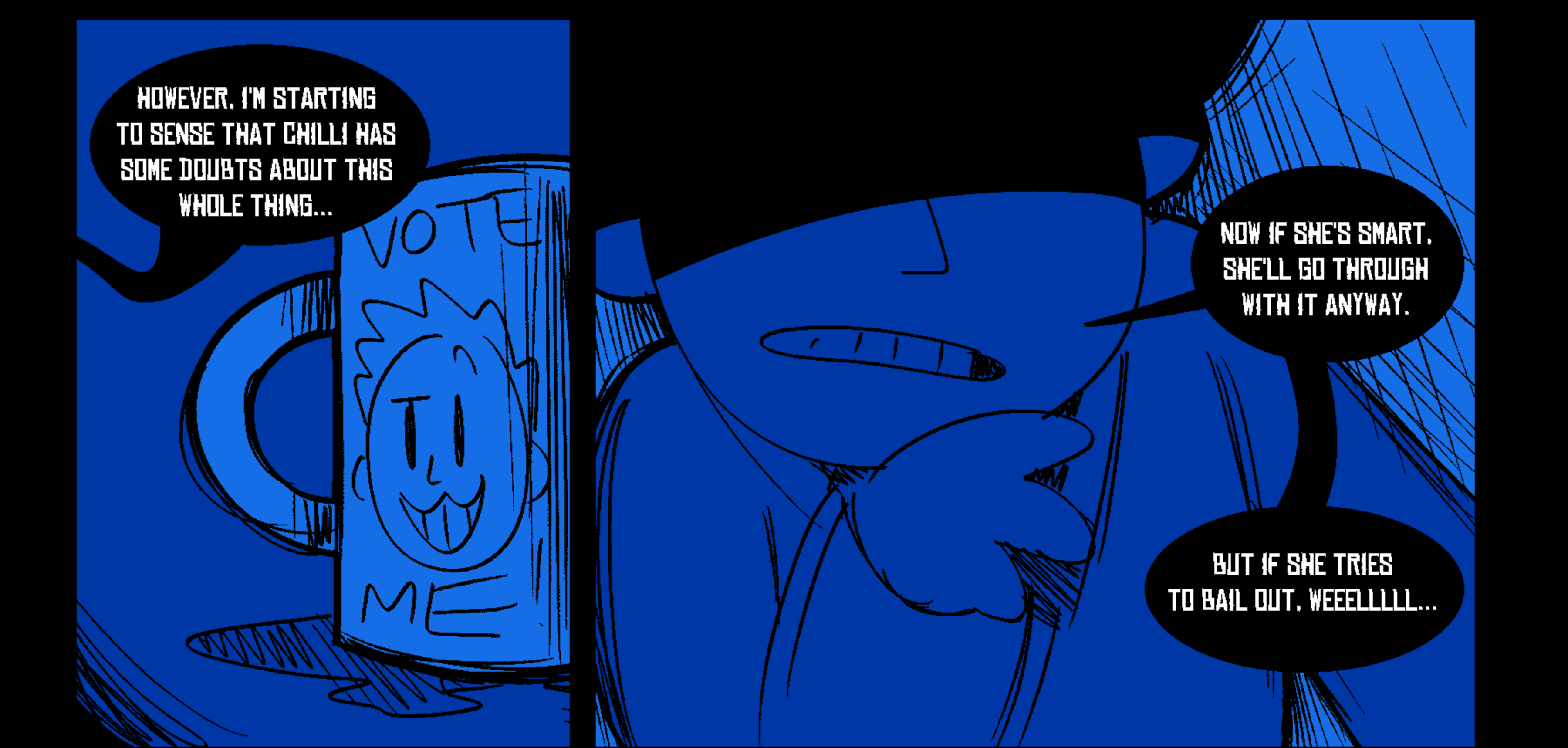






TOMORROW WILL BE THE DAY
OF LUCY'S RESURRECTION. ONCE
SHE'S REVIVED, LUCY INC. IS GONNA
LAUNCH A HUGE PRESS TOUR,
FEATURING CHILLI AT THE CENTER
OF IT ALL (WELL, A CGI
CHILLI, BUT STILL!).

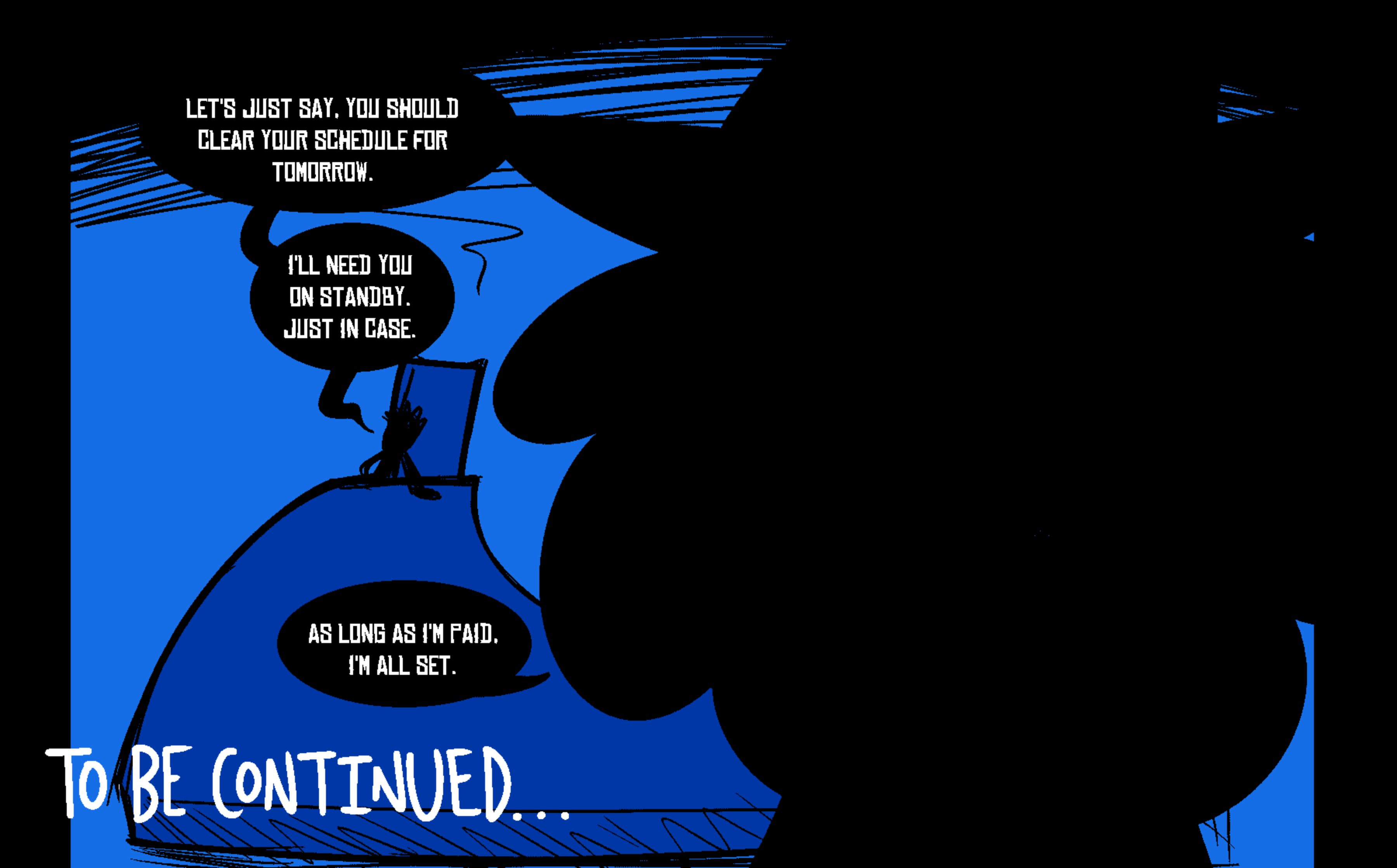
THIS SHOULD HOPEFULLY GIVE OUR
TOWN'S ECONOMY A HUGE BOOST!



HOWEVER, I'M STARTING
TO SENSE THAT CHILLI HAS
SOME DOUBTS ABOUT THIS
WHOLE THING...

NOW IF SHE'S SMART,
SHE'LL GO THROUGH
WITH IT ANYWAY.

BUT IF SHE TRIES
TO BAIL OUT, WEEELLLL...



LET'S JUST SAY, YOU SHOULD
CLEAR YOUR SCHEDULE FOR
TOMORROW.

I'LL NEED YOU
ON STANDBY.
JUST IN CASE.

AS LONG AS I'M PAID,
I'M ALL SET.

TO BE CONTINUED...



#15

CHILI

THE VAMPIRE OPOSSUM



"THIRD OPTION"
PART THREE

tw:

abuse

blood

breakdown

bright colors

choking

death

death threats

depression

existentialism

fighting

food

gun

knives

mention of car crash

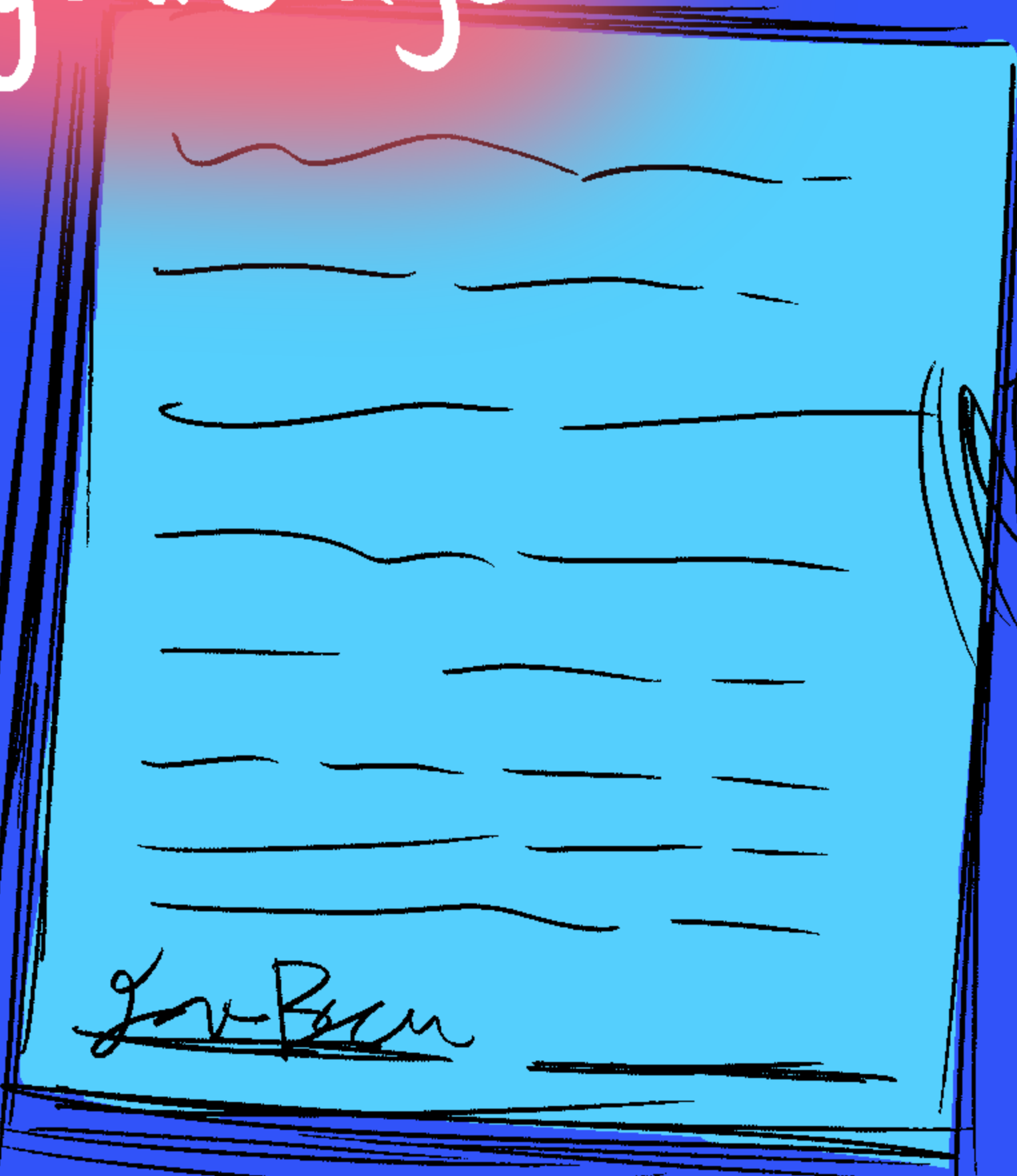
mention of shooting

panic attack

ptsd

trauma

3 years ago



WHAT'S THIS?

IT'S OUR CONTRACT! ONCE YOU SIGN THIS, WE CAN OFFICIALLY START THE AD CAMPAIGN!

WE ALREADY HAVE DOZENS OF COMPANIES READY TO WORK WITH YOU.

THANKS TO YOUR HERO STATUS, LOTS OF BUSINESSES WANT A SLICE OF THE "CHILLI PIE." AS I CALL IT.

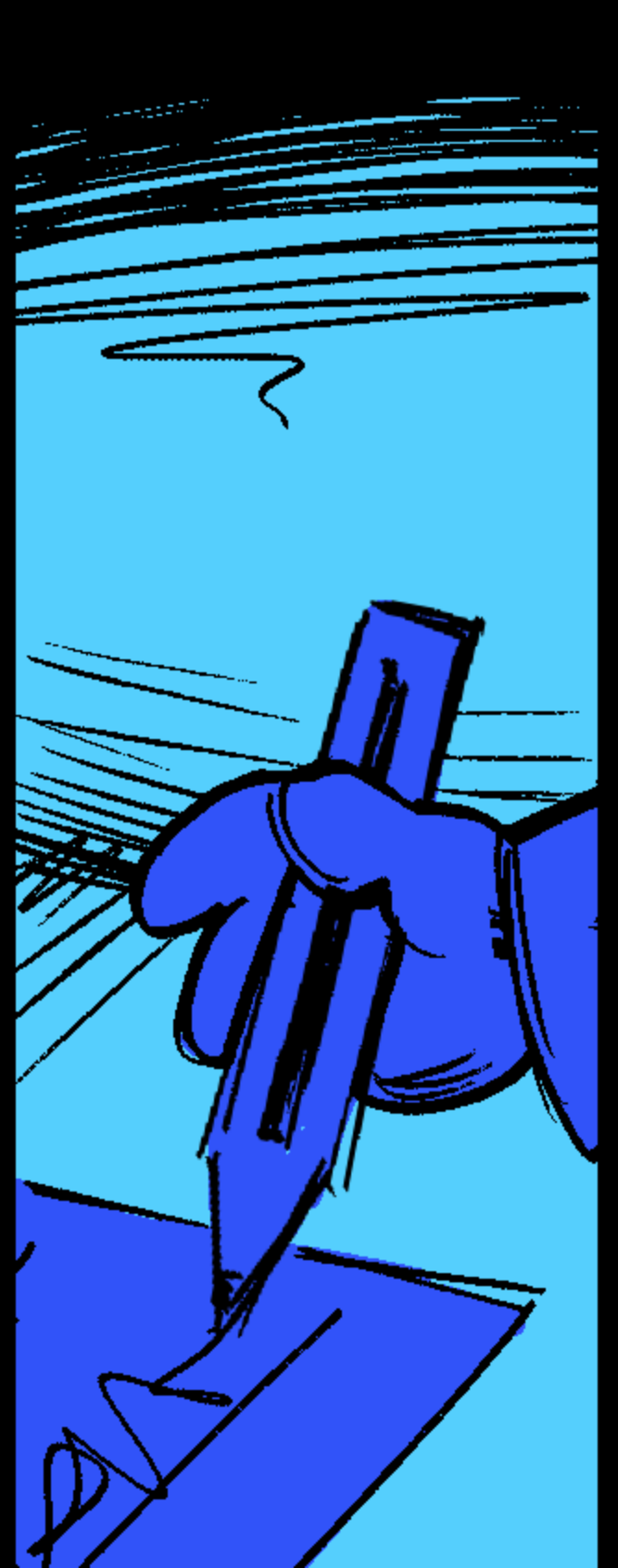
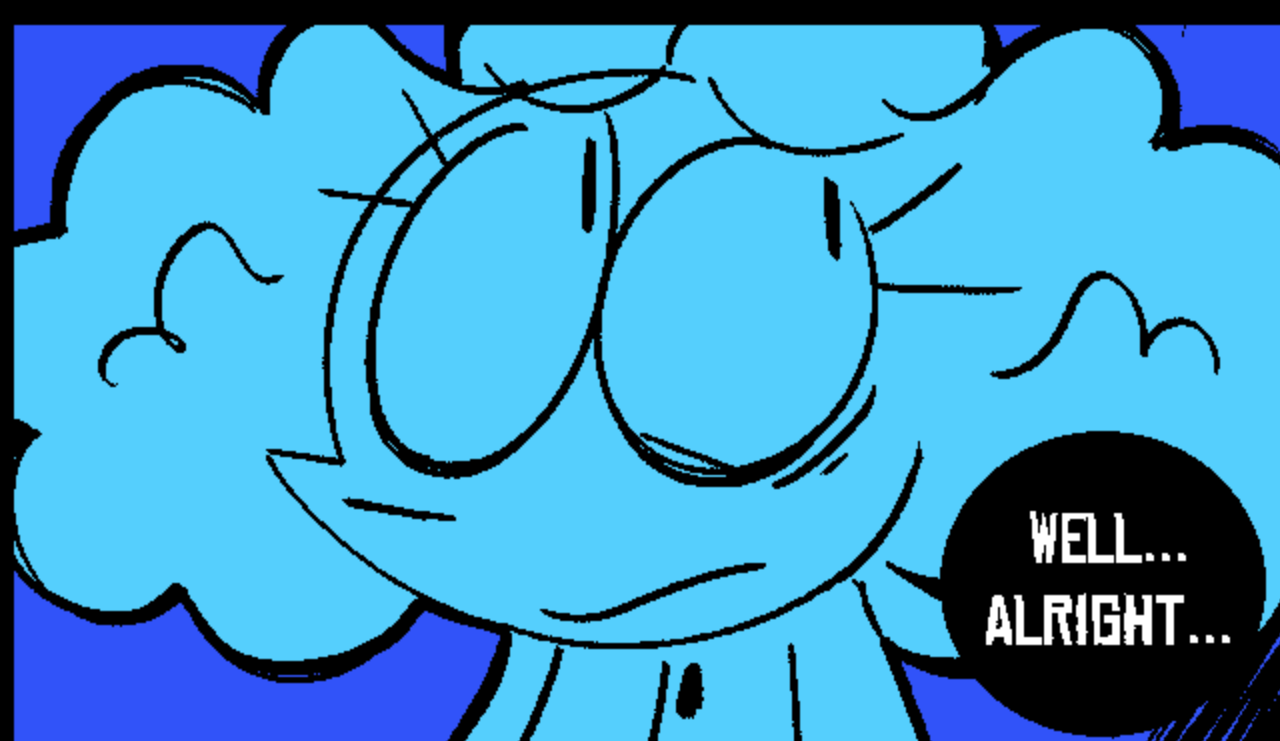


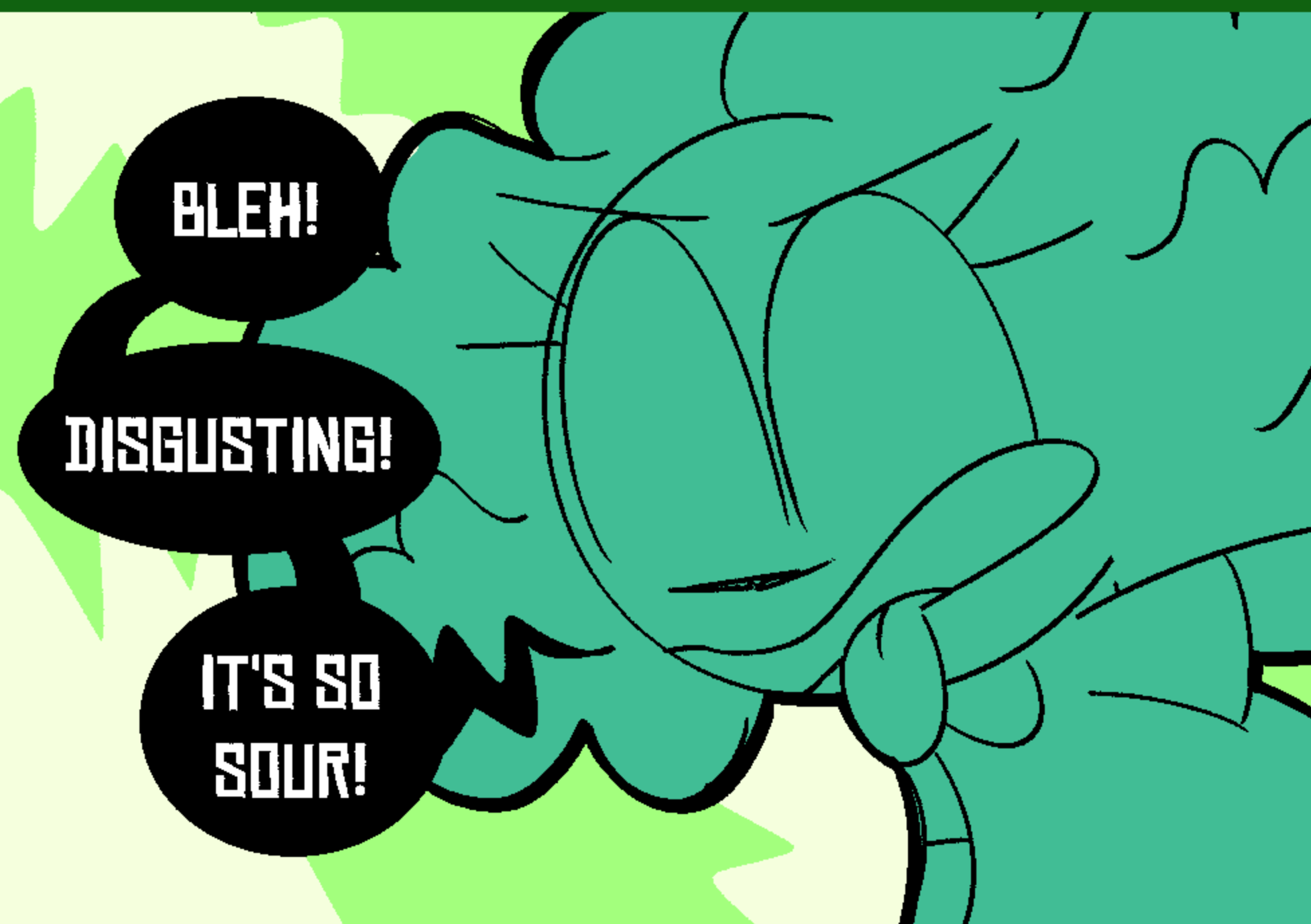
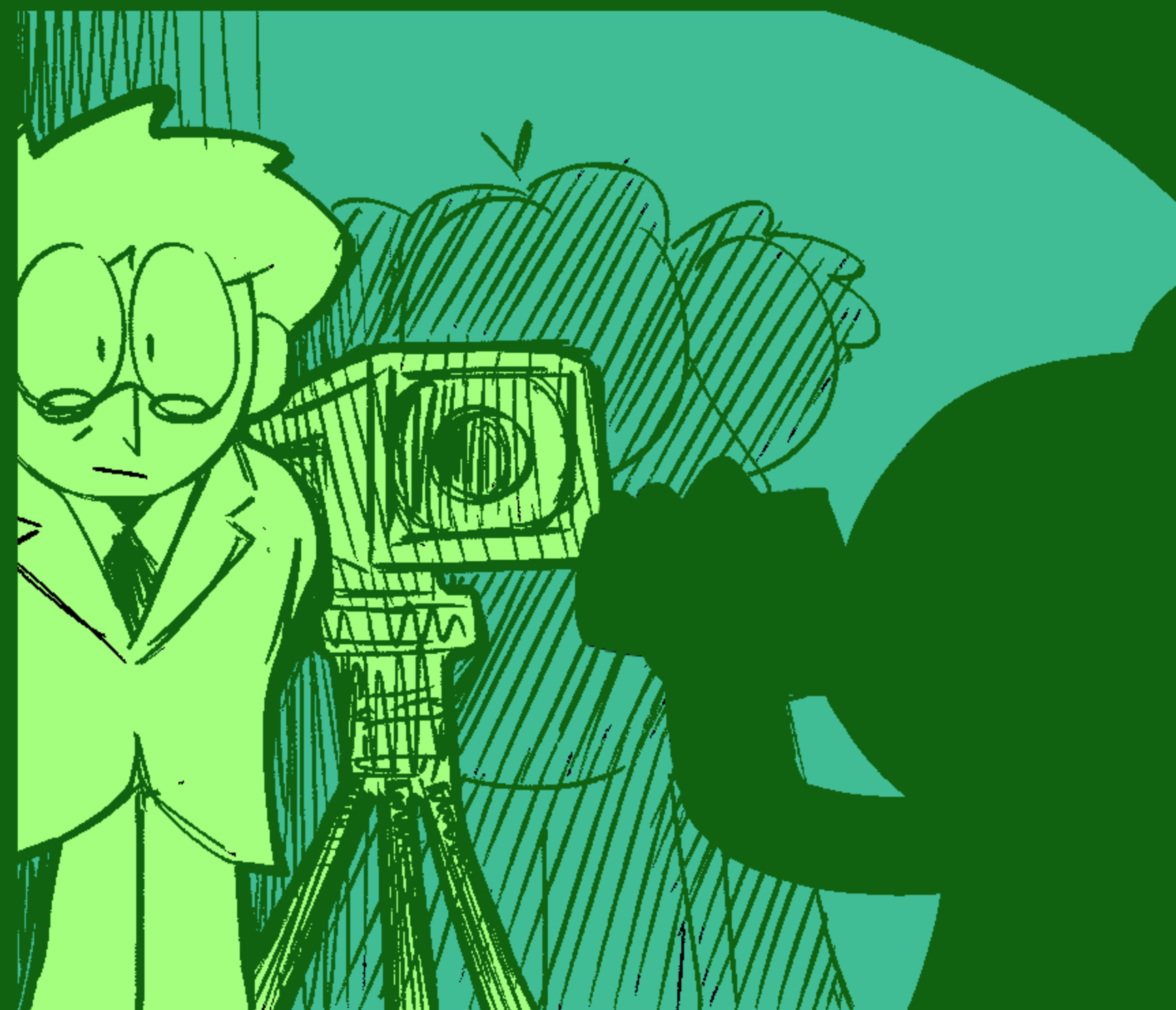
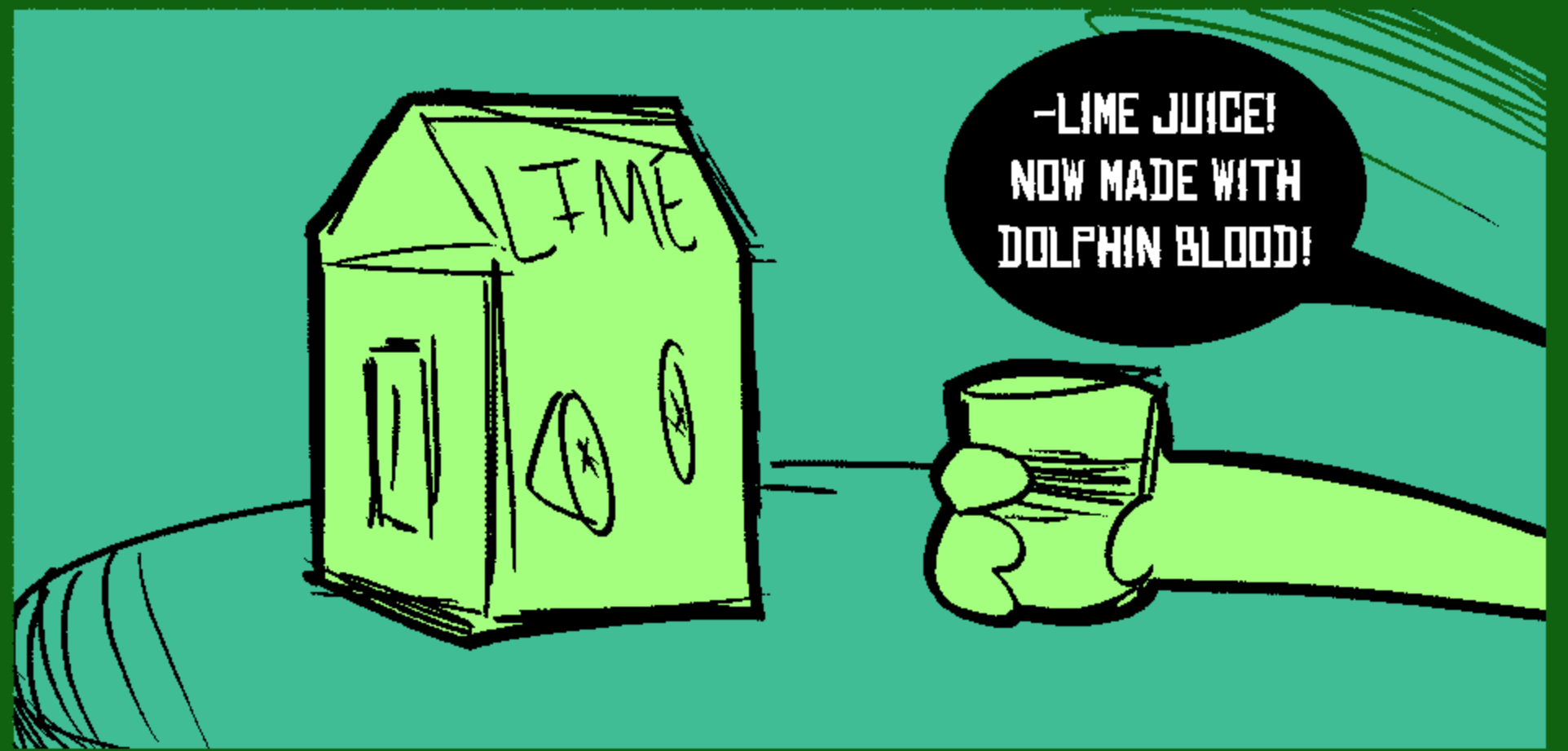
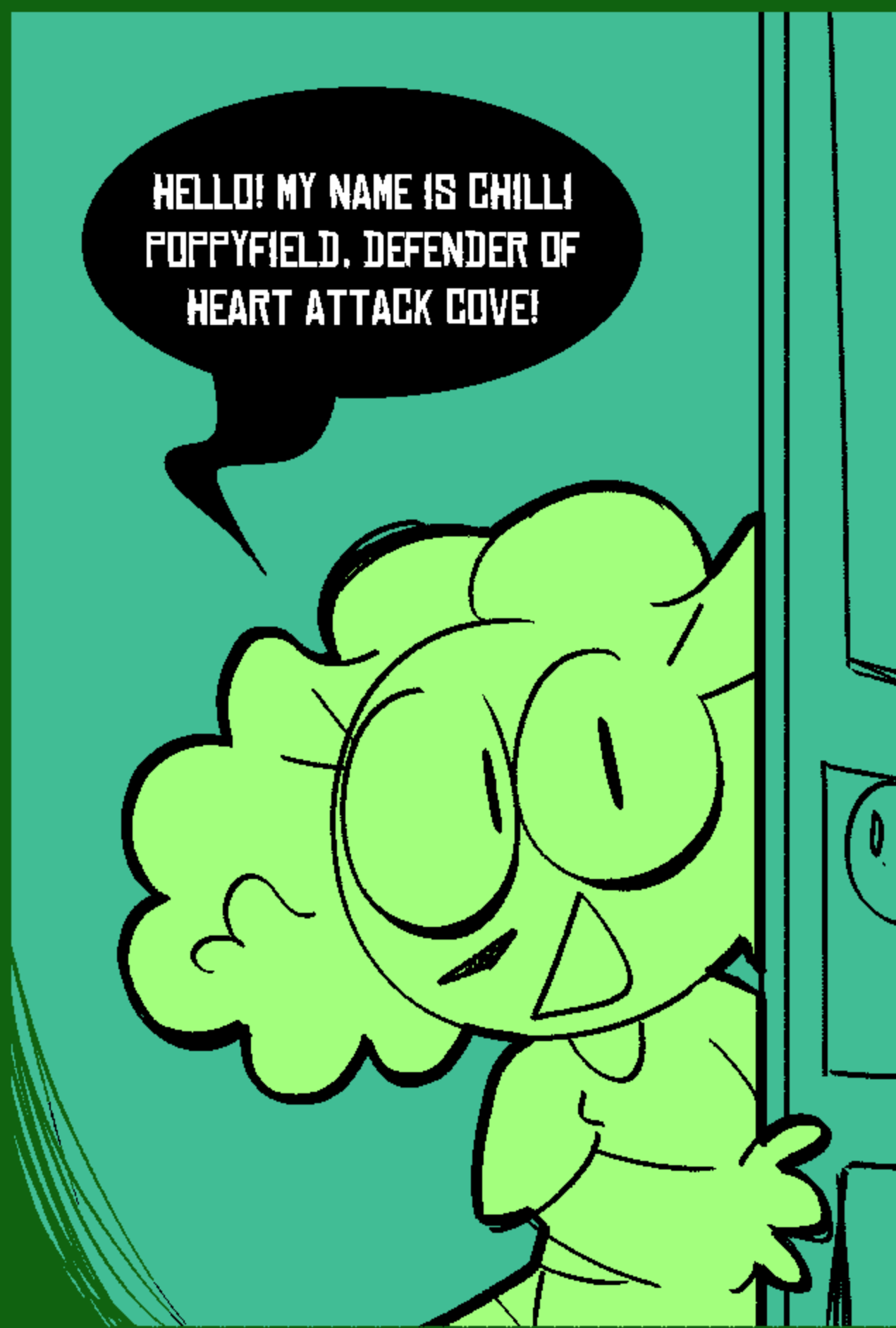
YOU'LL HAVE FANS THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE REGION, CHILLI!

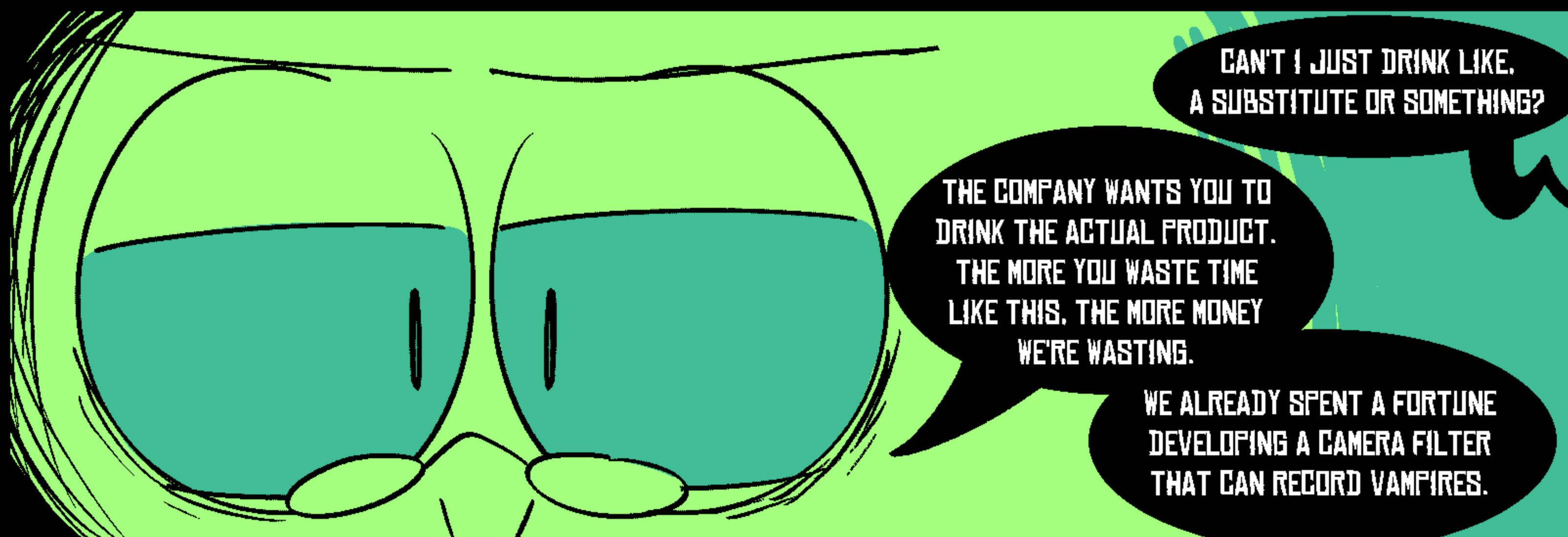
AS LONG AS YOU SIGN.



WELL... ALRIGHT...







CAN'T I JUST DRINK LIKE,
A SUBSTITUTE OR SOMETHING?

THE COMPANY WANTS YOU TO
DRINK THE ACTUAL PRODUCT.
THE MORE YOU WASTE TIME
LIKE THIS, THE MORE MONEY
WE'RE WASTING.

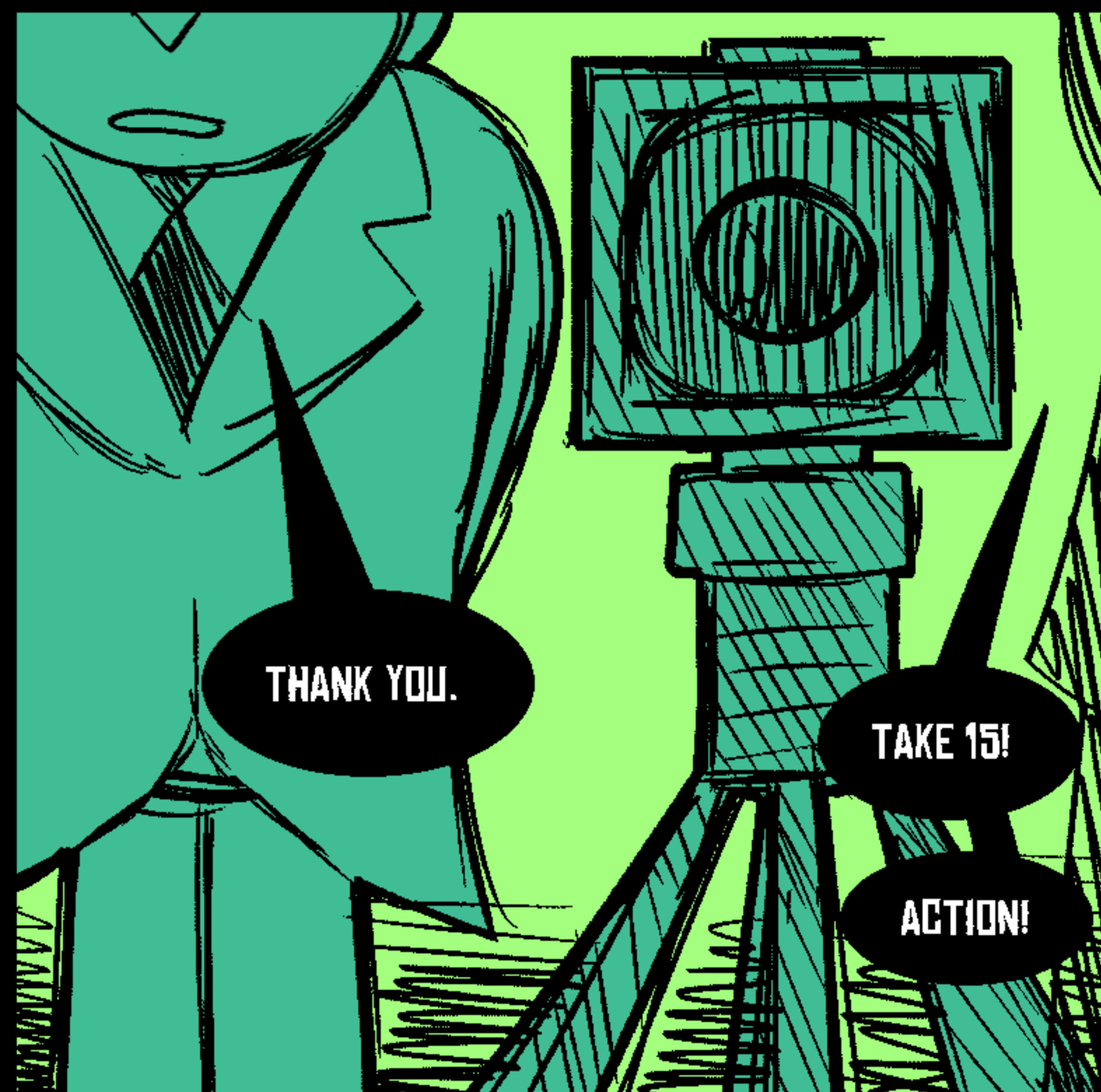
WE ALREADY SPENT A FORTUNE
DEVELOPING A CAMERA FILTER
THAT CAN RECORD VAMPIRES.



LET'S STOP WASTING
TIME, CHILLI.



O-O-KAY...



THANK YOU.

TAKE 15!

ACTION!

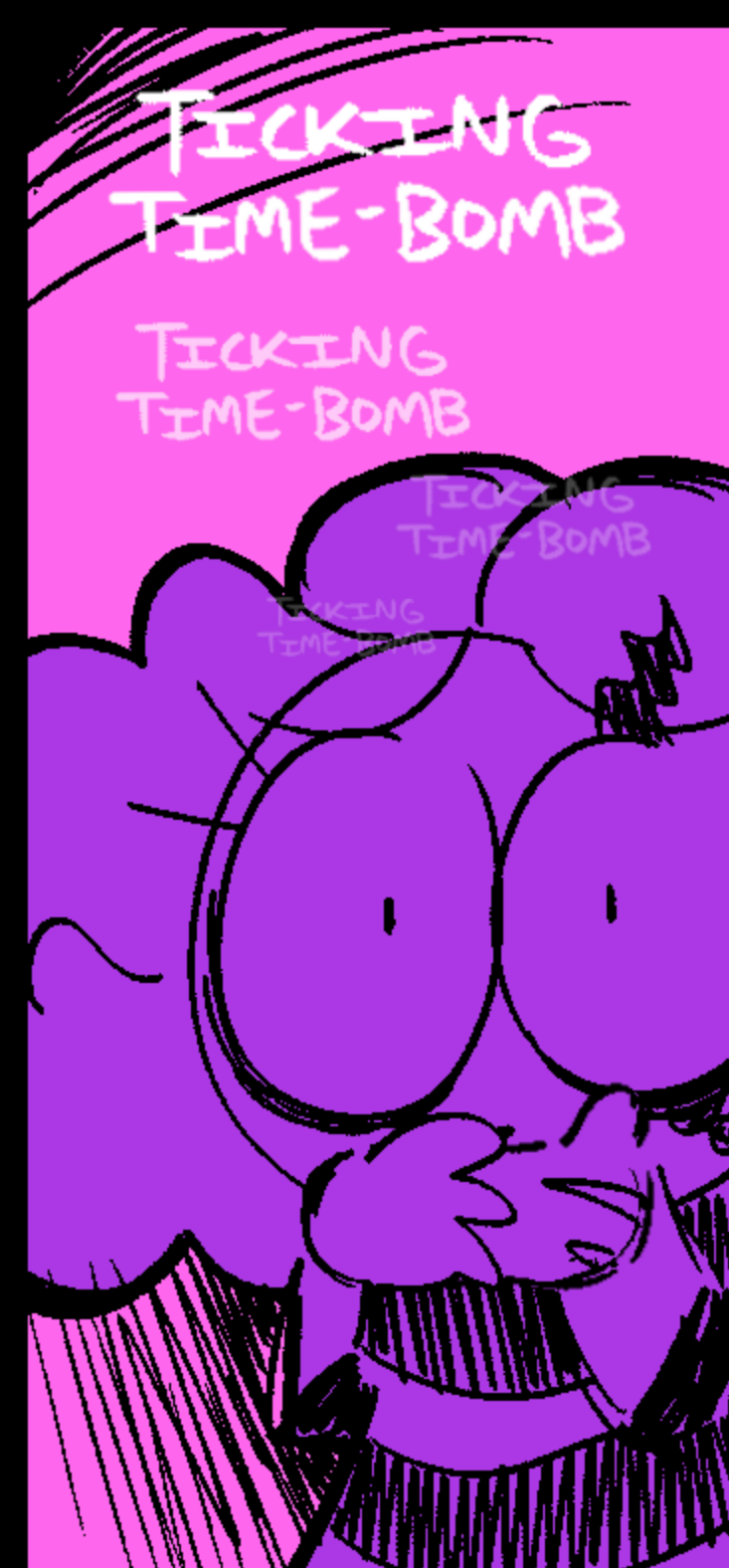


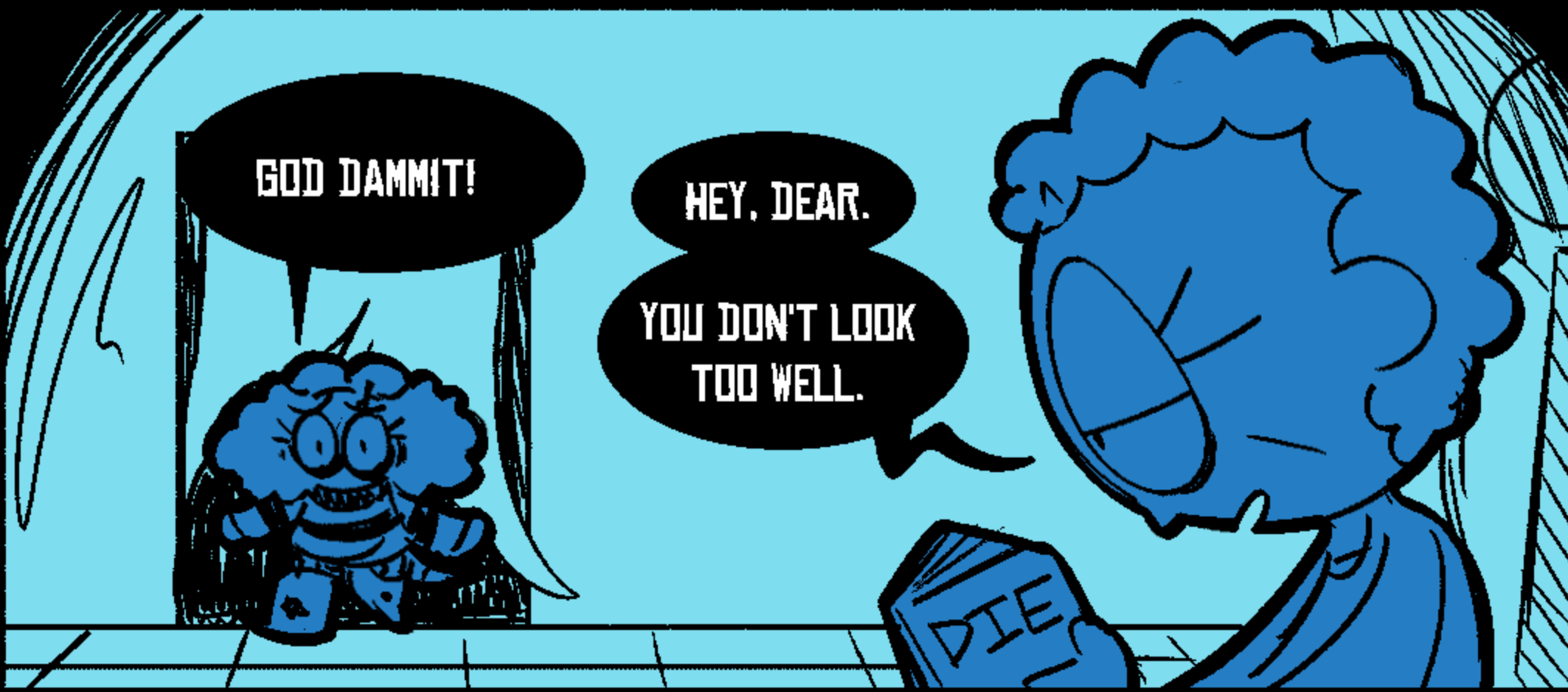
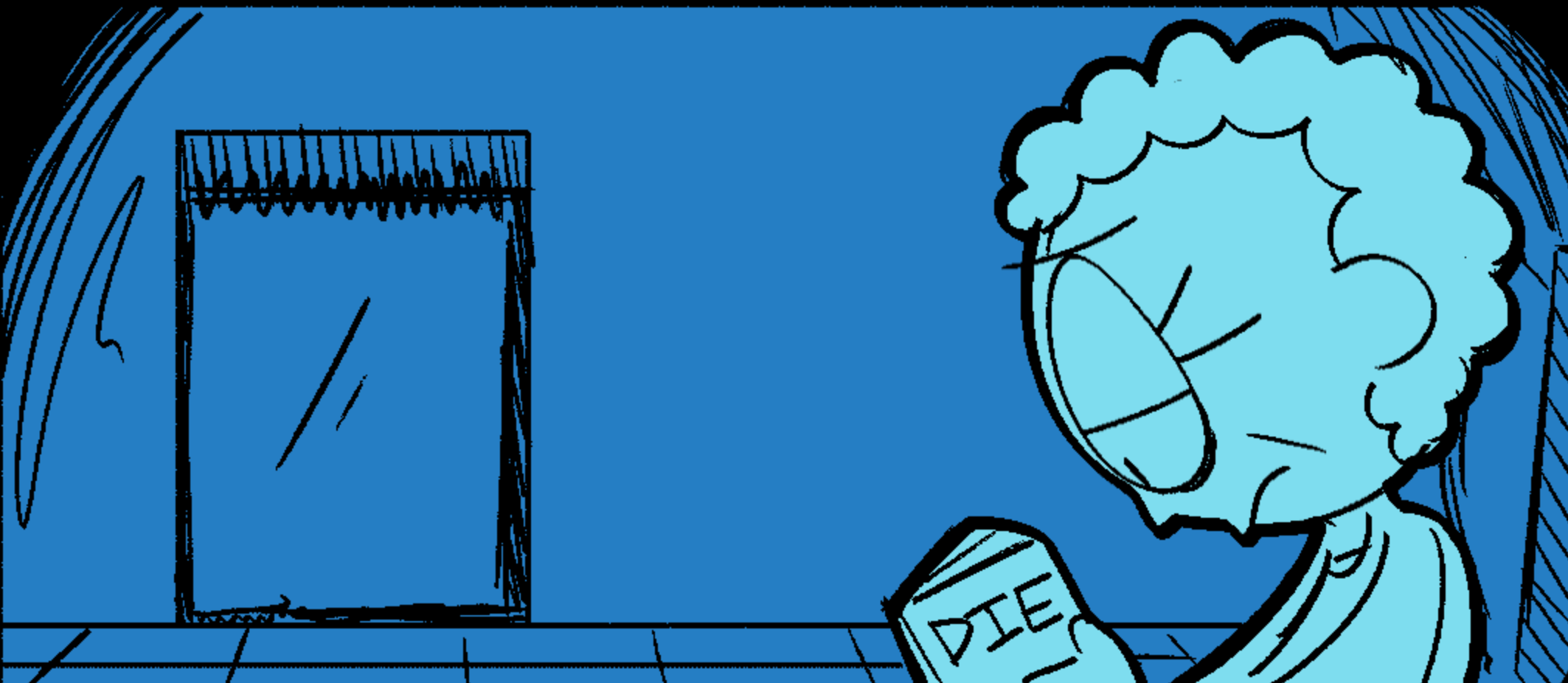
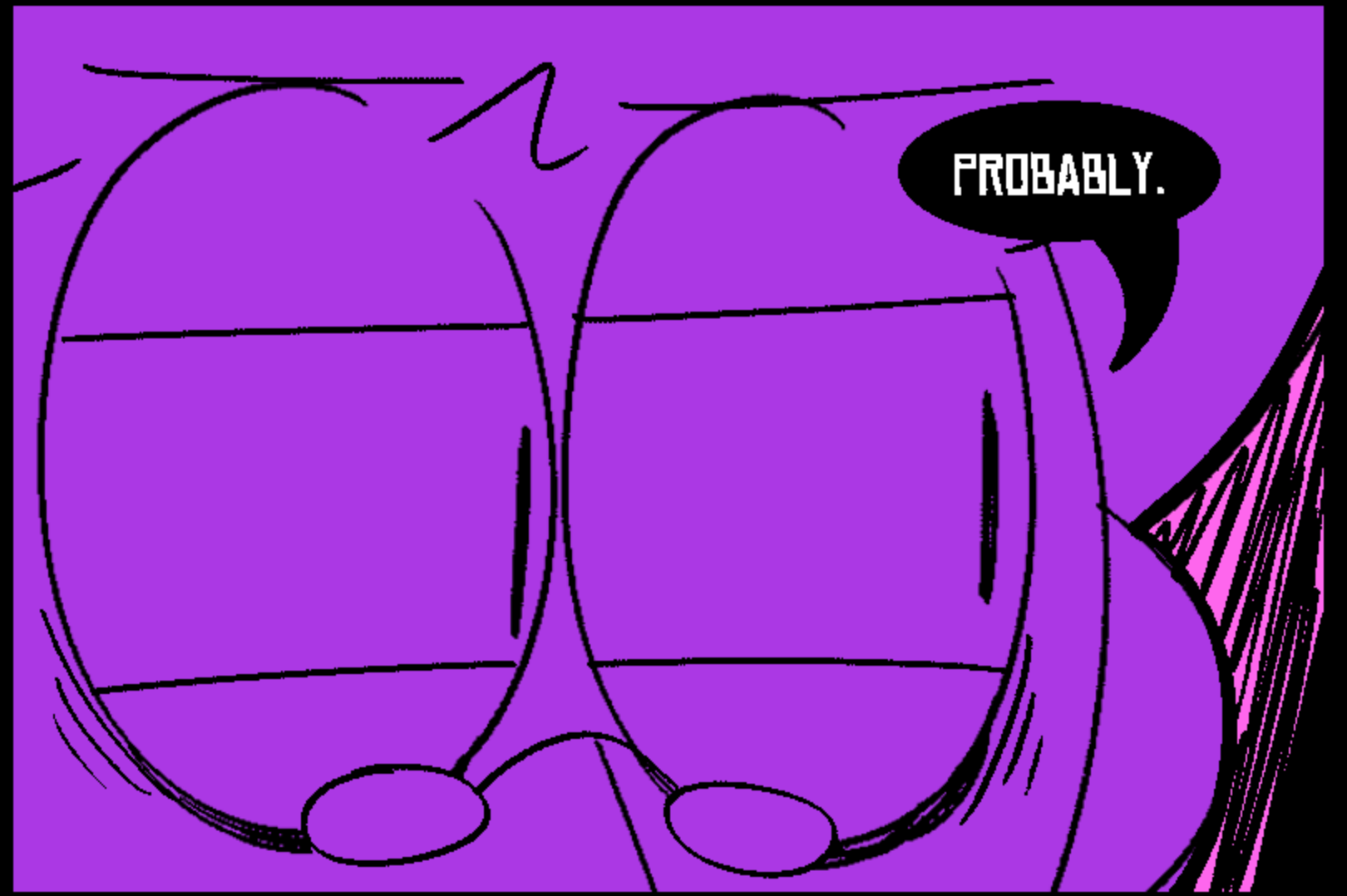
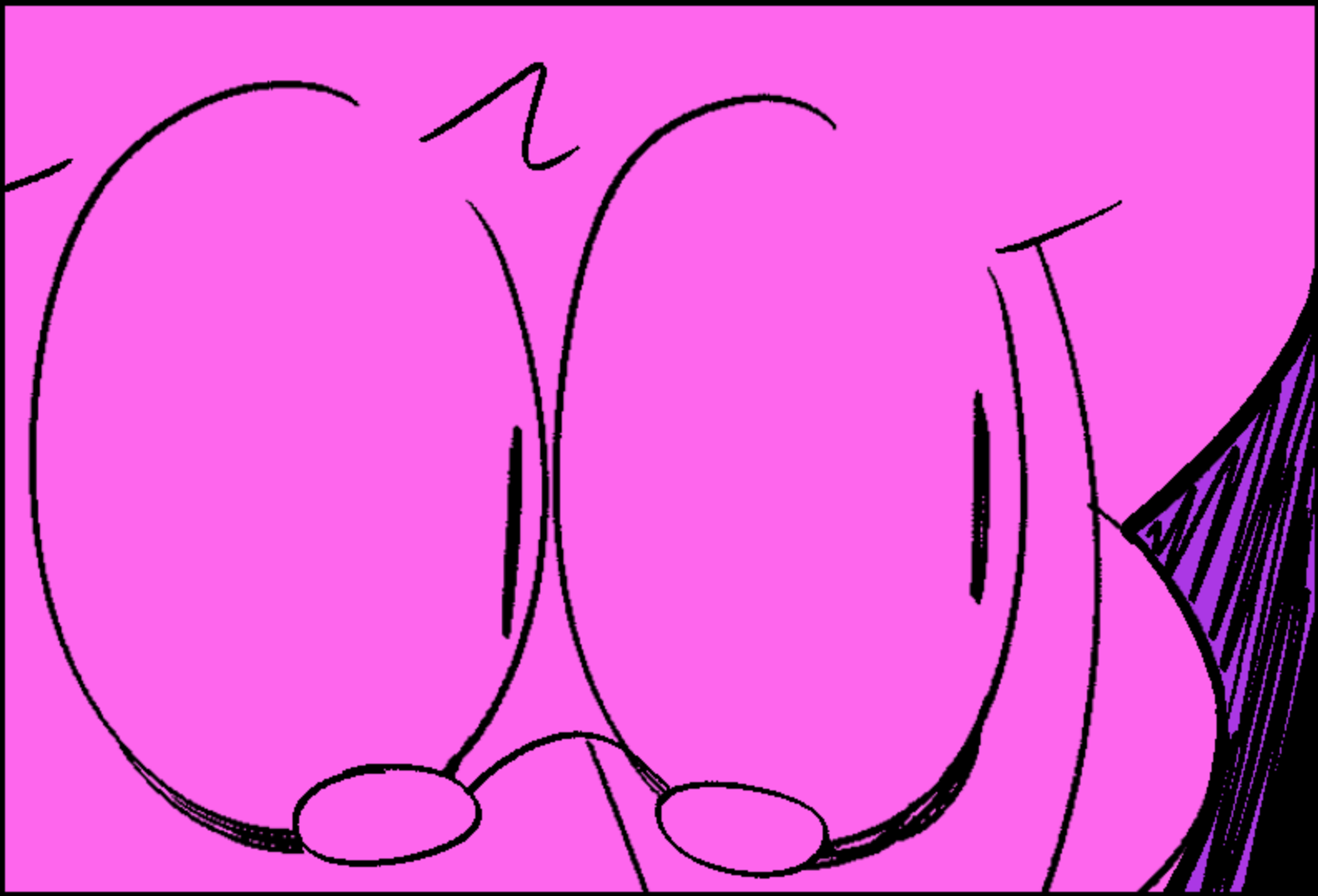
LUCY INC.

HOME OF YOUR
FAVORITE COPORATE
BRANDS

MAYOR BONES,
I THOUGHT YOU SAID
CHILLI WAS COMING TODAY?

SHE'S SUPPOSED TO BE...
SHE BETTER BE...





HHNGGGG GOD WHY?! I THOUGHT
I WAS GETTING BETTER AT THIS
SORT OF STUFF!! OF SEEING MYSELF
SLIGHTLY MORE POSITIVELY!!

FOR ONCE, I DIDN'T FEEL
LIKE TOTAL GARBAGE!!
FOR LIKE A FEW WEEKS!
IT WAS GREAT!!

AND THEN FUCKING SYNTH
HAD TO COME AND RUIN
EVERYTHING!! AND NOW I'M
THINKING ABOUT MY FUCKING
MOM AGAIN!! WHYYYYYYYYY?!

AND NOW THE MAYOR—

CHILL?

S-SORRY...
I'M REALLY
TIRED.

YOU'RE FINE.
YOU SOUND LIKE
YOU HAVE A LOT
OF ANGER.

YOU WANNA
TALK ABOUT IT?

I-I DON'T WANNA BOTHER
YOU WITH MY—

SYNTH WAS THE UHH.
FUNGUS KID, RIGHT? THE
ONE YOU ACCIDENTALLY KILLED?

OH, YOU UH, KNOW
ABOUT THAT—

IT WAS ALL OVER
THE PAPERS.

OH.

WELL Y-YEAH.
SHE TRIED TO
ATTACK MY FRIEND.
AND I TRIED TO
STOP HER...

I-I DIDN'T MEAN TO KILL
HER! I REVIVED HER
AFTERWARDS!

B-BUT IT WAS MURDER!

WELL THERE YOU GO. IT
WAS A MISTAKE, AND YOU EVEN
TRIED TO FIX IT IMMEDIATELY.

IT WAS AN ACCIDENT.
ONE MISTAKE DOESN'T
MAKE YOU EVIL.

B-BUT WHAT IF I AM?
WHAT IF I'M SECRETLY
EVIL AND I DON'T KNOW IT?

TRUST ME. I'VE
SEEN EVIL BEFORE.
YOU'RE NOT EVIL.

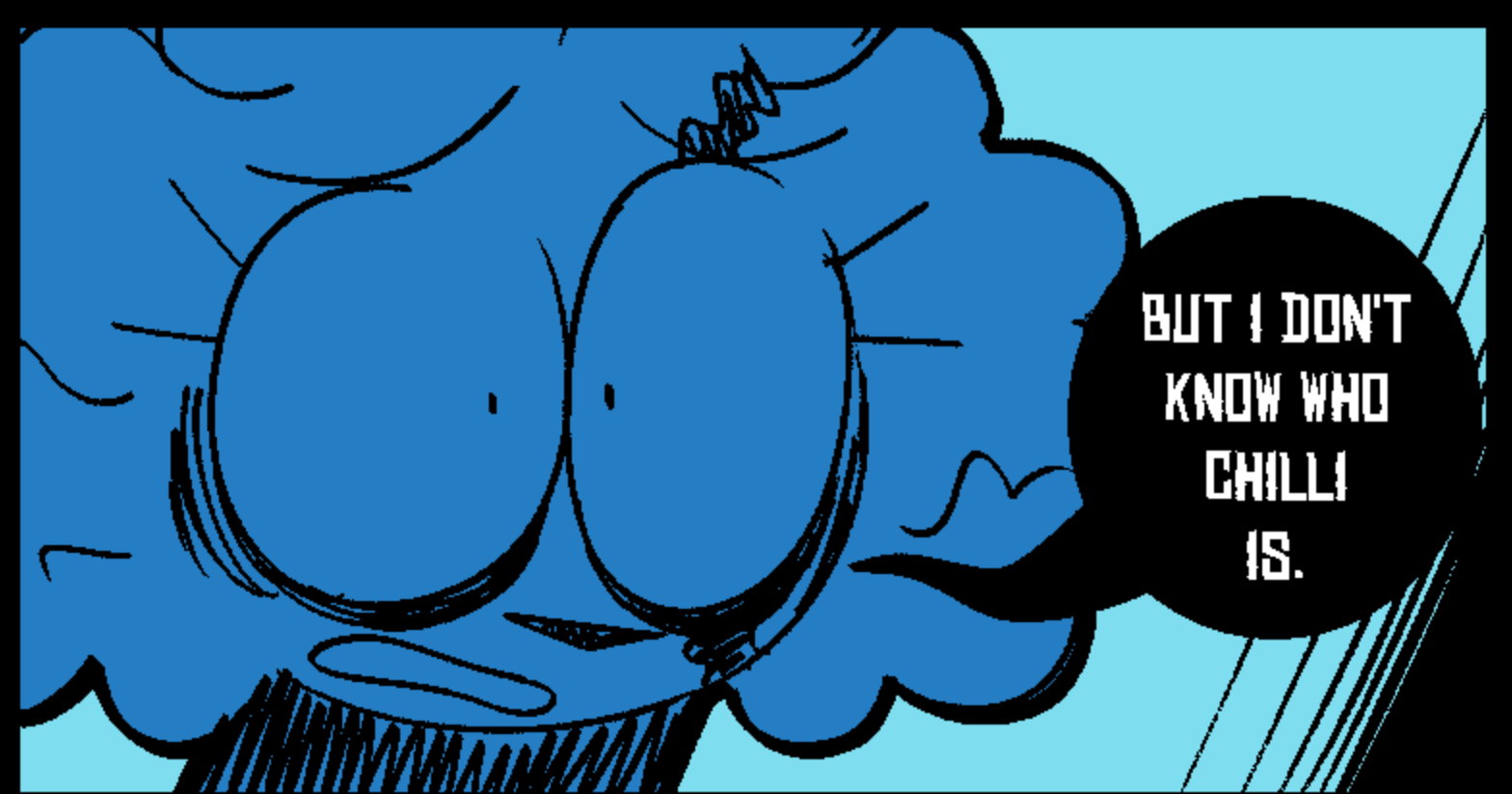
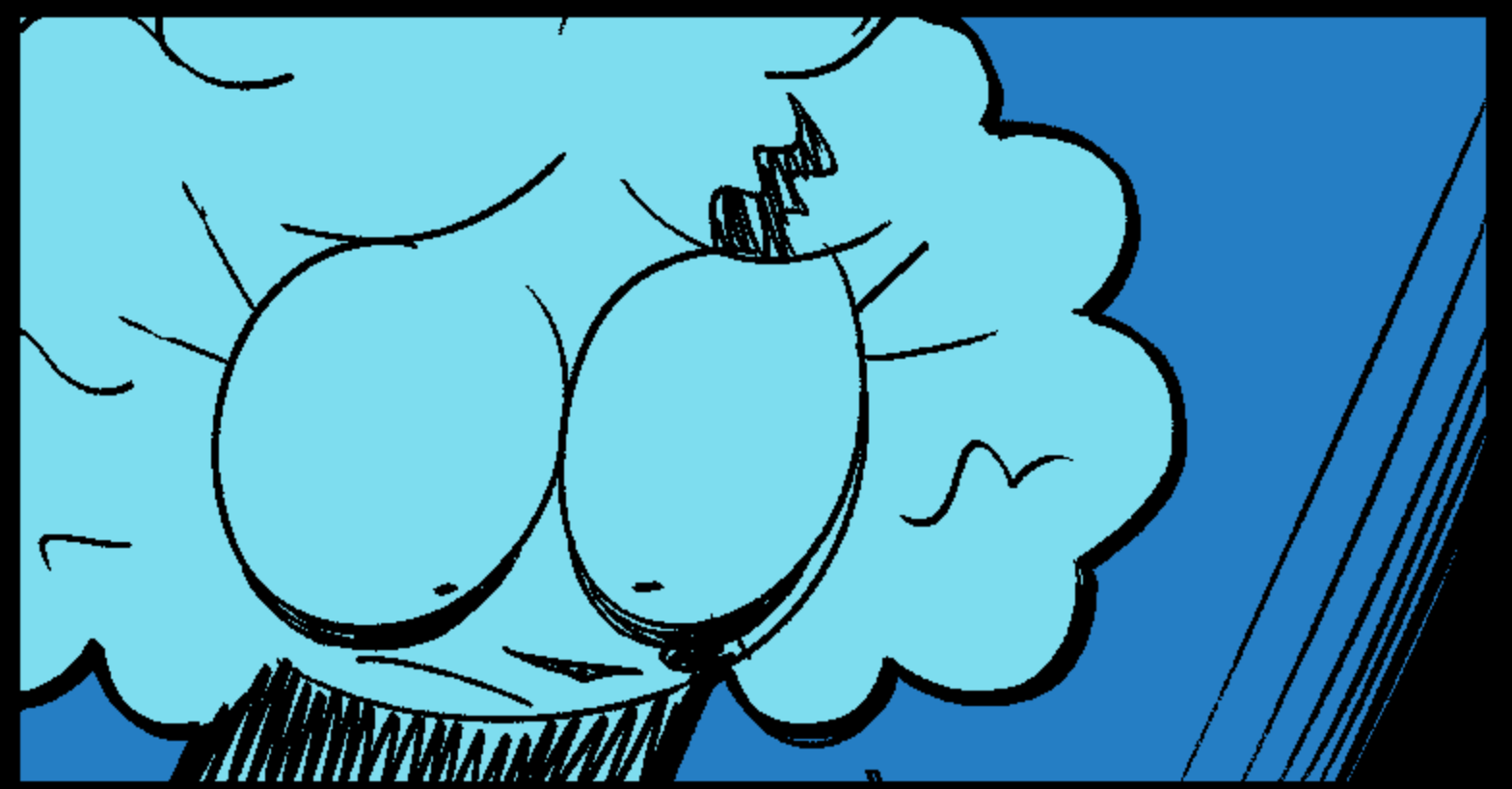
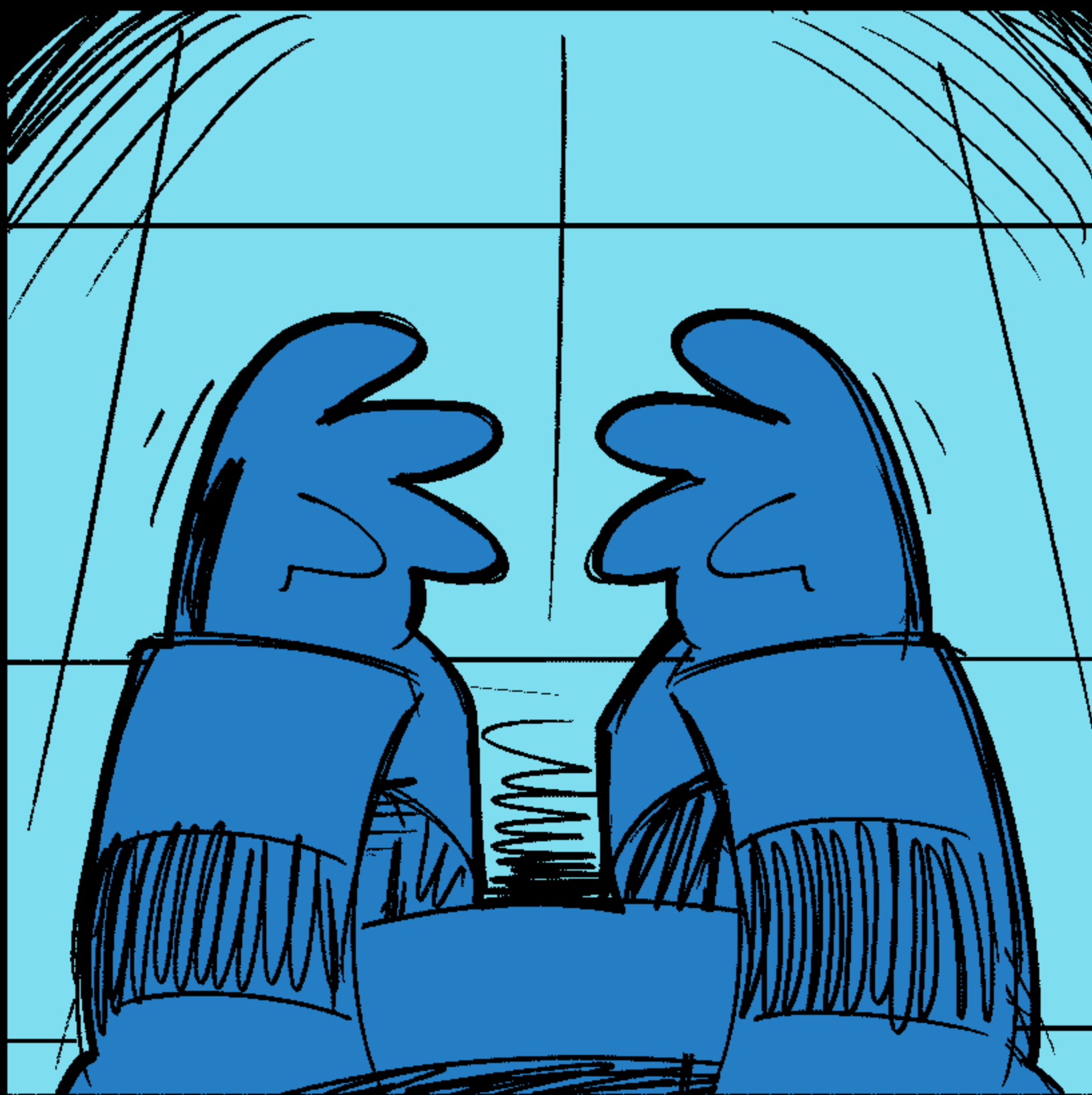
HHH...

OH GOD...

I'M SUPPOSED TO BE THE DEFENDER
OF HEART ATTACK COVE! THAT'S ALL
I'M SUPPOSED TO BE! THE HERO!
EVERYONE COUNTS ON ME TO
PROTECT THE TOWN!

I'M SUPPOSED TO BE A
ROLE MODEL! IF I'M NOT
THAT, THEN WHAT AM I?!

THEN YOU'D
BE CHILLI.



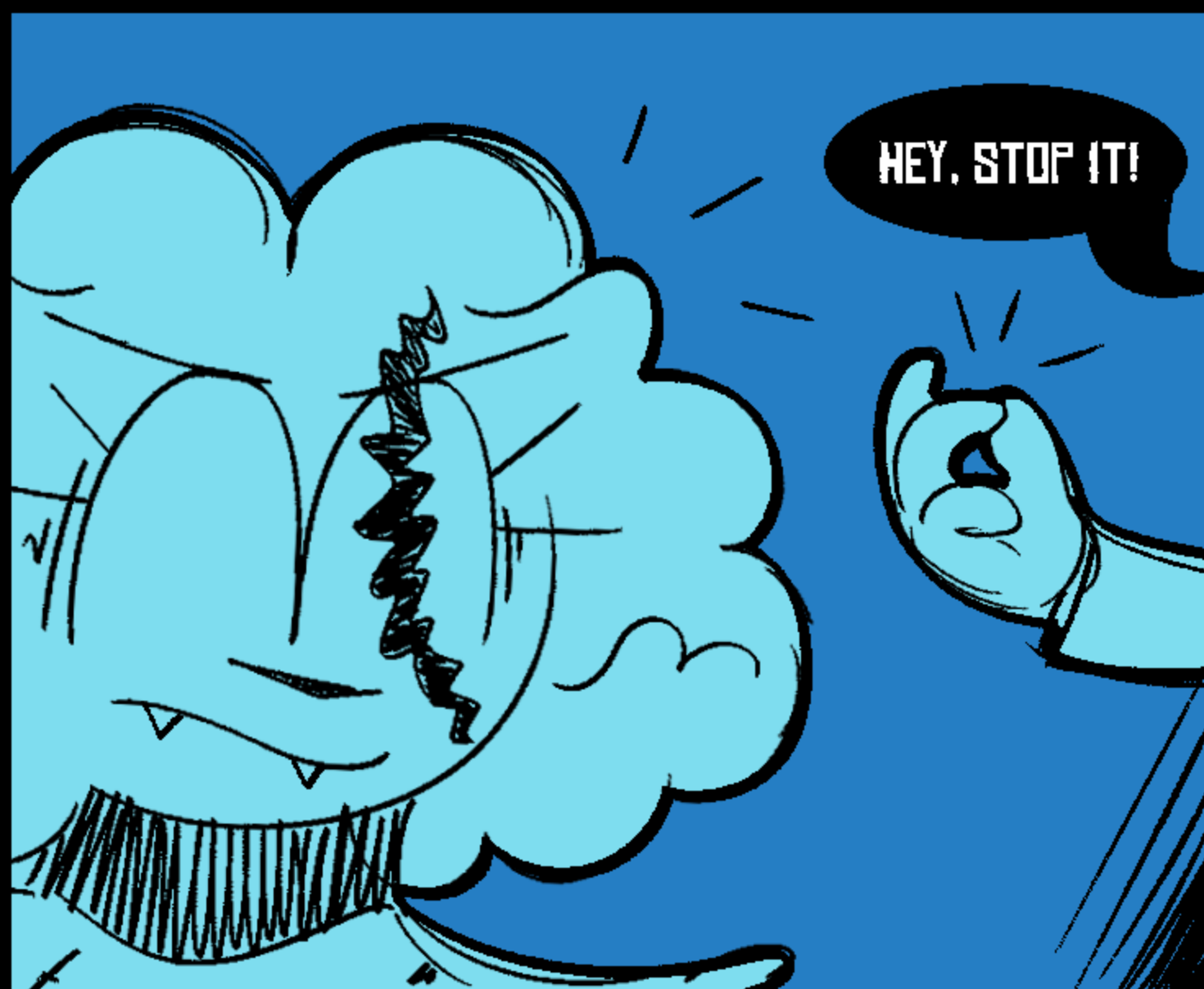
BUT I DON'T
KNOW WHO
CHILLI
IS.

MY ONLY PURPOSE IS
BEING THE DEFENDER
OF THE COVE.

I'M NOT ANYTHING
IF I'M NOT THAT.

I'M-
I'M
NOTHING...



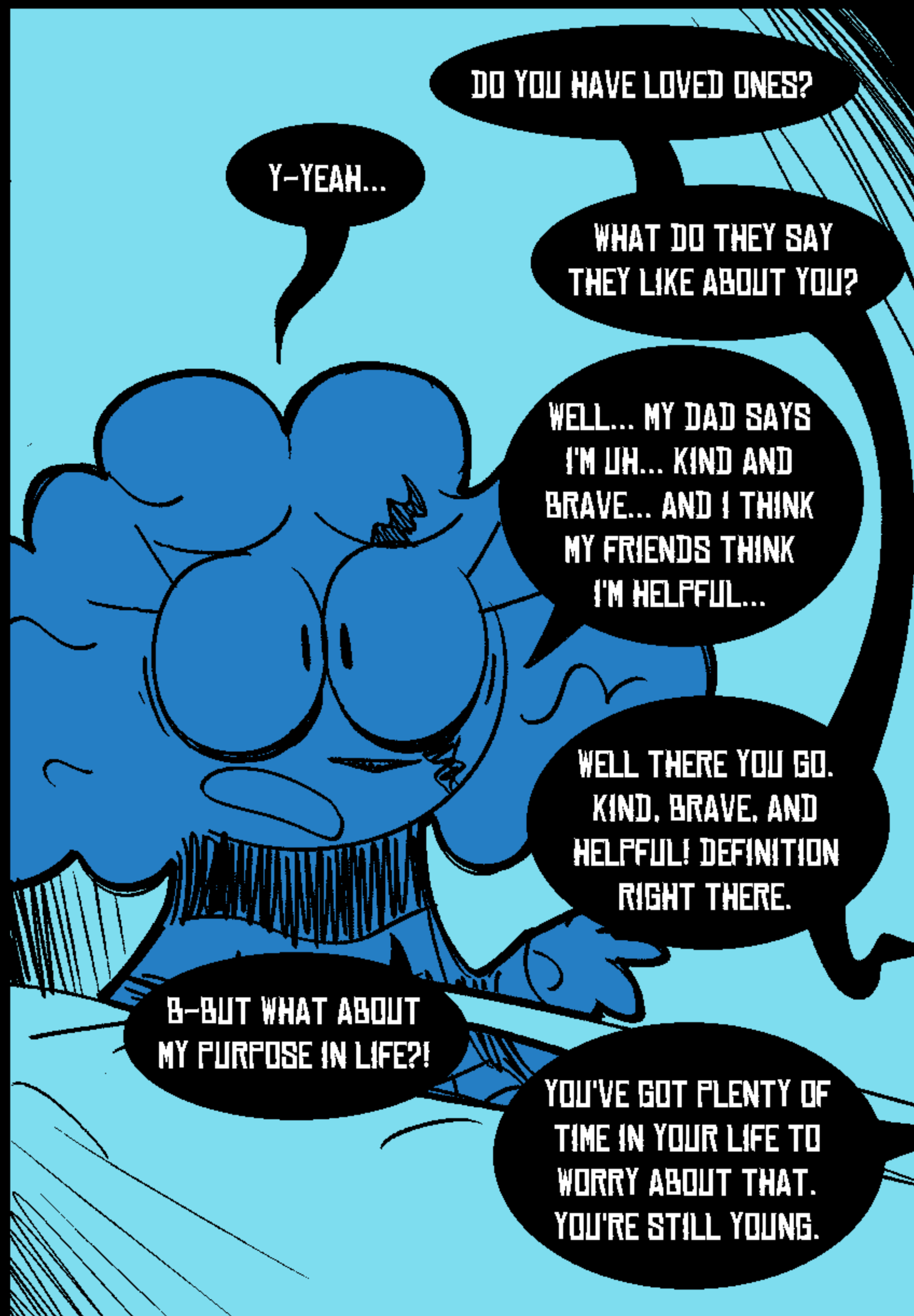


HEY, STOP IT!



YOU'RE NOT EVIL, AND
YOU'RE NOT NOTHING!

IT'S NOT HEALTHY
TO TALK ABOUT
YOURSELF LIKE THAT!



Y-YEAH...

DO YOU HAVE LOVED ONES?

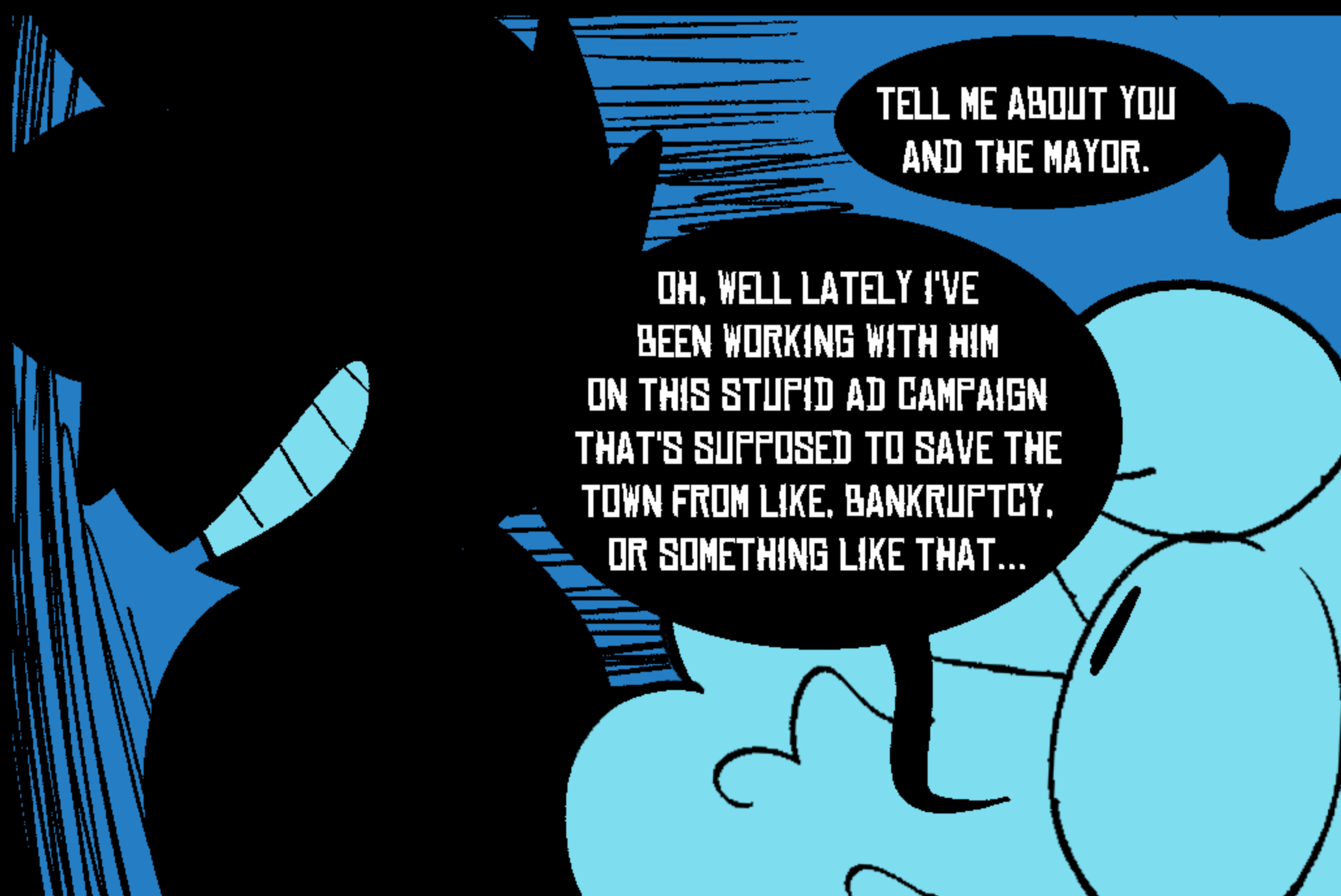
WHAT DO THEY SAY
THEY LIKE ABOUT YOU?

WELL... MY DAD SAYS
I'M UH... KIND AND
BRAVE... AND I THINK
MY FRIENDS THINK
I'M HELPFUL...

WELL THERE YOU GO.
KIND, BRAVE, AND
HELPFUL! DEFINITION
RIGHT THERE.

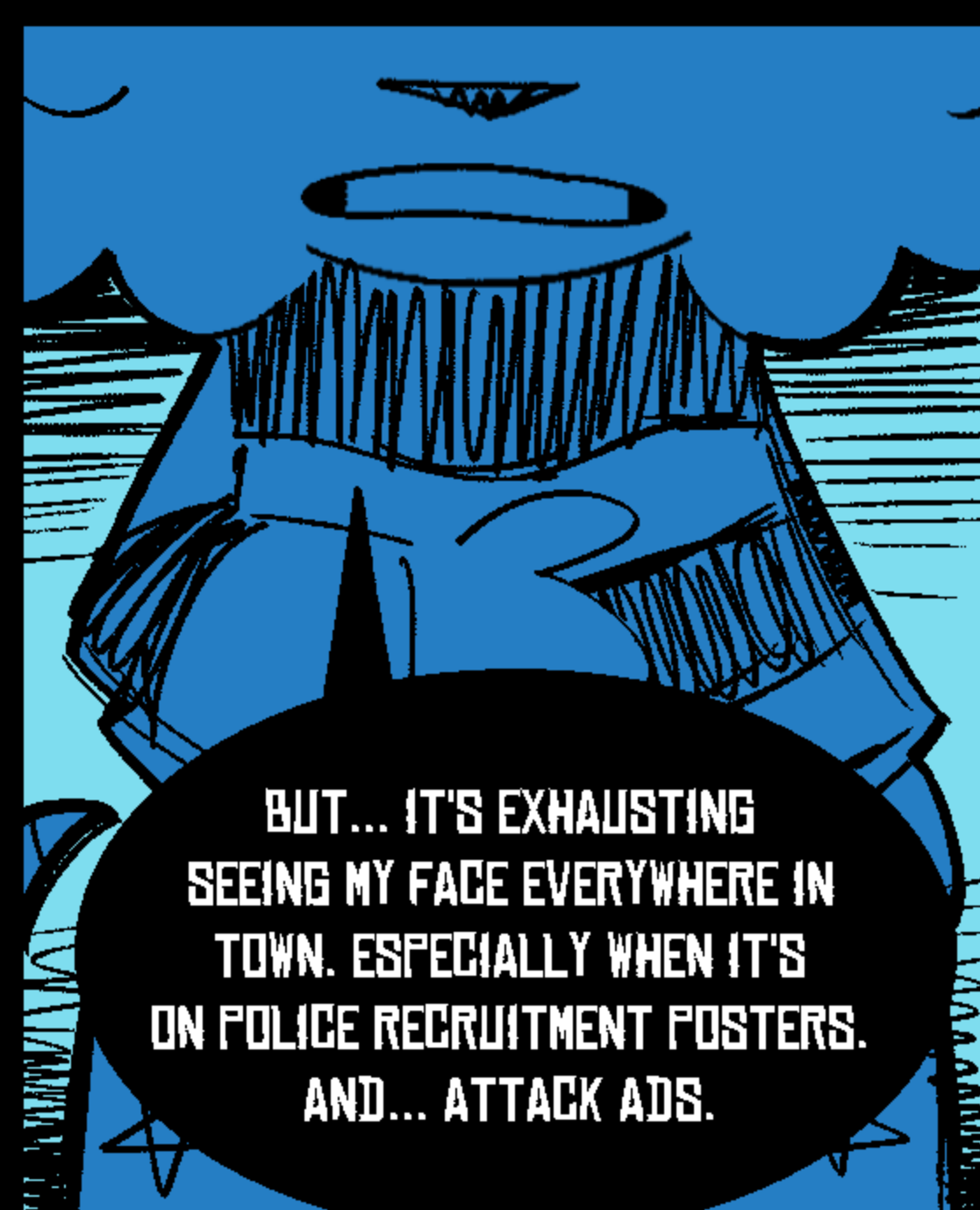
B-BUT WHAT ABOUT
MY PURPOSE IN LIFE?!

YOU'VE GOT PLENTY OF
TIME IN YOUR LIFE TO
WORRY ABOUT THAT.
YOU'RE STILL YOUNG.



TELL ME ABOUT YOU
AND THE MAYOR.

OH, WELL LATELY I'VE
BEEN WORKING WITH HIM
ON THIS STUPID AD CAMPAIGN
THAT'S SUPPOSED TO SAVE THE
TOWN FROM LIKE, BANKRUPTCY,
OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT...



BUT... IT'S EXHAUSTING
SEEING MY FACE EVERYWHERE IN
TOWN. ESPECIALLY WHEN IT'S
ON POLICE RECRUITMENT POSTERS.
AND... ATTACK ADS.

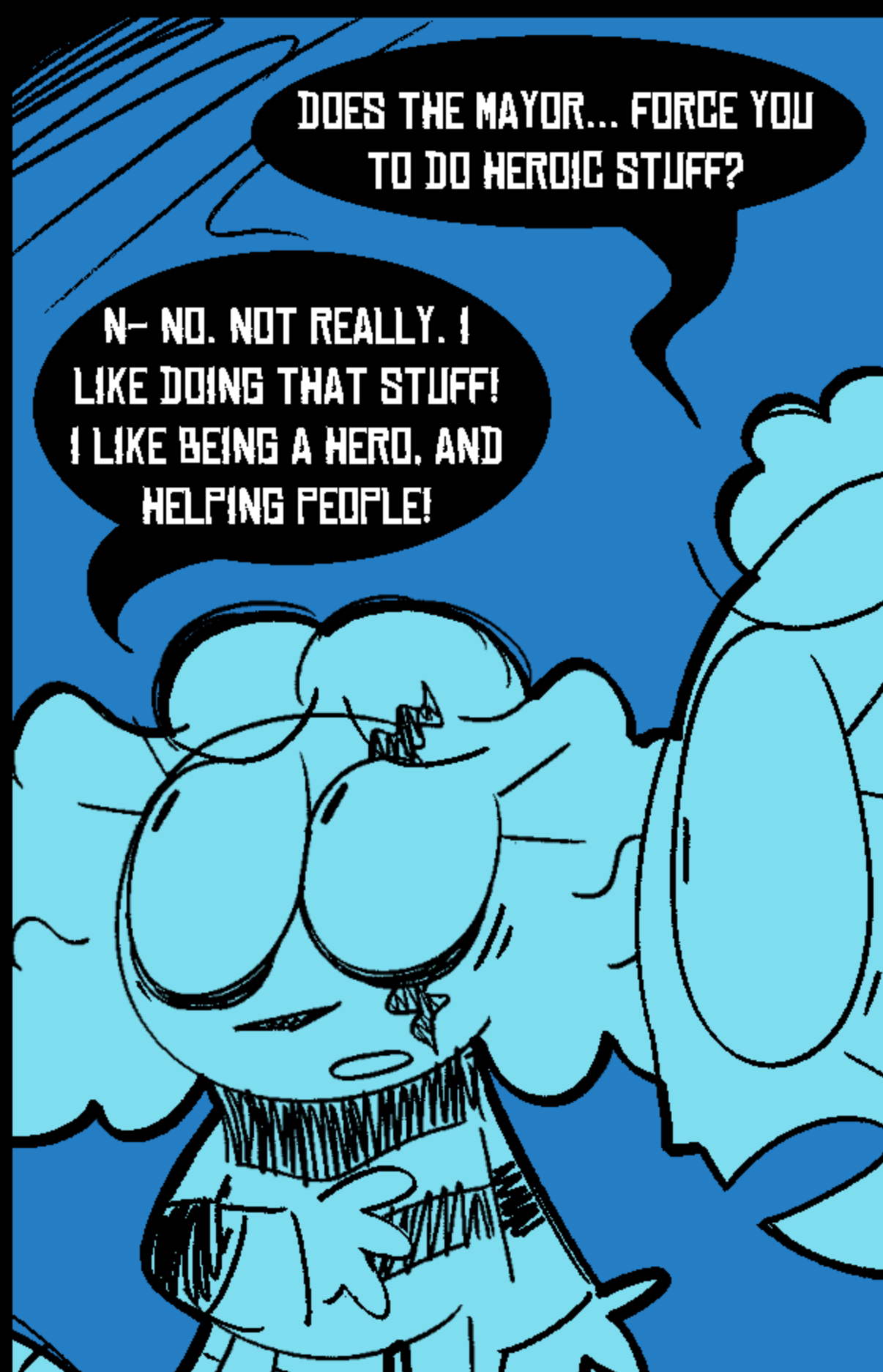


IT FEELS LIKE THE MAYOR
TREATS ME MORE LIKE A FICTIONAL
CHARACTER THAN AN ACTUAL
EXISTING BEING...

IT FEELS LIKE A LOT
OF PEOPLE IN TOWN
TREAT ME LIKE A
CHARACTER, ACTUALLY.

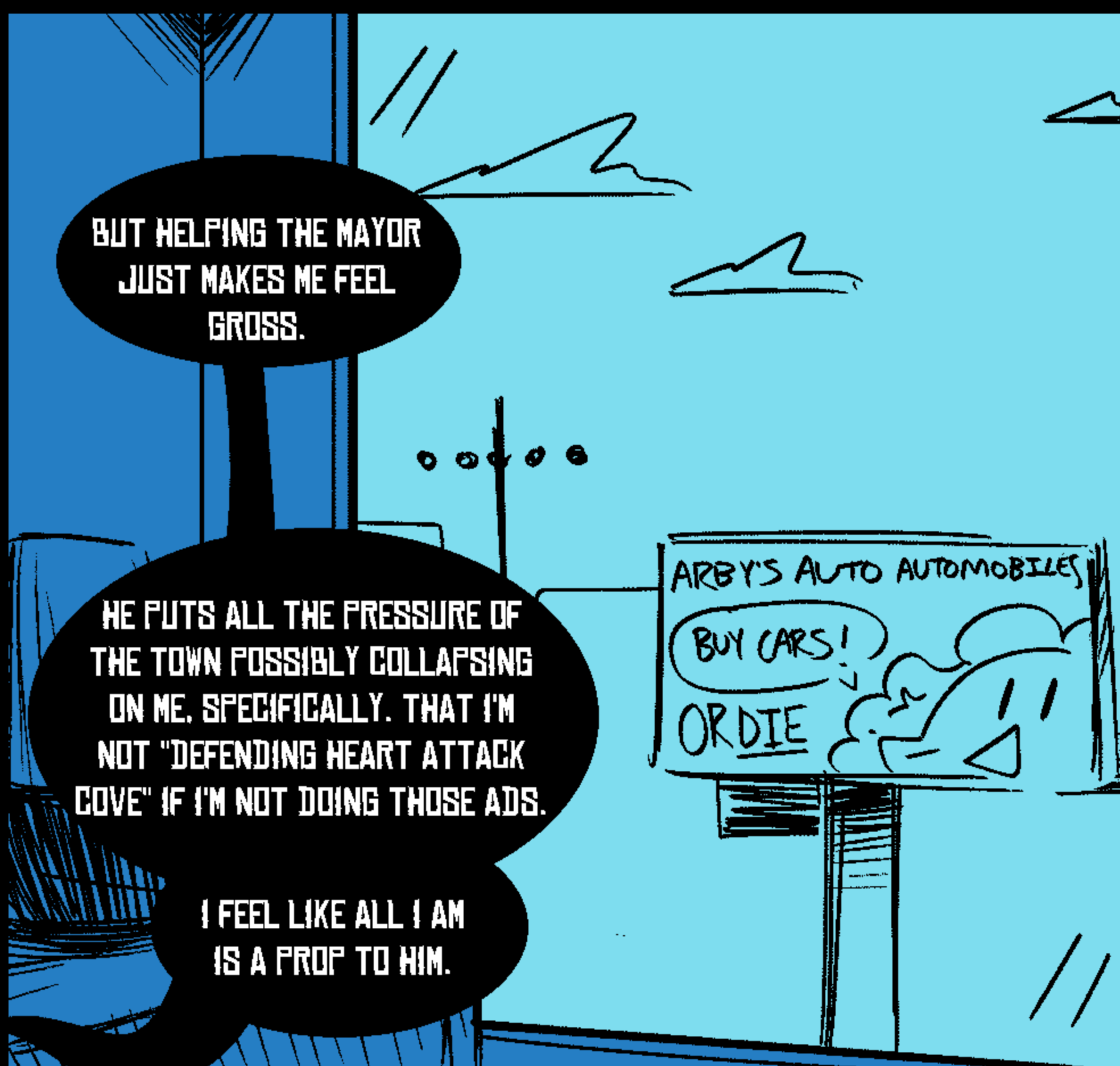
THAT'S AWFUL...

AND... RELATABLE.



DOES THE MAYOR... FORCE YOU
TO DO HEROIC STUFF?

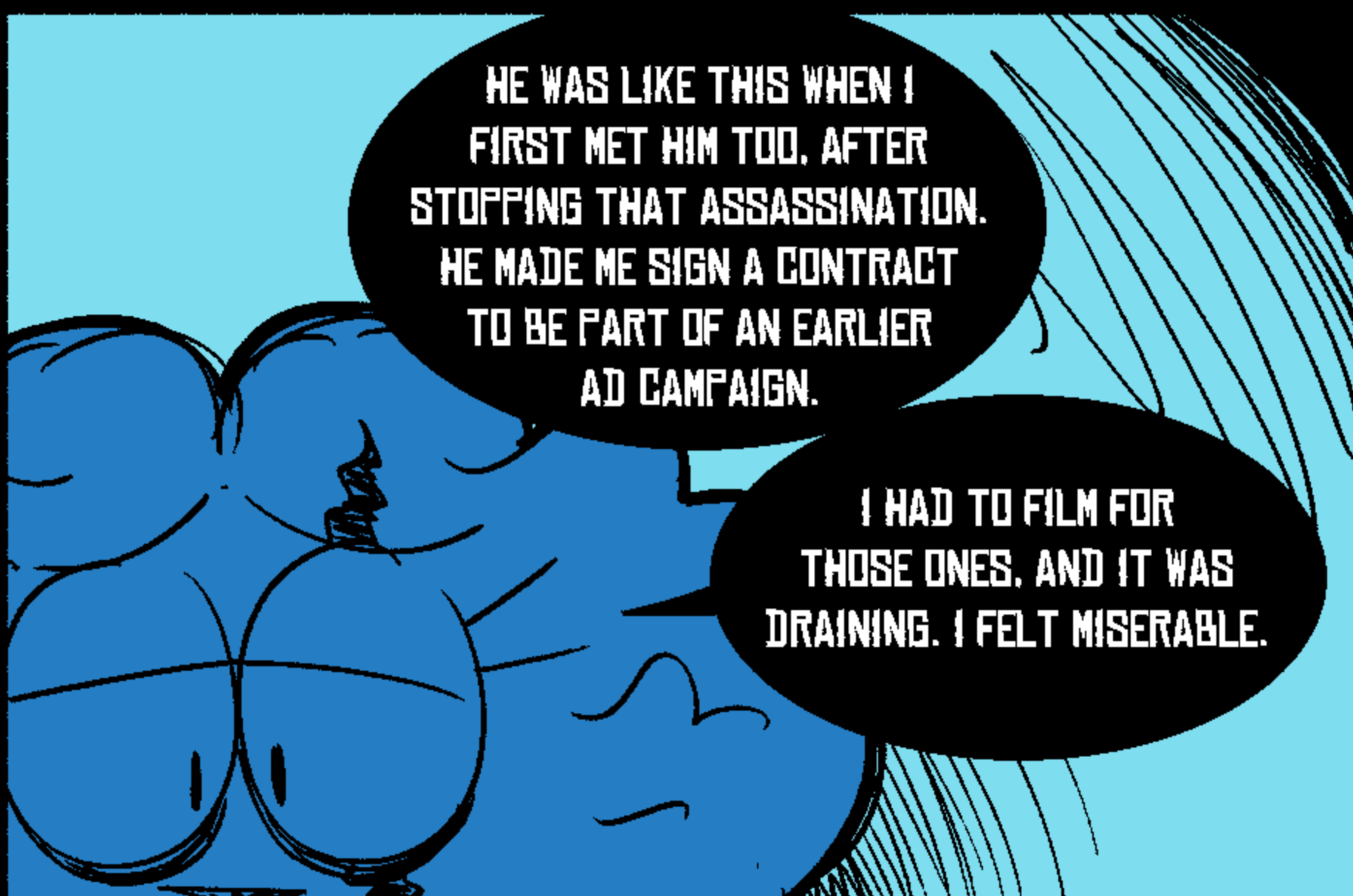
N- NO. NOT REALLY. I
LIKE DOING THAT STUFF!
I LIKE BEING A HERO. AND
HELPING PEOPLE!



BUT HELPING THE MAYOR
JUST MAKES ME FEEL
GROSS.

HE PUTS ALL THE PRESSURE OF
THE TOWN POSSIBLY COLLAPSING
ON ME. SPECIFICALLY. THAT I'M
NOT "DEFENDING HEART ATTACK
COVE" IF I'M NOT DOING THOSE ADS.

I FEEL LIKE ALL I AM
IS A PROP TO HIM.



HE WAS LIKE THIS WHEN I
FIRST MET HIM TOO. AFTER
STOPPING THAT ASSASSINATION.
HE MADE ME SIGN A CONTRACT
TO BE PART OF AN EARLIER
AD CAMPAIGN.

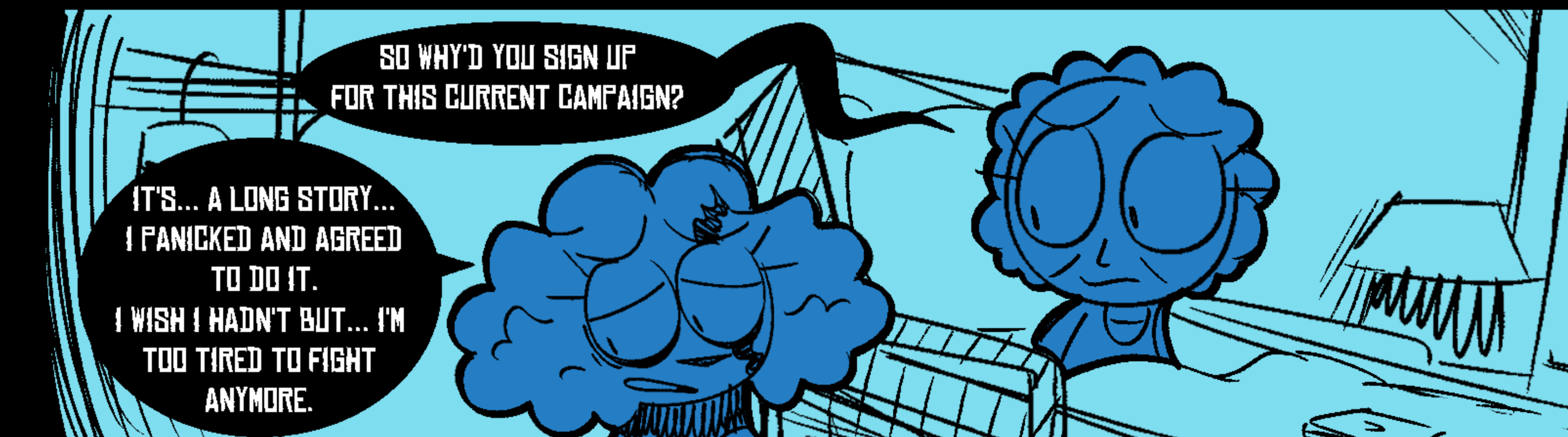
I HAD TO FILM FOR
THOSE ONES. AND IT WAS
DRAINING. I FELT MISERABLE.



AND THEN...

SOMETHING... HAPPENED...

AND I DROPPED OUT OF
THAT CAMPAIGN SHORTLY
AFTER.



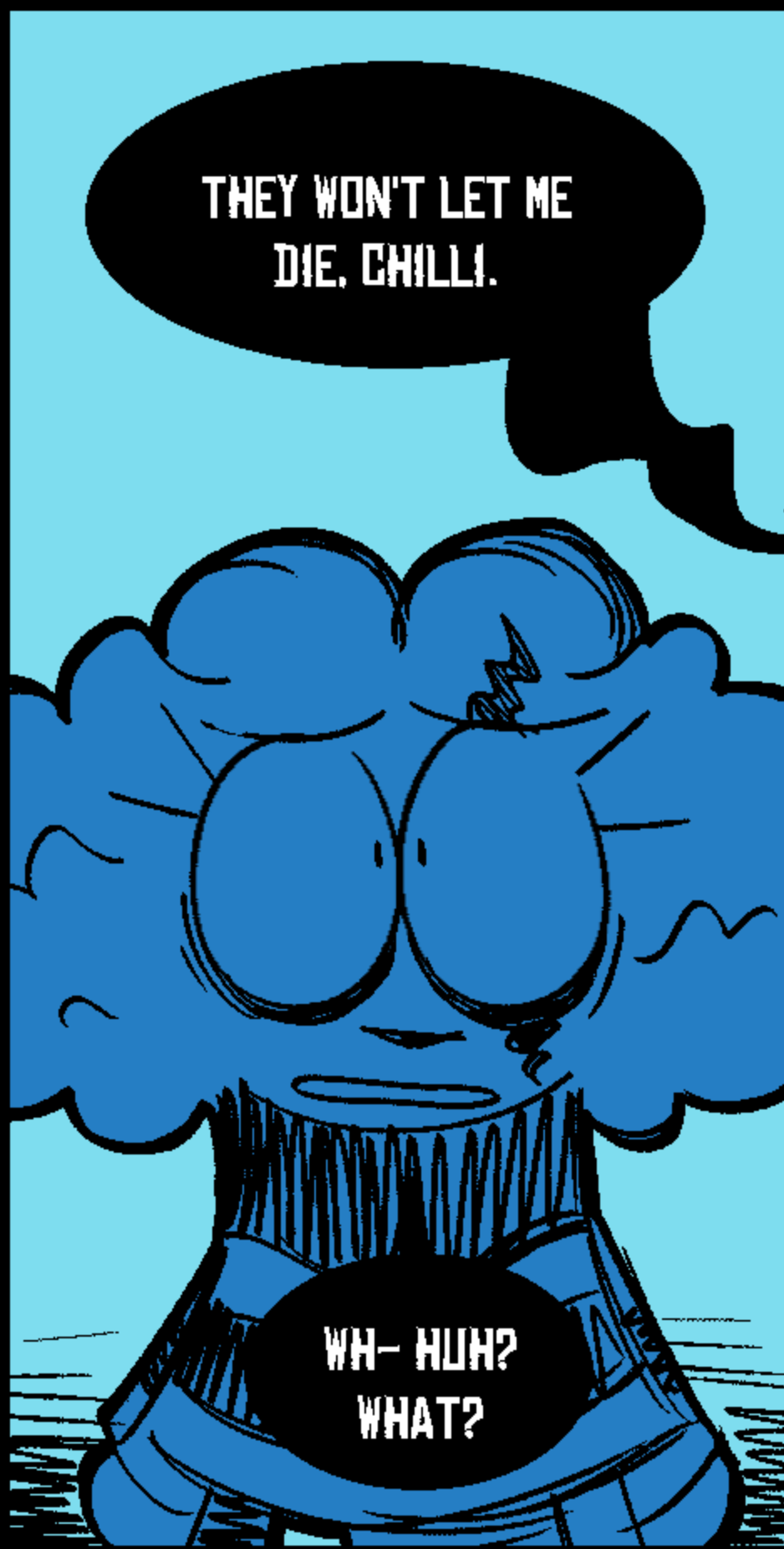
SO WHY'D YOU SIGN UP
FOR THIS CURRENT CAMPAIGN?

IT'S... A LONG STORY...
I PANICKED AND AGREED
TO DO IT.
I WISH I HADN'T BUT... I'M
TOO TIRED TO FIGHT
ANYMORE.



CAN I TELL
YA SOMETHING?

HM?



THEY WON'T LET ME DIE, CHILLI.

WH- HUH?
WHAT?



I'VE DIED TWO PREVIOUS TIMES BEFORE, BUT THE COMPANY KEEPS REVIVING ME.

THIS'LL BE THE THIRD TIME I'M BEING REVIVED, AND THIS TIME THEY WANT IT DONE PERMANENTLY.

THEY'RE USING YOU SO I CAN BE AROUND FOREVER. SO THEY CAN ALWAYS EXPLOIT ME.



I'VE SEEN BOTH HELL AND HEAVEN. AND THEY'RE NOT PRETTY.



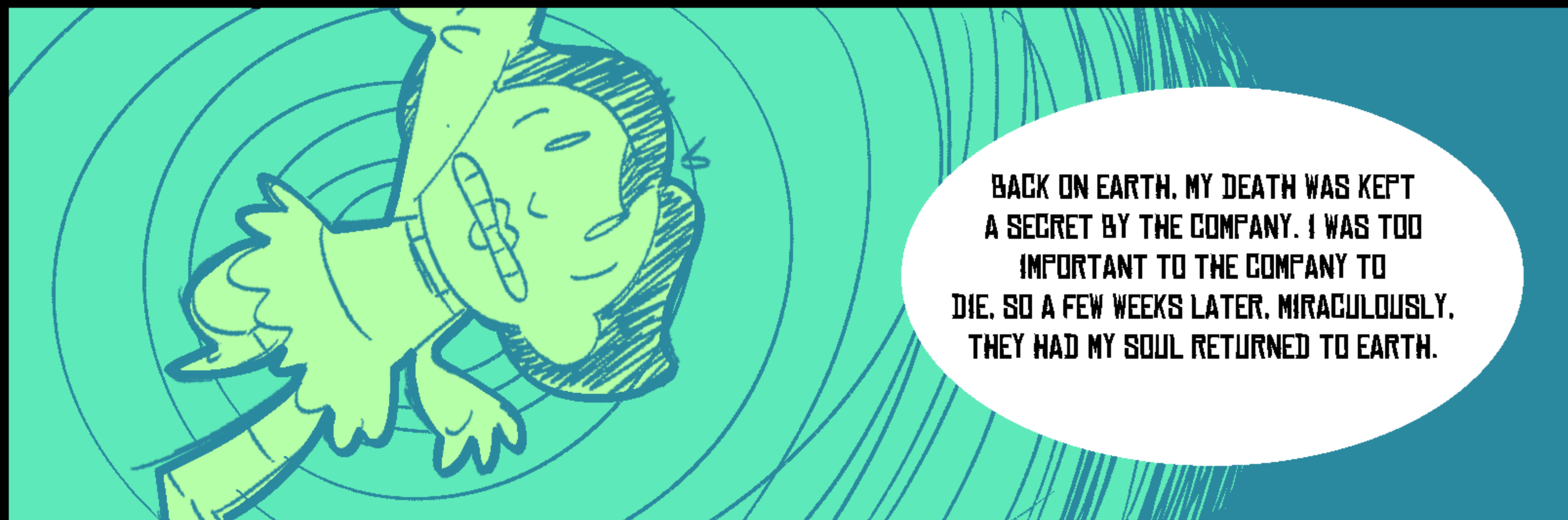
THE FIRST TIME I DIED, I WAS IN A MASSIVE CAR CRASH. I WAS ABOUT 30.

BECAUSE OF MY RICH STATUS, I WAS GIVING A KEY TO HEAVEN.

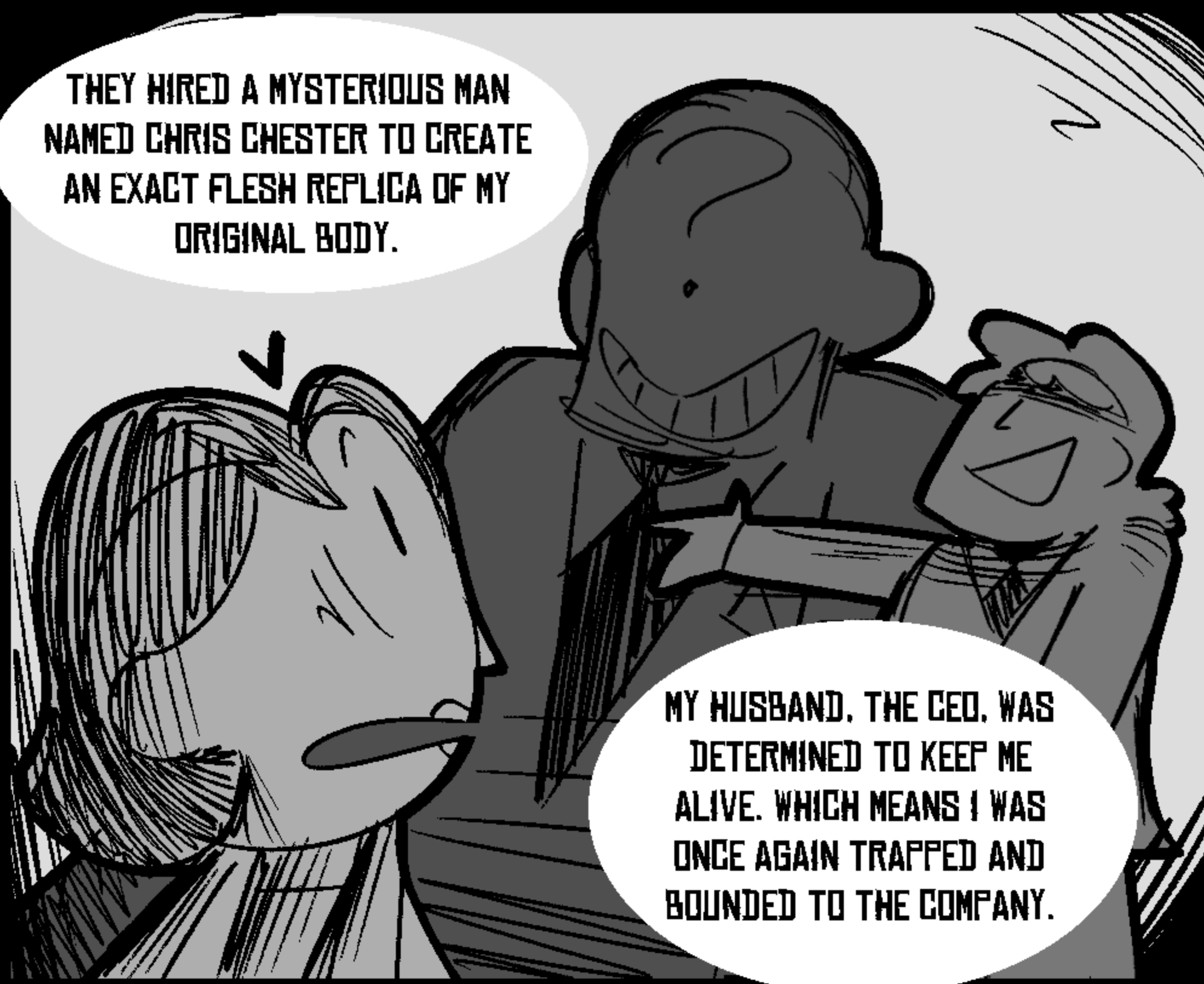


Turns out they only really let the rich and elite into heaven. Unfortunately for someone like me, who was already surrounded by rich and elite on earth, heaven felt like a nightmare.

It was like my own personal hell.



Back on earth, my death was kept a secret by the company. I was too important to the company to die. So a few weeks later, miraculously, they had my soul returned to earth.



They hired a mysterious man named Chris Chester to create an exact flesh replica of my original body.

My husband, the CEO, was determined to keep me alive. Which means I was once again trapped and bounded to the company.

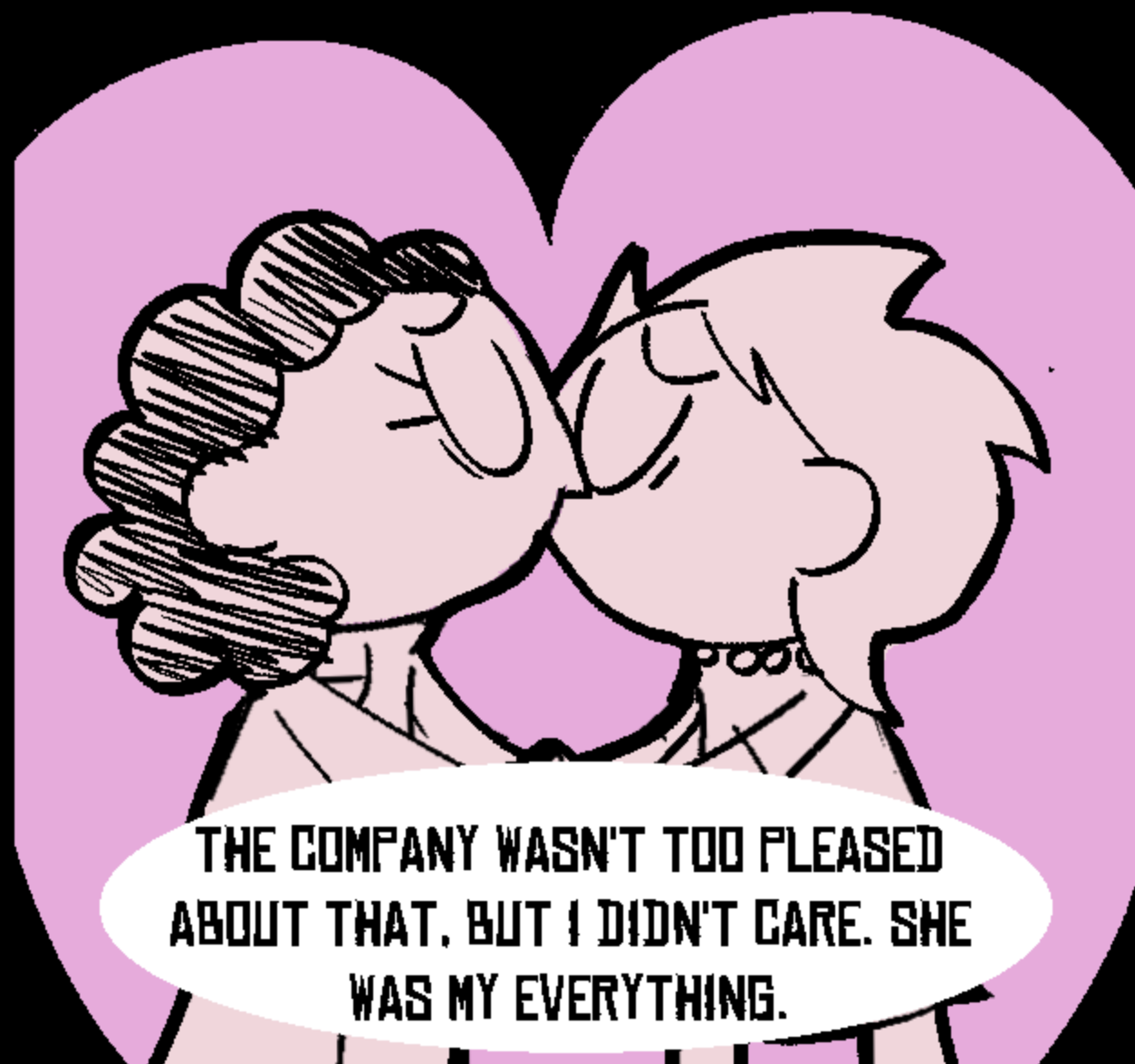


Oh my god...

What happened the second time you died?

Well...

I WAS IN MY 60'S. AT THAT POINT I HAD MOVED ON FROM MY HUSBAND, AND I HAD STARTED DATING LINDA.



THE COMPANY WASN'T TOO PLEASED ABOUT THAT, BUT I DIDN'T CARE. SHE WAS MY EVERYTHING.

ONE NIGHT, AS WE WERE WALKING TO HER PLACE, A CRANKY STRANGER APPROACHED US IN A DARK ALLEYWAY.



WE WERE SHOT DEAD.

THIS TIME, WE WOULD BE SENT TO HELL.

CURIOUS, THAT.

BUT AGAIN, DUE TO OUR FAIRLY RICH STATUS, WE WERE SENT TO THE "FANCY" PART OF HELL.



THIS PART OF HELL, KNOWN AS THE "PATCHWORK PLAZA" WAS A VERY "TOURIST FRIENDLY" PART OF HELL. WHEN THE HELLHOLE WAS OPEN AND TOURS WERE DONE, THIS WAS THE ONLY PART OF HELL TOURISTS GOT TO SEE.

AT THE VERY LEAST, THERE WAS MORE TO DO HERE THAN IN HEAVEN.



IT DID SORT OF MAKE ME CURIOUS WHAT THE REST OF HELL LOOKED LIKE. WHAT THEY WERE HIDING FROM US.

BUT ANYWAY...

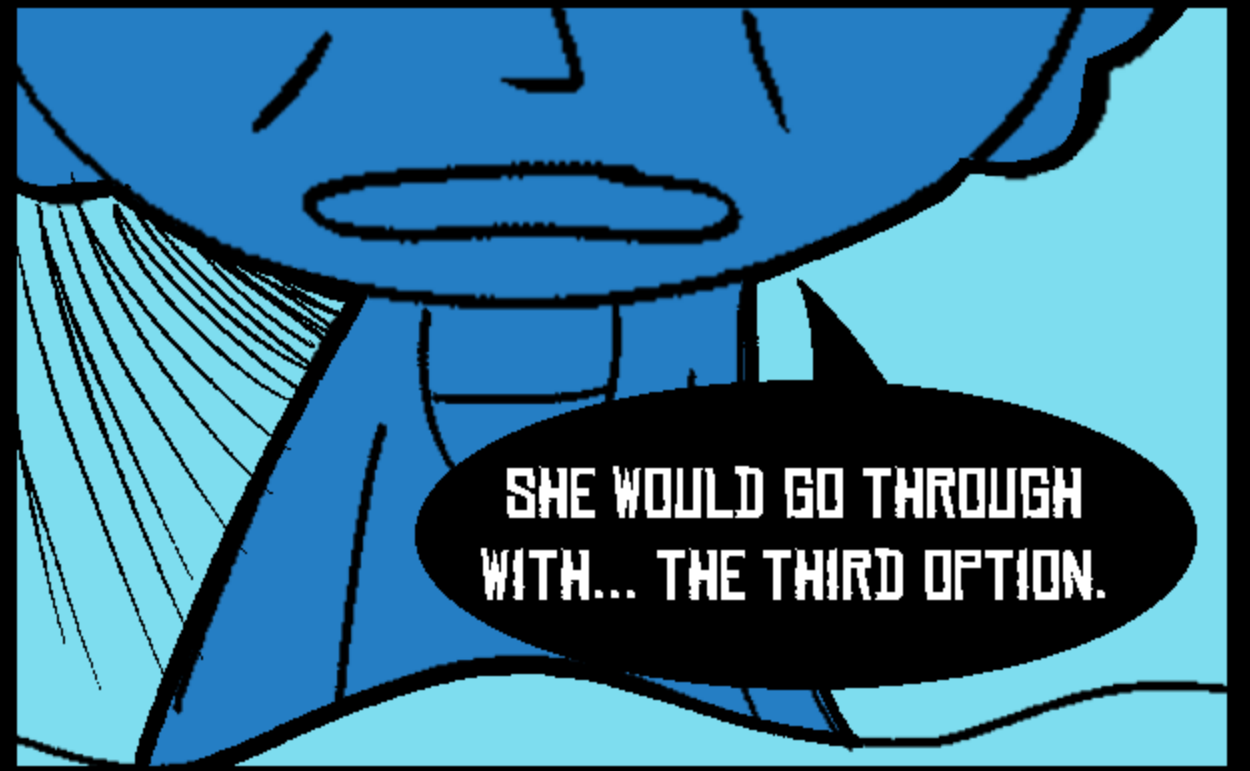


AGAIN, I WASN'T VERY FOND OF HELL.
BUT I FIGURED THAT MY SOUL WOULD BE
BROUGHT BACK TO EARTH IN A NEW
BODY BEFORE LONG.



BUT LINDA WASN'T SO SURE
SHE'D BE BROUGHT BACK.

AND BECAUSE SHE DIDN'T WANT
TO SPEND ETERNITY IN HELL, AND
WITHOUT ME, SHE MADE A DRASTIC
DECISION.



SHE WOULD GO THROUGH
WITH... THE THIRD OPTION.

NOT HEAVEN.

NOT HELL.

SIMPLY... NOTHING.

YOU GO INTO A DARK, EMPTY BLACK
ROOM, AND WHEN THE DOOR CLOSSES
BEHIND YOU, POOF! YOU'RE GONE.

YOU'RE NOT CONSCIOUS, YOU
HAVE NO THOUGHTS, NO EMOTIONS,
NO MEMORIES, NOTHING.

YOU'RE NOTHING.
IT'S OVER.
FOREVER.

I TOLD HER SHE WAS CRAZY. I
FOOLISHLY BELIEVED THE
COMPANY WOULD SAVE HER.



BUT SHE KNEW
BETTER.

THERE'S NO STOPPING LINDA.
SHE GAVE ME ONE LAST KISS,
AND WE SAID GOODBYE. SHE
LEFT HELL, REQUESTED THE
THIRD OPTION.



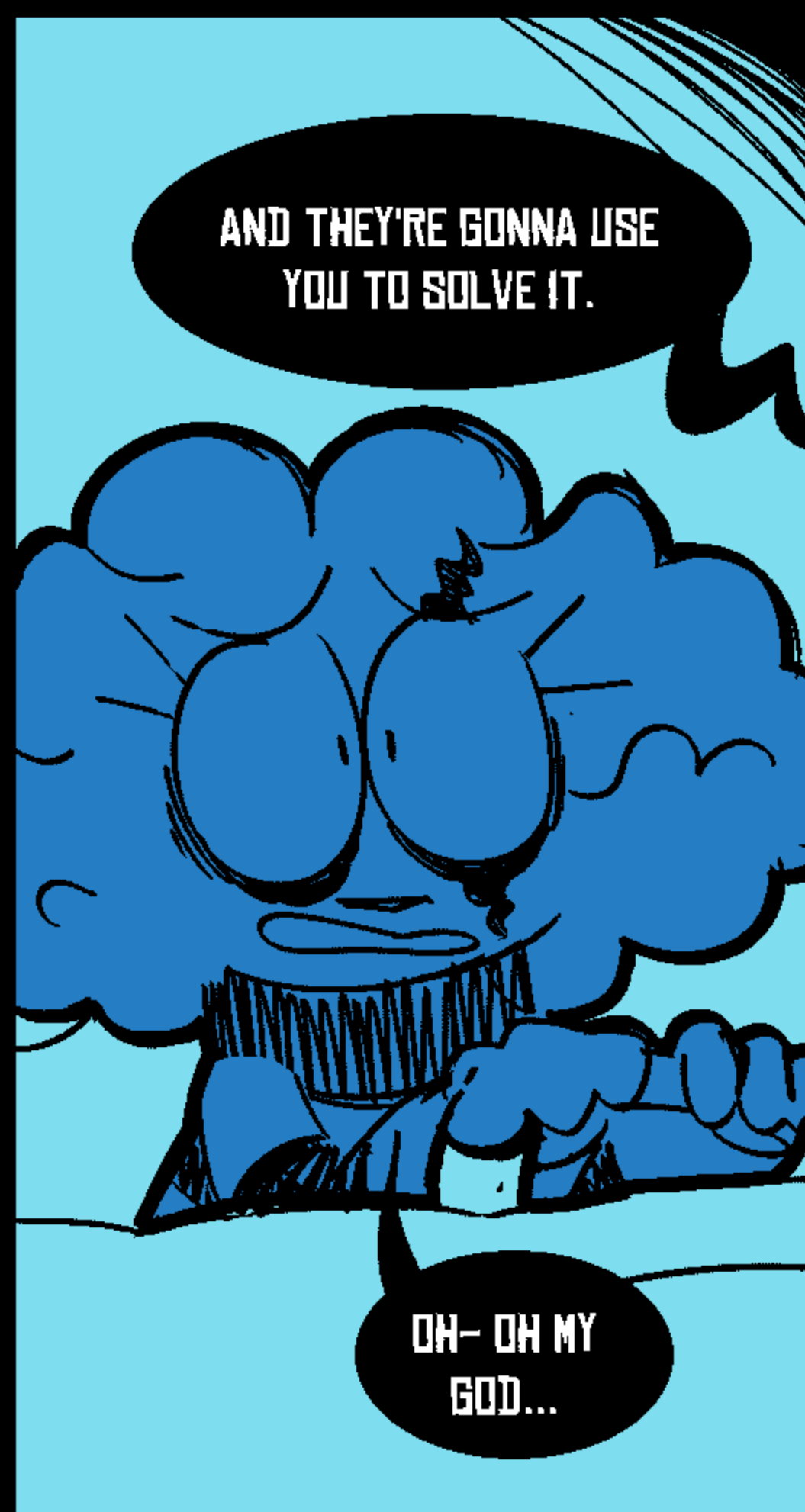
THEN BOOM.
GONE.

MY BIGGEST MISTAKE IN LIFE
WAS NOT GOING WITH HER.



SOON AFTER, I WAS BROUGHT BACK
IN A NEW BODY. FOR THE LAST 20 OR
SO YEARS, I'VE BEEN COOPED UP IN
THIS ROOM BY THE COMPANY,
SO THAT I COULD NEVER
RISK BEING KILLED EVER AGAIN.

BUT NOW I'M DYING OF
OLD AGE. AND BECAUSE THAT
CHRIS CHESTER GUY DIED LONG
AGO, THE COMPANY NEEDS HELP
LOOKING FOR A "PERMANENT
SOLUTION" FOR MY DEATH.



AND THEY'RE GONNA USE
YOU TO SOLVE IT.

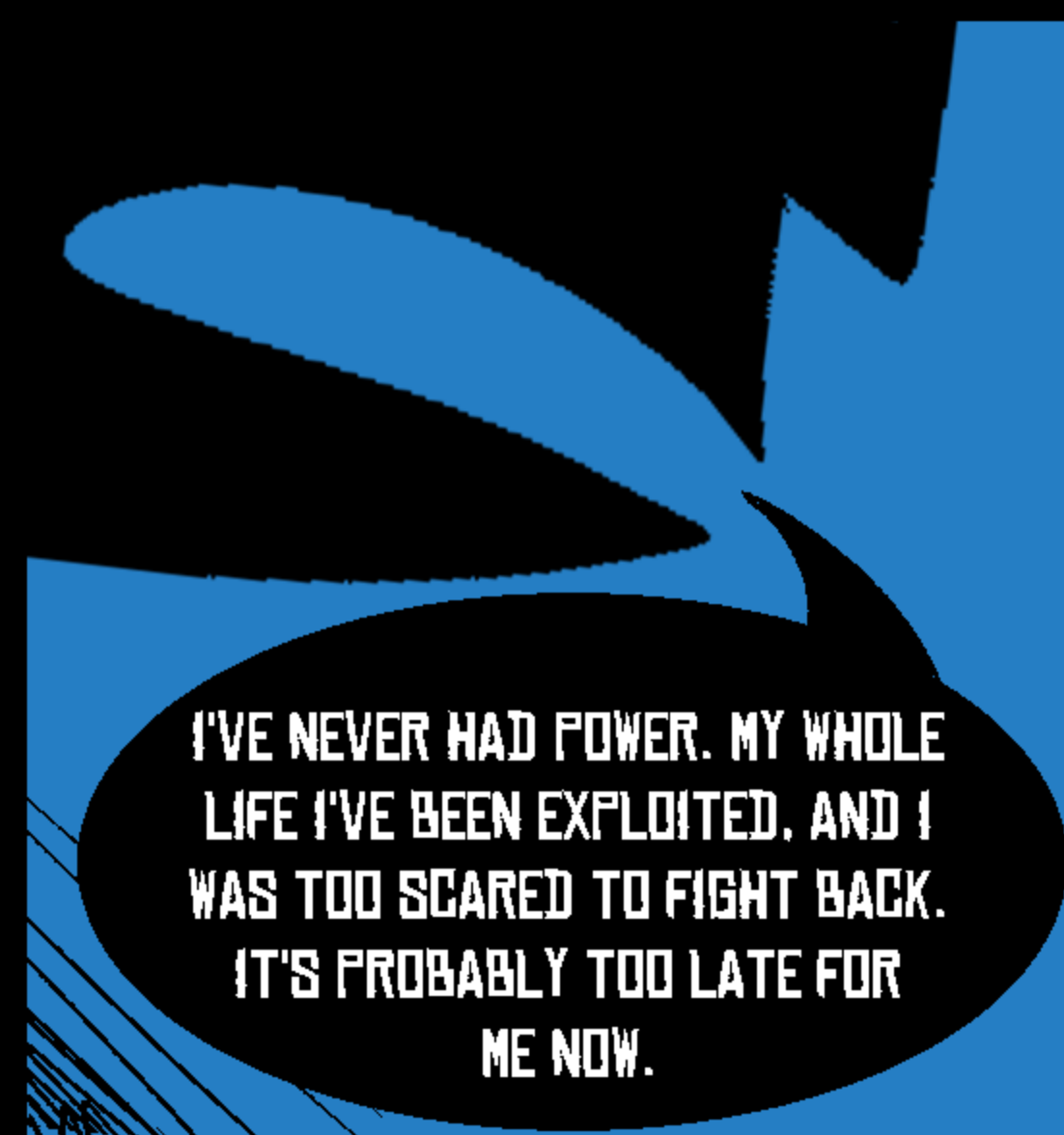
OH- OH MY
GOD...



H-HAVE YOU TOLD THEM
YOU DON'T WANNA BE
RESURRECTED??

THEY WON'T LISTEN.
THEY DON'T CARE.
I'M TOO IMPORTANT FOR
THE COMPANY.

I HAVE
NO POWER.



I'VE NEVER HAD POWER. MY WHOLE
LIFE I'VE BEEN EXPLOITED. AND I
WAS TOO SCARED TO FIGHT BACK.
IT'S PROBABLY TOO LATE FOR
ME NOW.



BUT IT'S NOT FOR YOU! PLEASE! DON'T
LET THE MAYOR EXPLOIT YOU LIKE
THE COMPANY EXPLOITED ME! IF YOU
DON'T STOP IT NOW IT'LL GET WORSE!
IT'LL CONSUME YOUR LIFE!

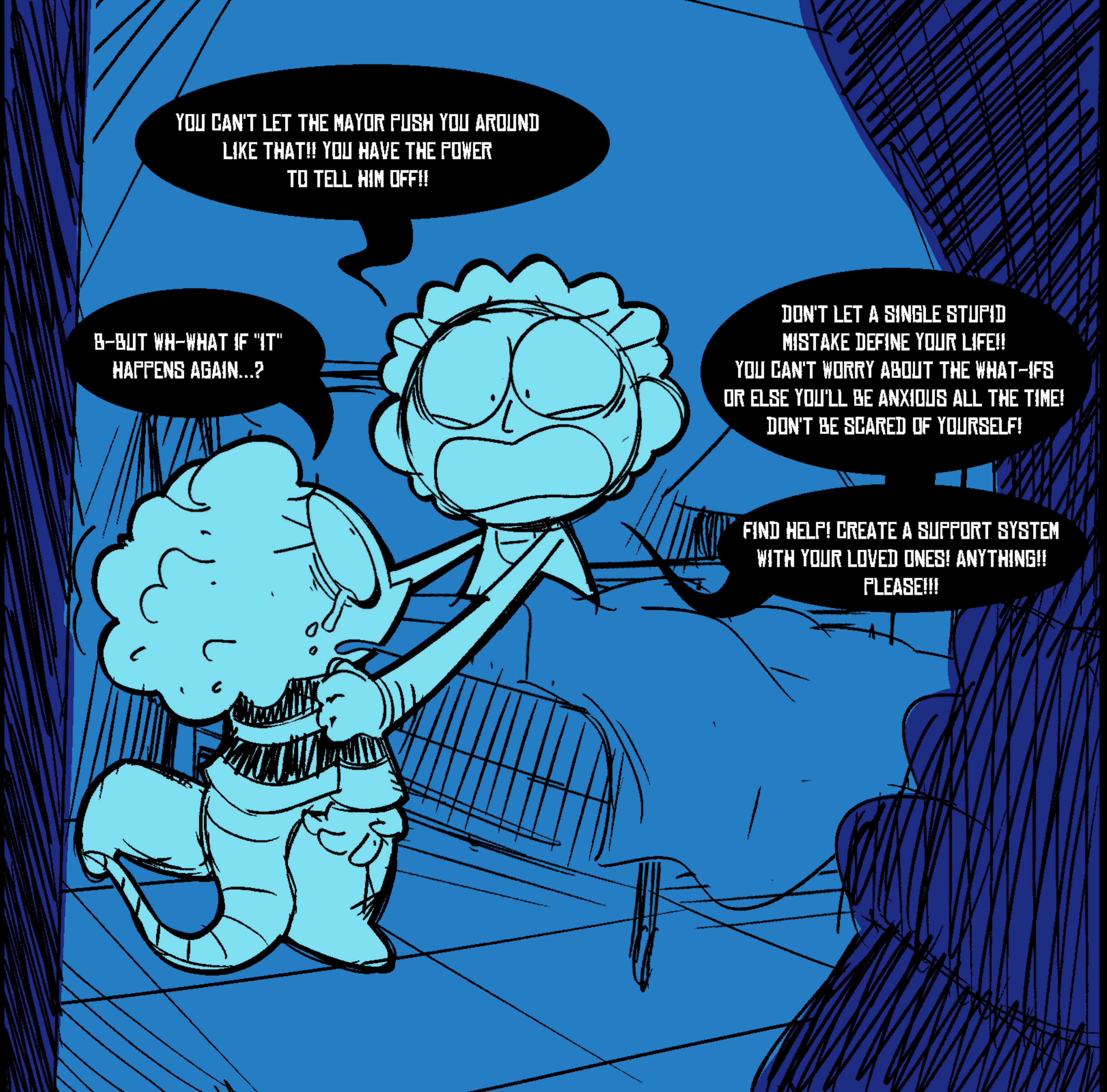
THEY WANT YOU TO
THINK YOU'RE NOTHING!!
YOU'RE NOT!



YOU'VE BARELY EVEN LIVED!
DON'T LET THEM TAKE YOUR
LIFE BEFORE IT'S EVEN BEGUN!

PLEASE! DON'T GO
THROUGH WITH THE
RESURRECTION!

B-BUT HE THREATENED TO
HURT MY DAD IF I TRIED
TO BAILOUT!!



YOU CAN'T LET THE MAYOR PUSH YOU AROUND
LIKE THAT!! YOU HAVE THE POWER
TO TELL HIM OFF!!

B-BUT WH-WHAT IF "IT"
HAPPENS AGAIN...?

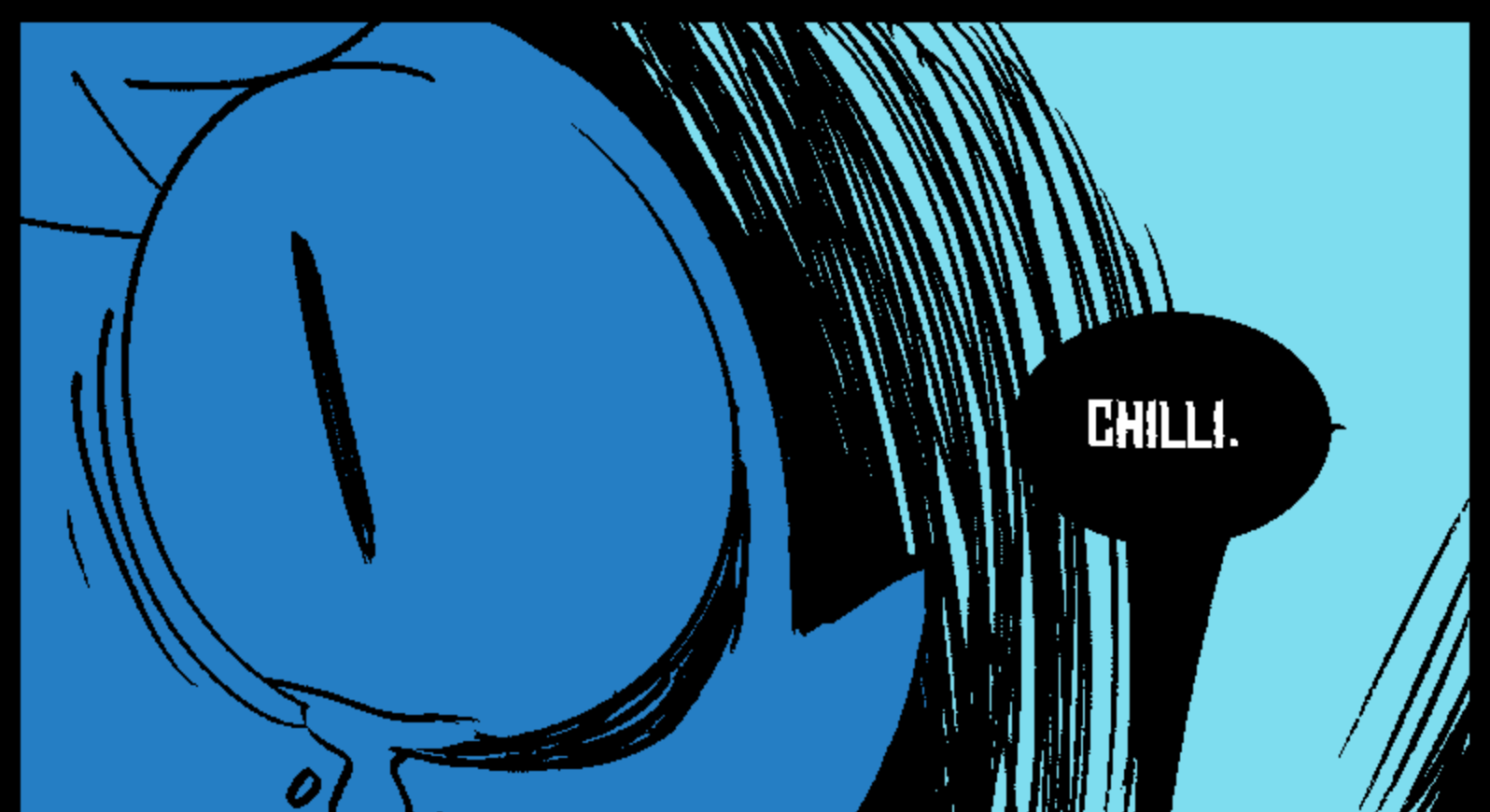
DON'T LET A SINGLE STUPID
MISTAKE DEFINE YOUR LIFE!!
YOU CAN'T WORRY ABOUT THE WHAT-IFS
OR ELSE YOU'LL BE ANXIOUS ALL THE TIME!
DON'T BE SCARED OF YOURSELF!

FIND HELP! CREATE A SUPPORT SYSTEM
WITH YOUR LOVED ONES! ANYTHING!!
PLEASE!!!

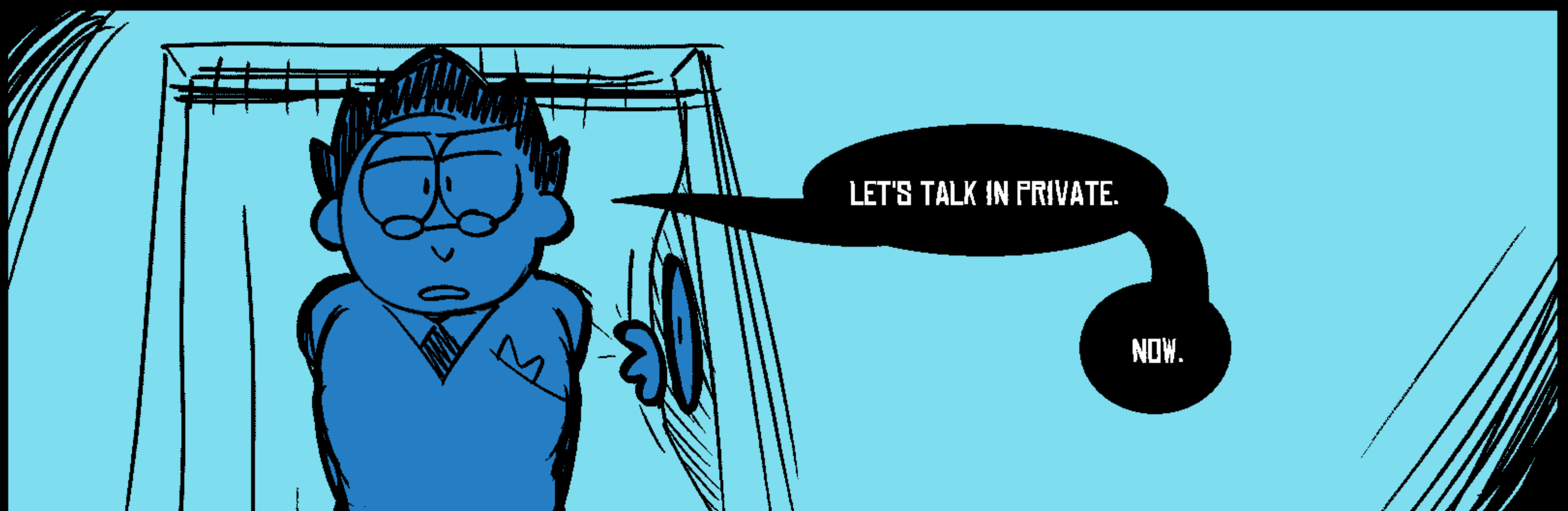


I WAS FORCED INTO THIS
LIFE, BUT YOU CAN STILL
ESCAPE IT!

PLEASE, DON'T
WASTE THAT
CHANCE-



CHILLI.

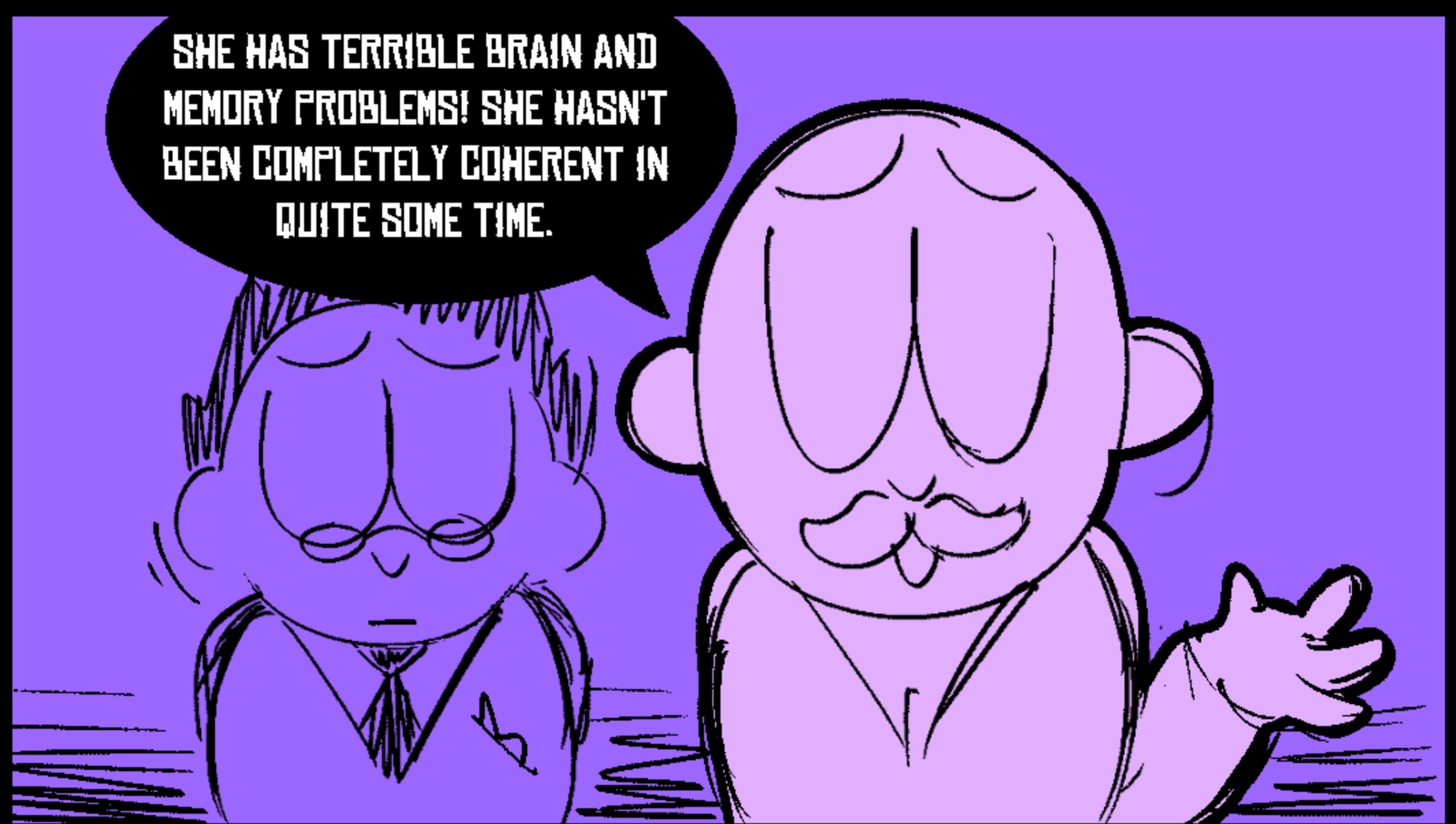


LET'S TALK IN PRIVATE.

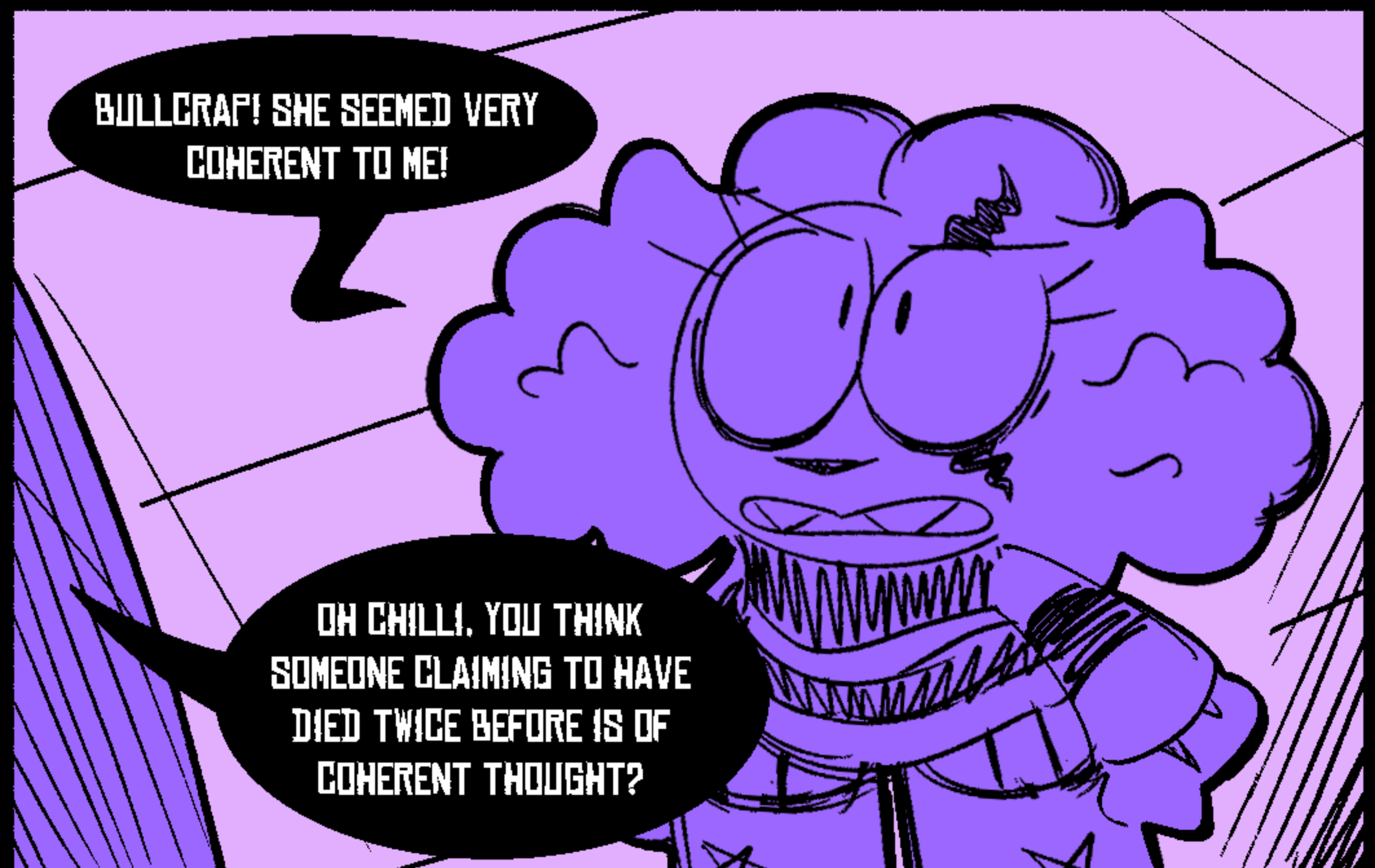
NOW.



I APOLOGIZE FOR MY MOTHER'S
UH, OUTBURST. I PROBABLY
SHOULD'VE WARNED YOU
EARLIER, BUT...

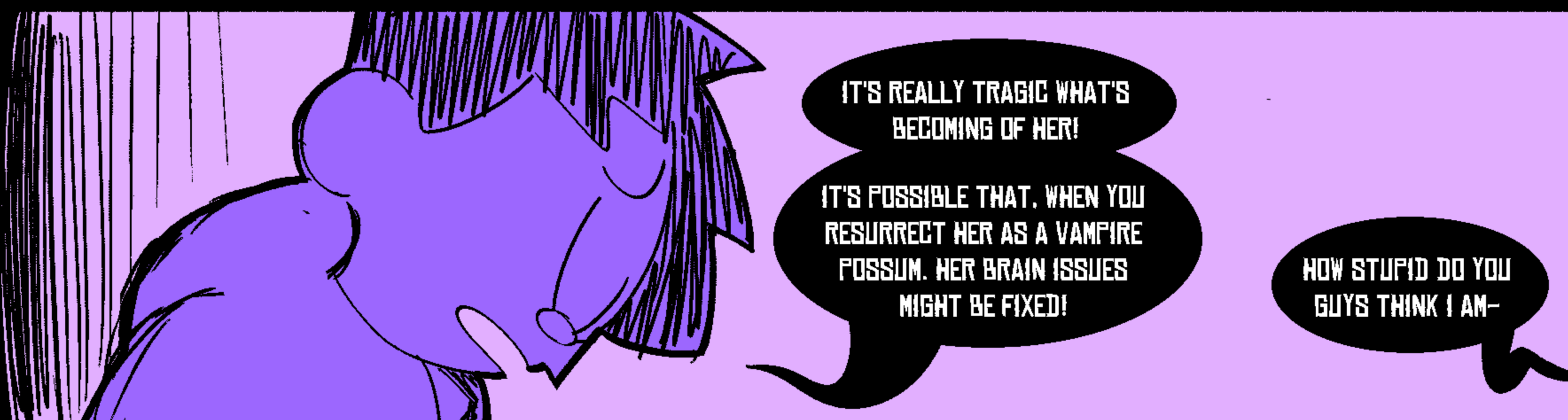


SHE HAS TERRIBLE BRAIN AND
MEMORY PROBLEMS! SHE HASN'T
BEEN COMPLETELY COHERENT IN
QUITE SOME TIME.



BULLCRAP! SHE SEEMED VERY
COHERENT TO ME!

OH CHILLI. YOU THINK
SOMEONE CLAIMING TO HAVE
DIED TWICE BEFORE IS OF
COHERENT THOUGHT?



IT'S REALLY TRAGIC WHAT'S
BECOMING OF HER!

IT'S POSSIBLE THAT, WHEN YOU
RESURRECT HER AS A VAMPIRE
POSSUM. HER BRAIN ISSUES
MIGHT BE FIXED!

HOW STUPID DO YOU
GUYS THINK I AM-



OH CHILLI. I-

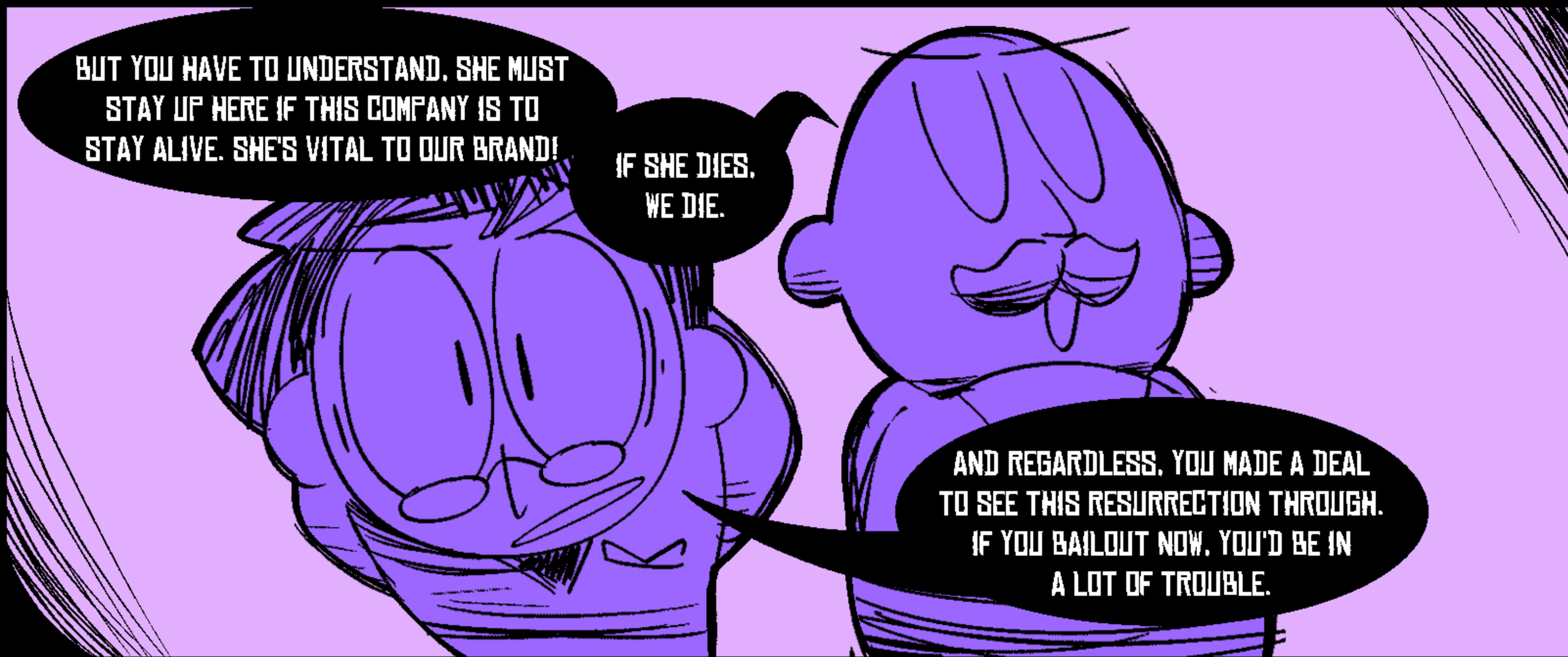
ADMIT IT! SHE'S BEEN
RESURRECTED BEFORE! SAY
IT RIGHT NOW!



FINE. YES.

IT'S TRUE.

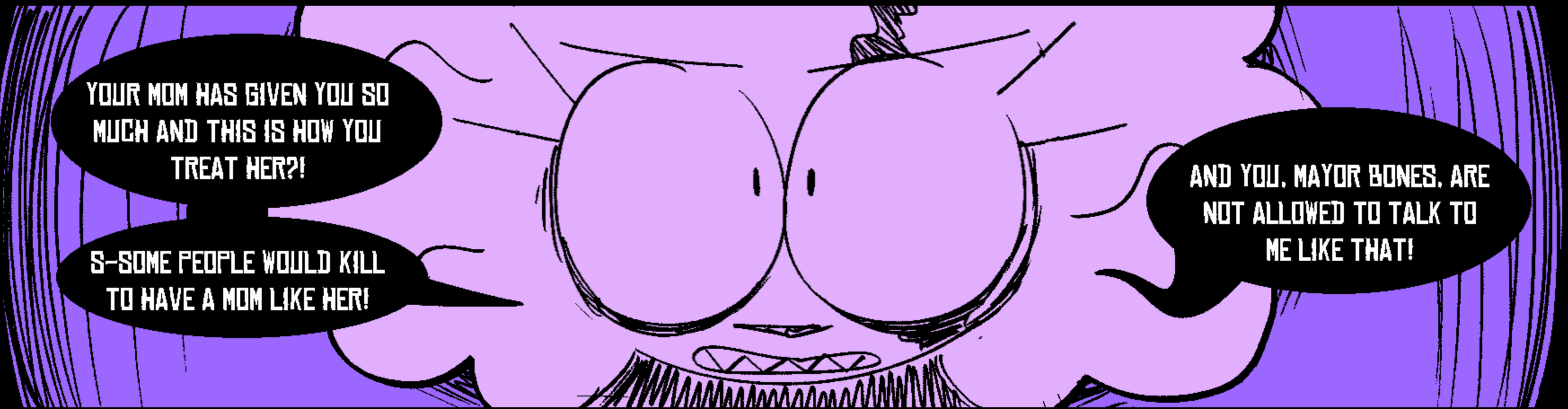




BUT YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND, SHE MUST STAY UP HERE IF THIS COMPANY IS TO STAY ALIVE. SHE'S VITAL TO OUR BRAND!

IF SHE DIES, WE DIE.

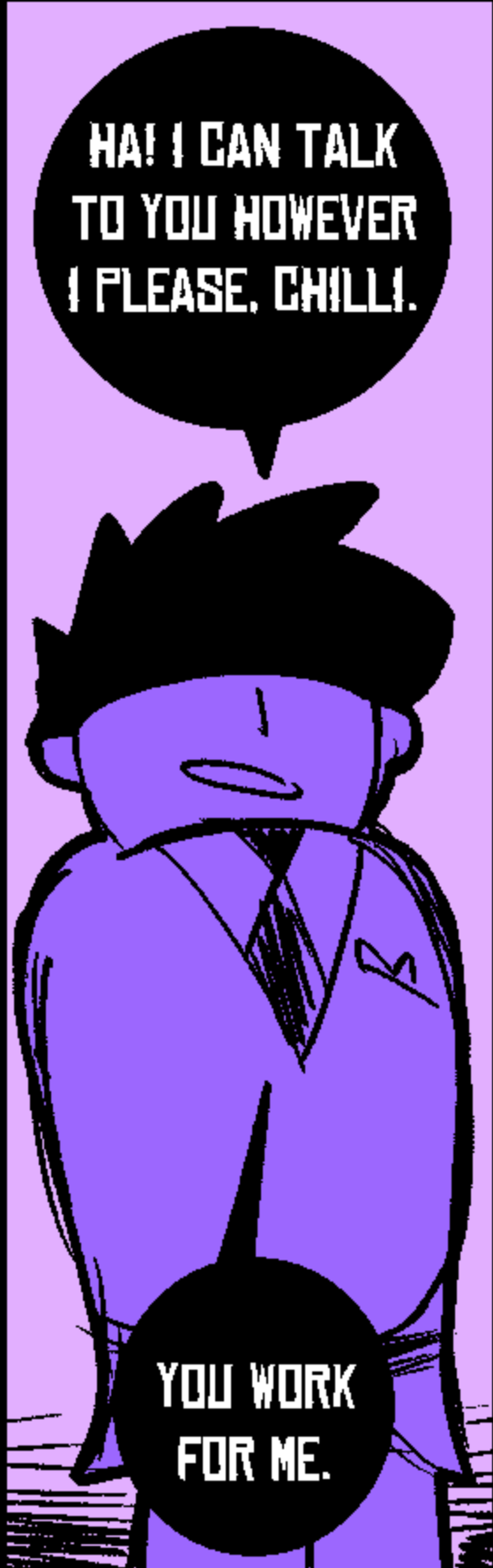
AND REGARDLESS, YOU MADE A DEAL TO SEE THIS RESURRECTION THROUGH. IF YOU BAILOUT NOW, YOU'D BE IN A LOT OF TROUBLE.



YOUR MOM HAS GIVEN YOU SO MUCH AND THIS IS HOW YOU TREAT HER?!

S-SOME PEOPLE WOULD KILL TO HAVE A MOM LIKE HER!

AND YOU, MAYOR BONES, ARE NOT ALLOWED TO TALK TO ME LIKE THAT!



HA! I CAN TALK TO YOU HOWEVER I PLEASE, CHILL!

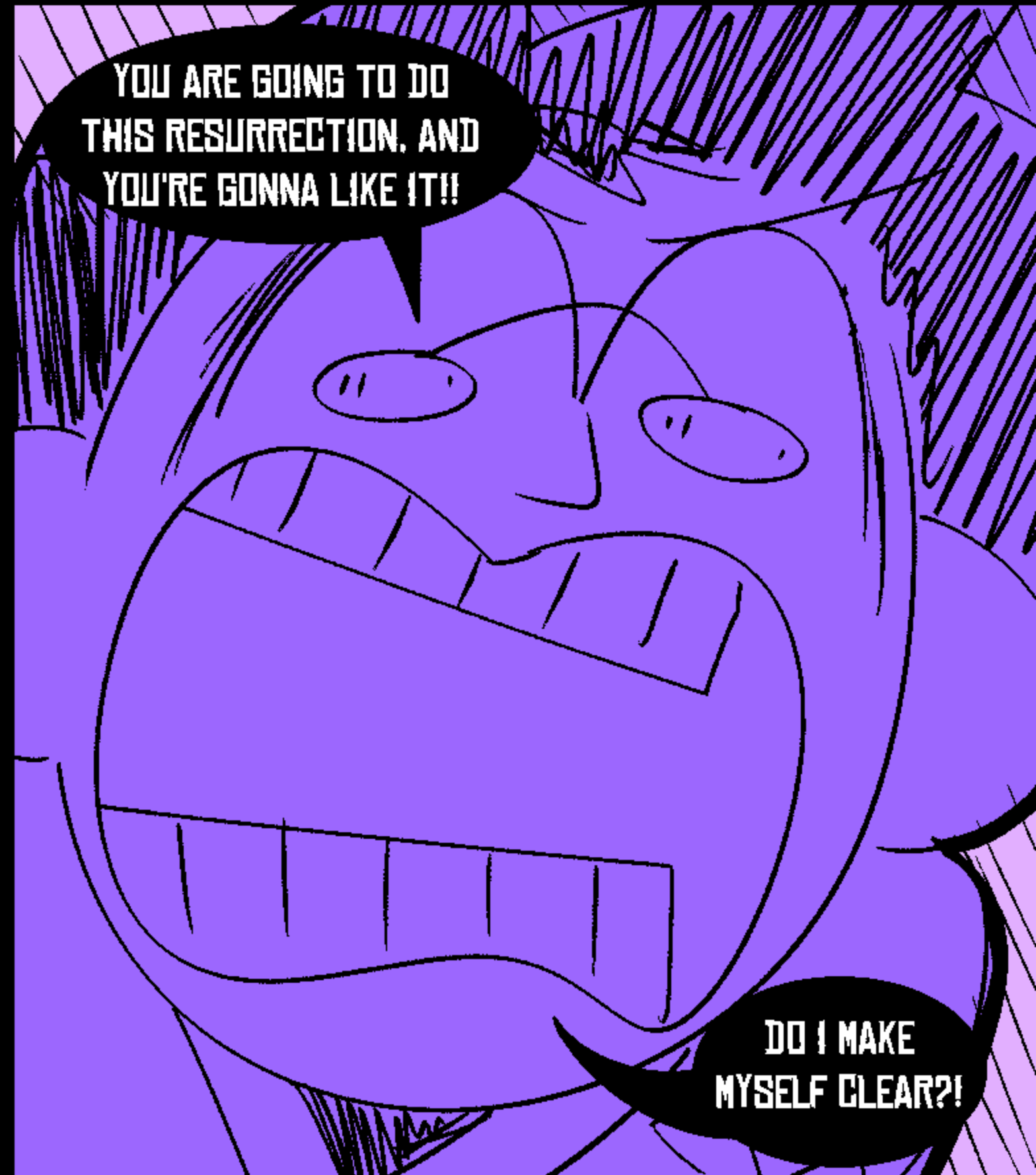
YOU WORK FOR ME.



PEOPLE MAY LIKE YOU MORE, YOU MIGHT HAVE ACTUAL FRIENDS, AND YOU MIGHT BE RESPECTED MORE THAN ME IN THIS COVE.

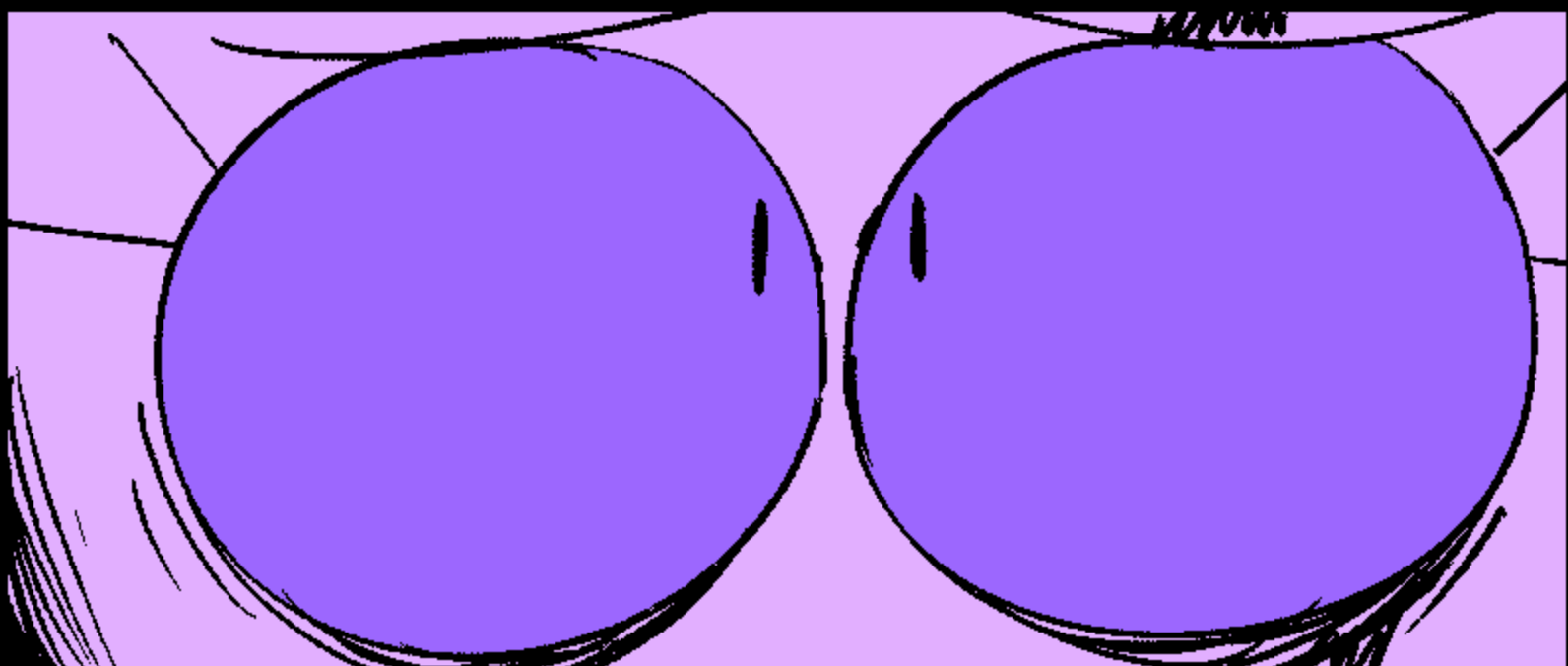
BUT I HAVE POWER. I HAVE CONNECTIONS.

I CAN MAKE ALL OF YOUR LOVED ONES DISAPPEAR WITHOUT A TRACE!!



YOU ARE GOING TO DO THIS RESURRECTION, AND YOU'RE GONNA LIKE IT!!

DO I MAKE MYSELF CLEAR?!

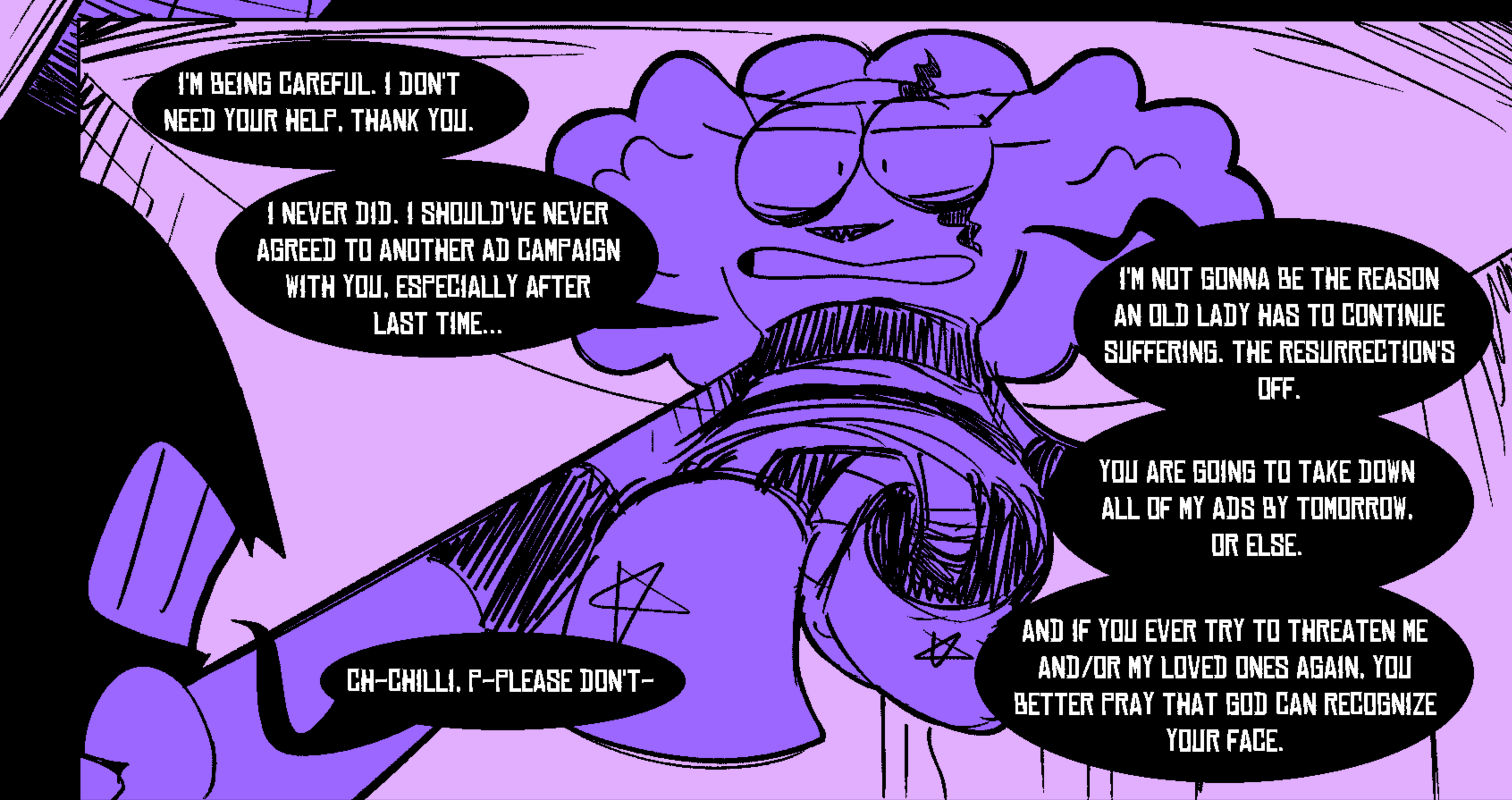


I DON'T WORK FOR YOU...



YOU DON'T EVEN PAY ME!
WHY SHOULD I BE PART OF
THIS AWFUL AD CAMPAIGN
IN THE FIRST PLACE?!

CH-CHILLI... C-CAREFUL WITH
YOUR G-GRIP...



I'M BEING CAREFUL. I DON'T
NEED YOUR HELP, THANK YOU.

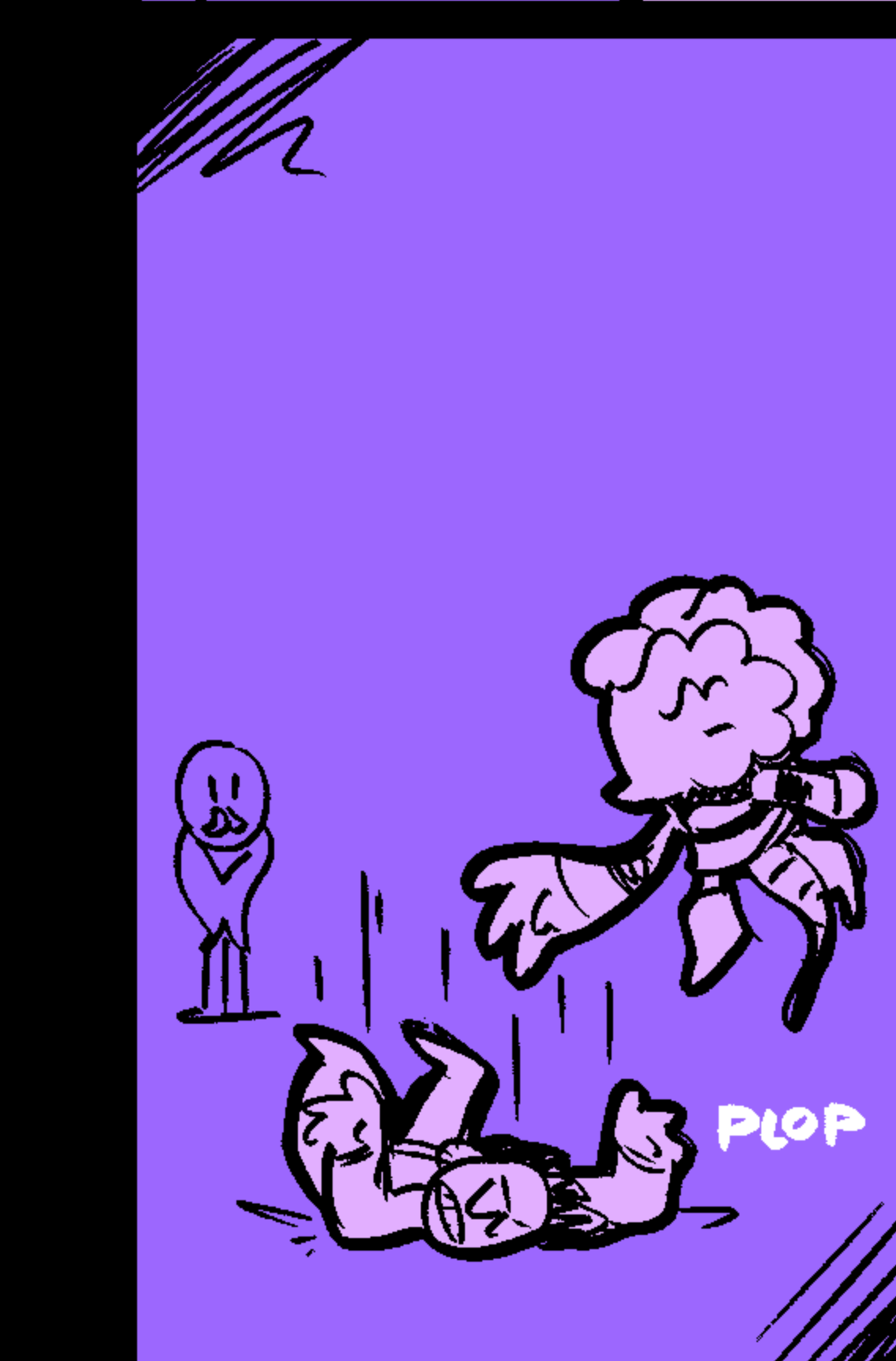
I NEVER DID. I SHOULD'VE NEVER
AGREED TO ANOTHER AD CAMPAIGN
WITH YOU, ESPECIALLY AFTER
LAST TIME...

I'M NOT GONNA BE THE REASON
AN OLD LADY HAS TO CONTINUE
SUFFERING. THE RESURRECTION'S
OFF.

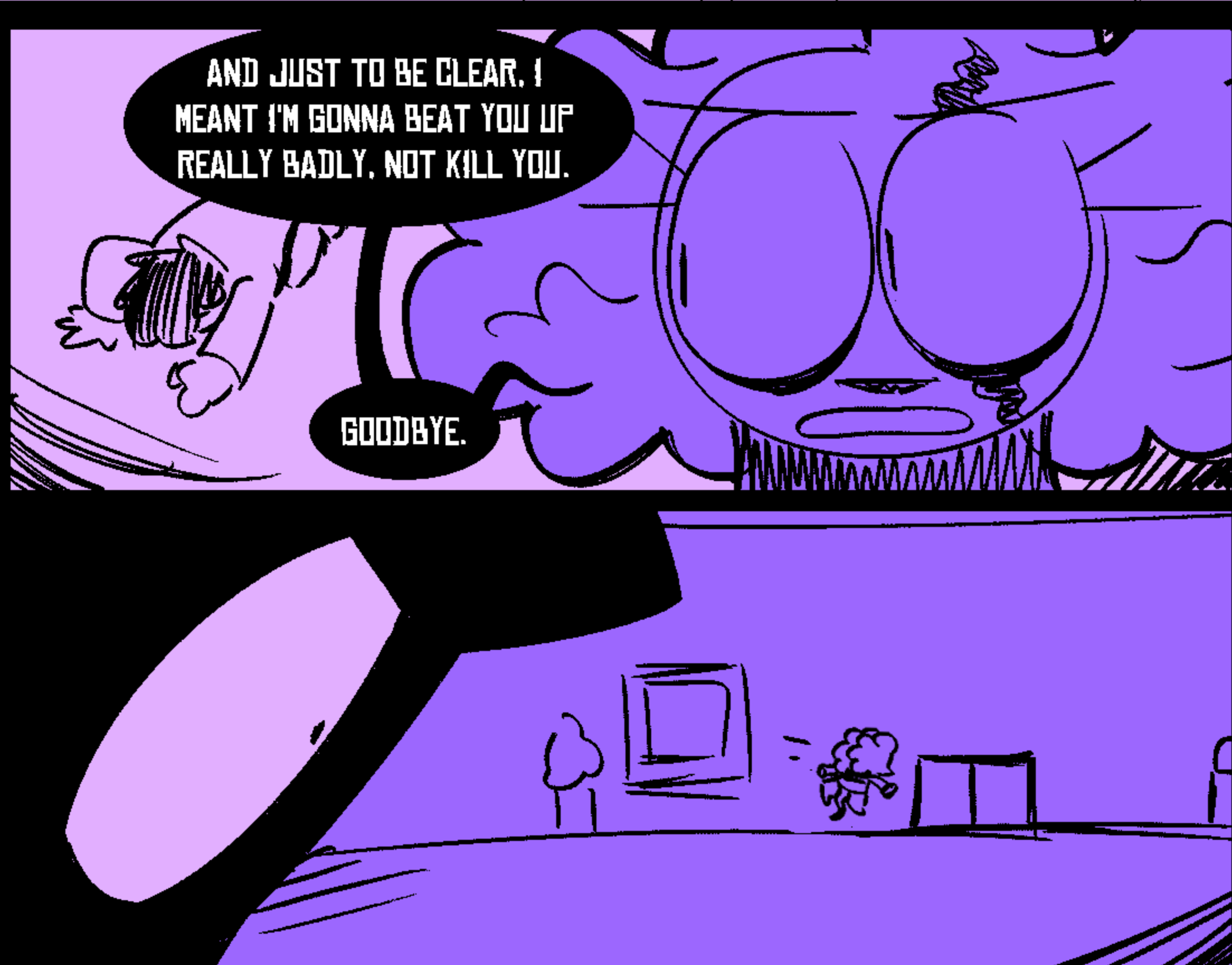
YOU ARE GOING TO TAKE DOWN
ALL OF MY ADS BY TOMORROW,
OR ELSE.

AND IF YOU EVER TRY TO THREATEN ME
AND/OR MY LOVED ONES AGAIN, YOU
BETTER PRAY THAT GOD CAN RECOGNIZE
YOUR FACE.

CH-CHILLI, P-PLEASE DON'T-

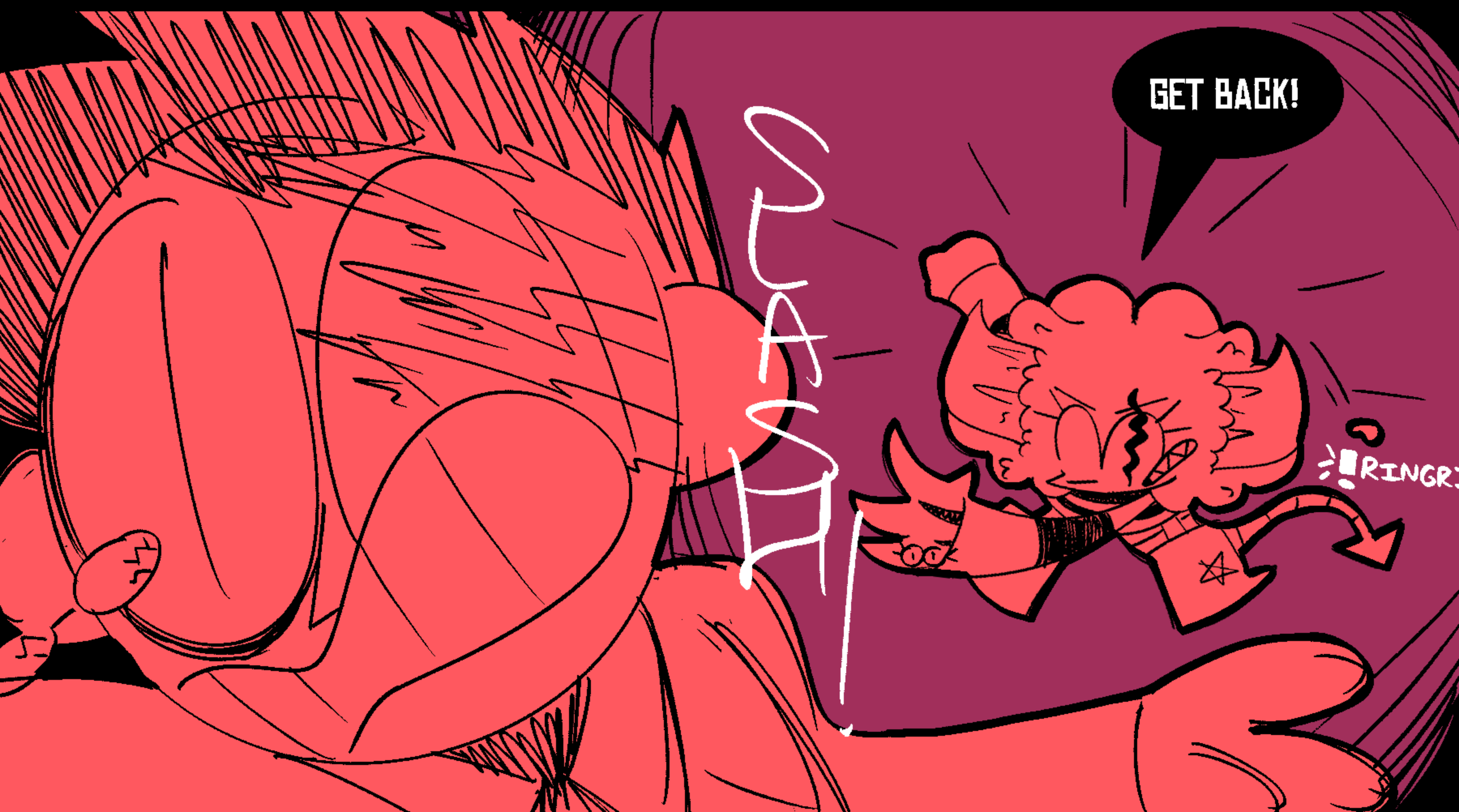
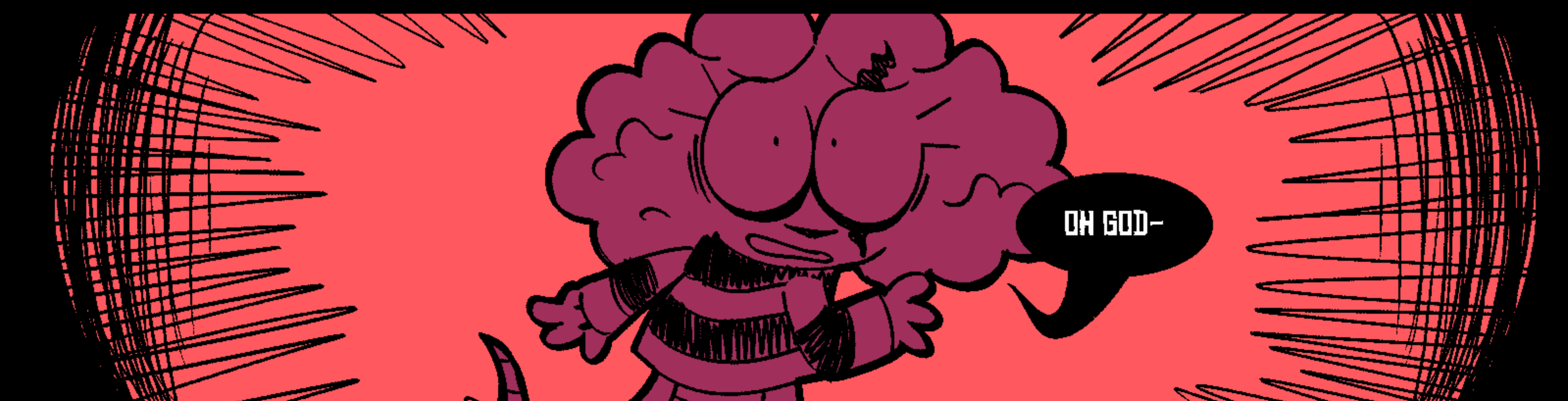
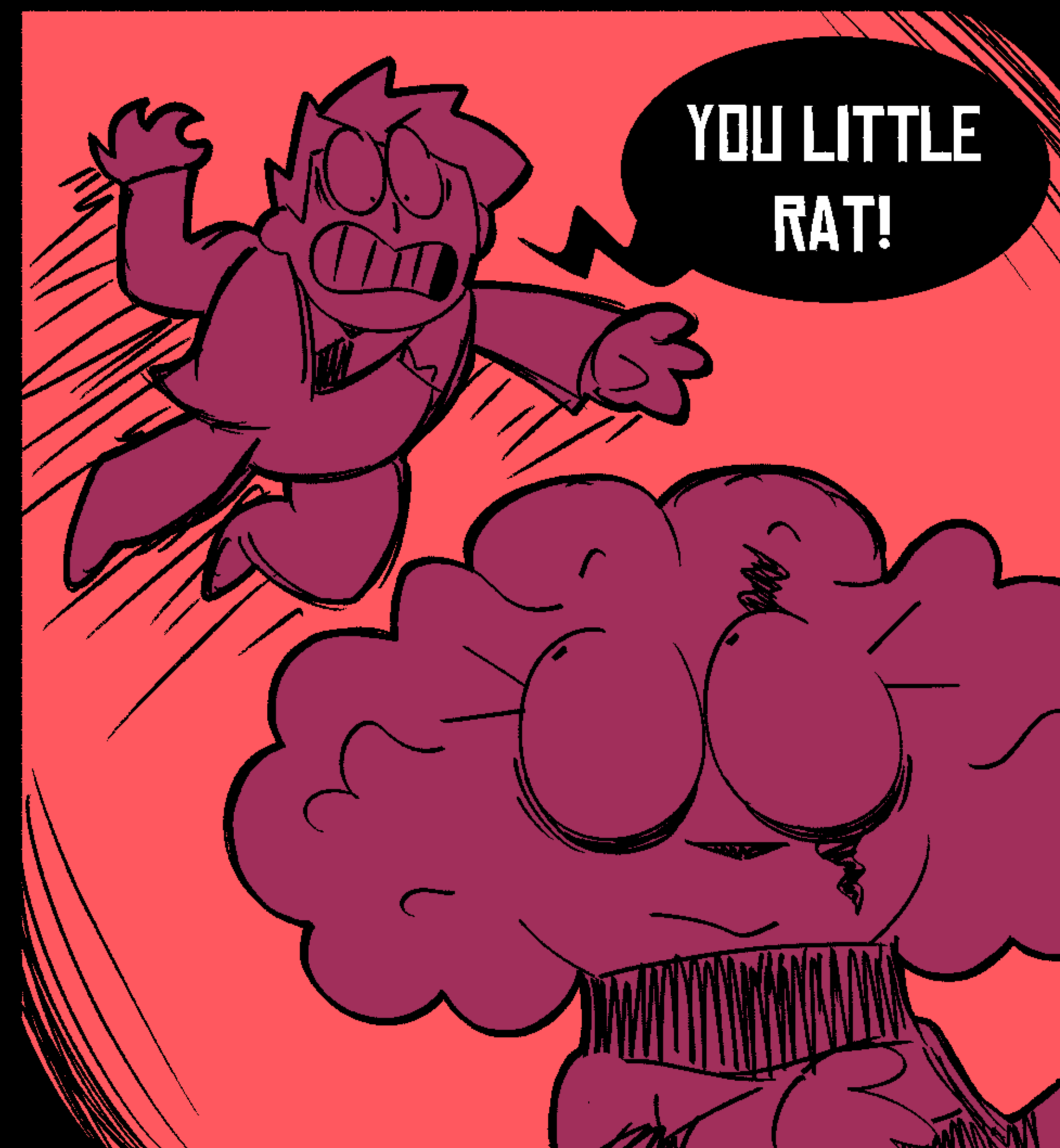
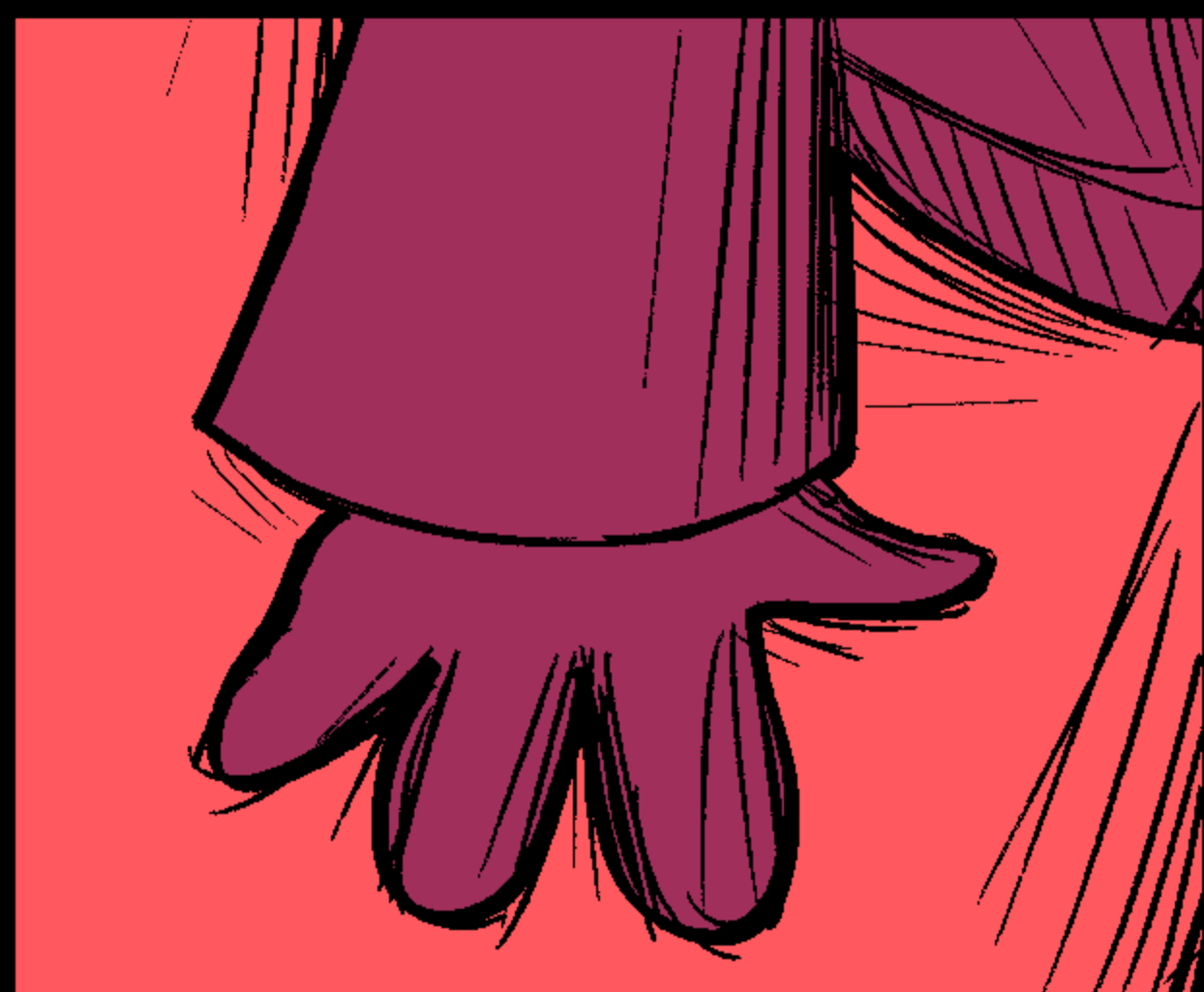


PLOP



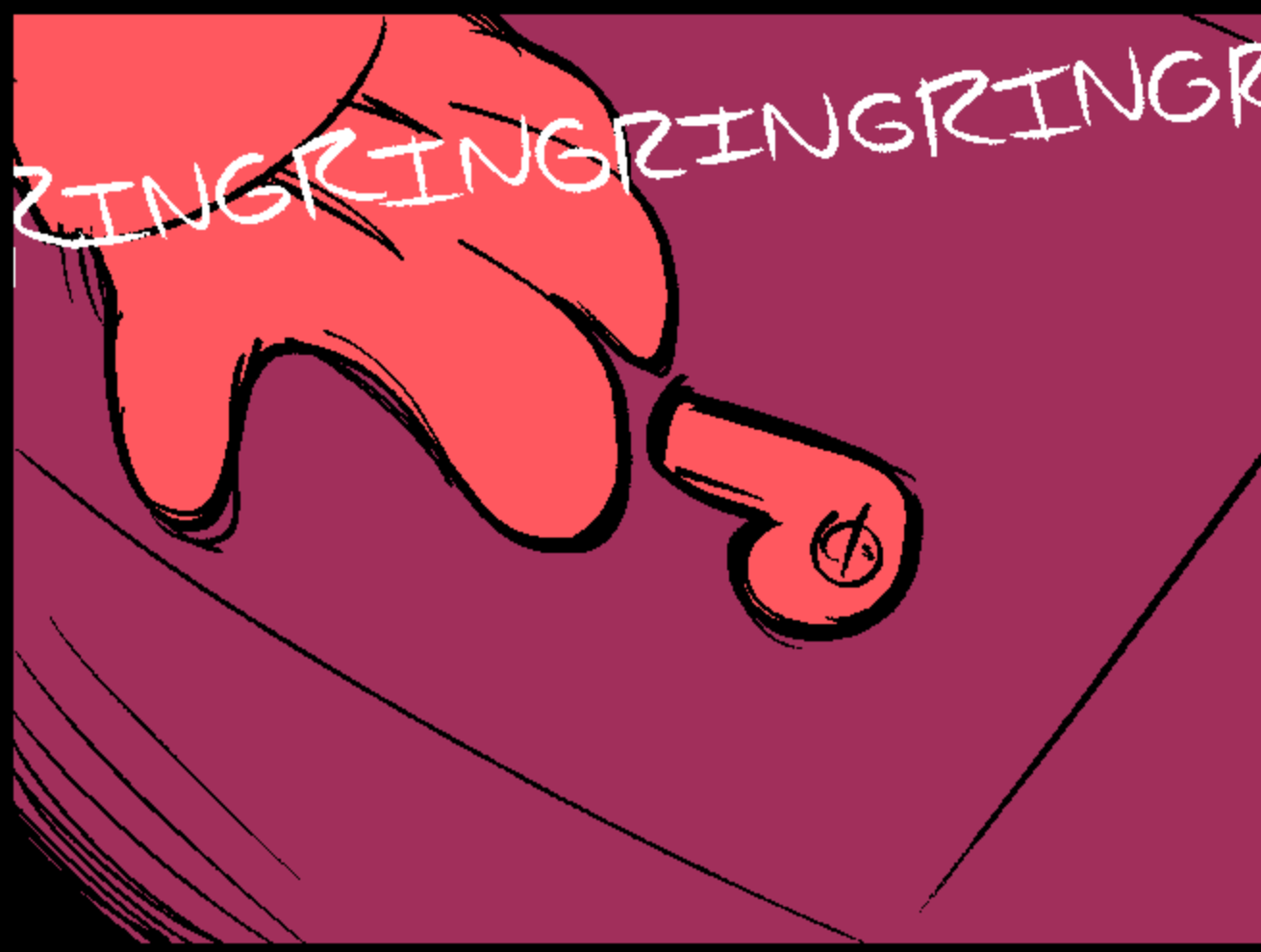
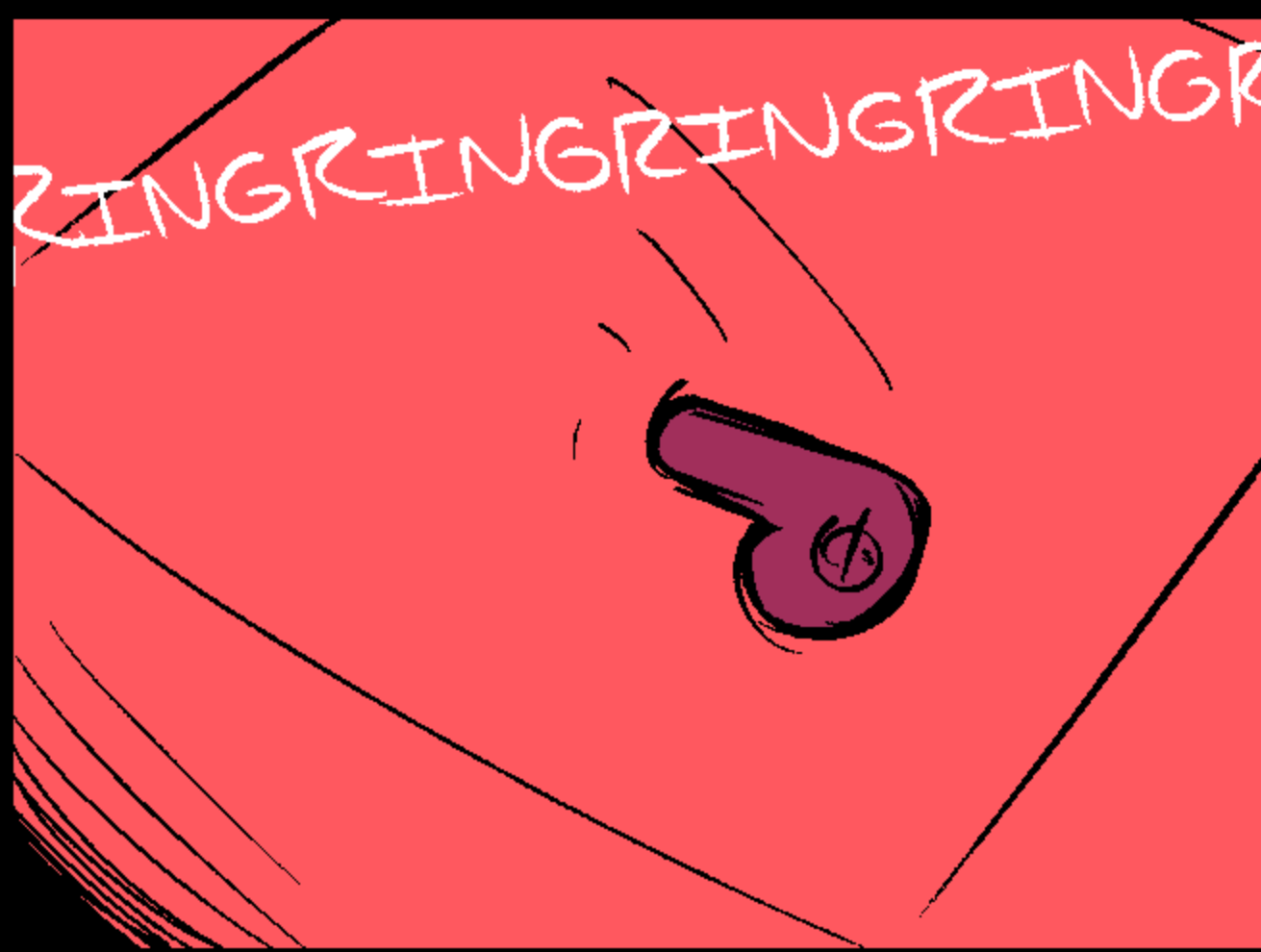
AND JUST TO BE CLEAR, I
MEANT I'M GONNA BEAT YOU UP
REALLY BADLY, NOT KILL YOU.

GOODBYE.





AAAAA!!
MY EYE!!



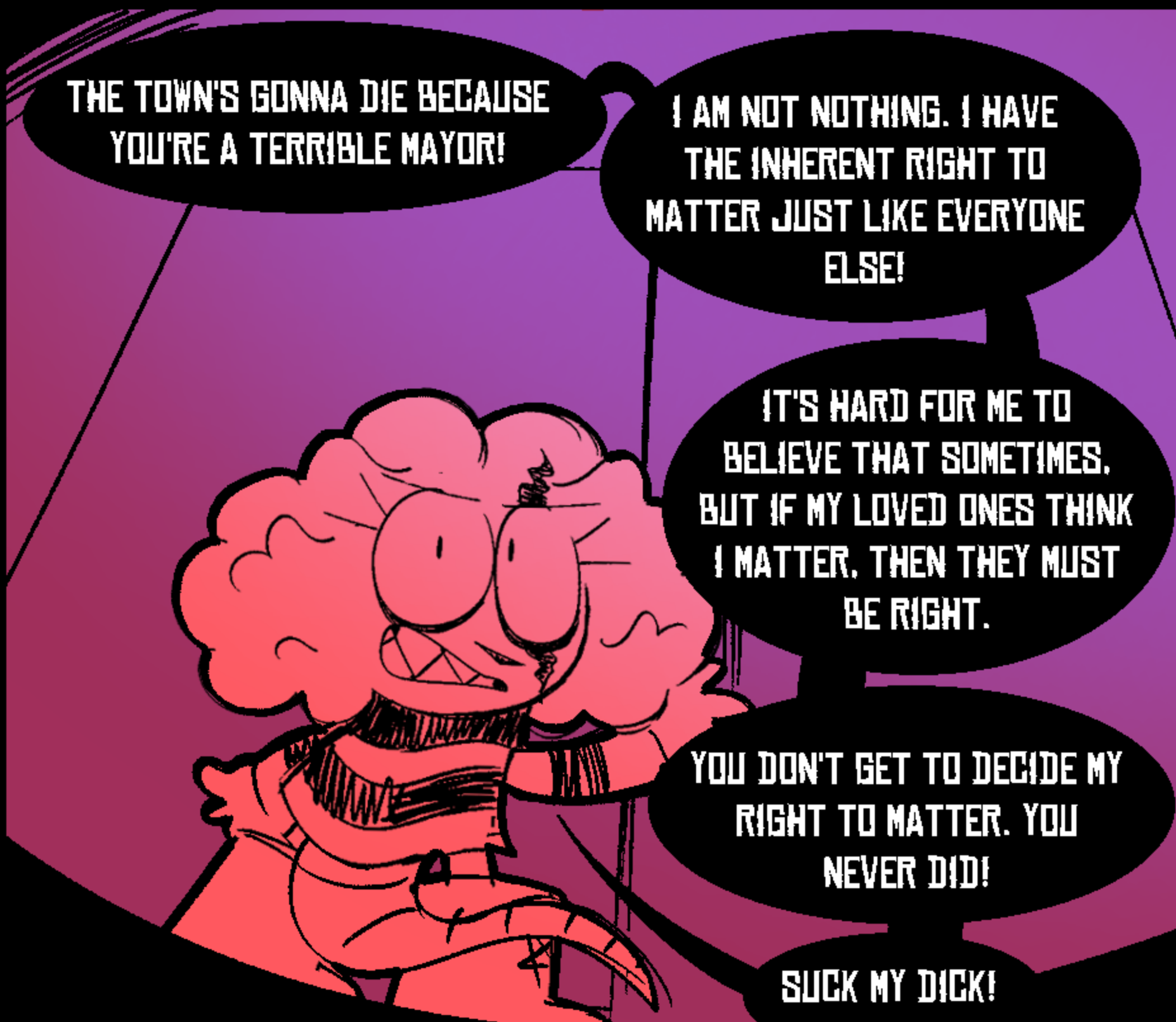
RINGRI!!



YOU UNGRATEFUL SHIT... I'M THE
ONLY REASON YOU MATTER!! YOU'RE
NOTHING WITHOUT ME!

I TOLD YOU I WAS
GONNA DO THAT.

THIS TOWN'S GONNA
DIE BECAUSE OF YOU!!



THE TOWN'S GONNA DIE BECAUSE
YOU'RE A TERRIBLE MAYOR!

I AM NOT NOTHING. I HAVE
THE INHERENT RIGHT TO
MATTER JUST LIKE EVERYONE
ELSE!

IT'S HARD FOR ME TO
BELIEVE THAT SOMETIMES,
BUT IF MY LOVED ONES THINK
I MATTER, THEN THEY MUST
BE RIGHT.

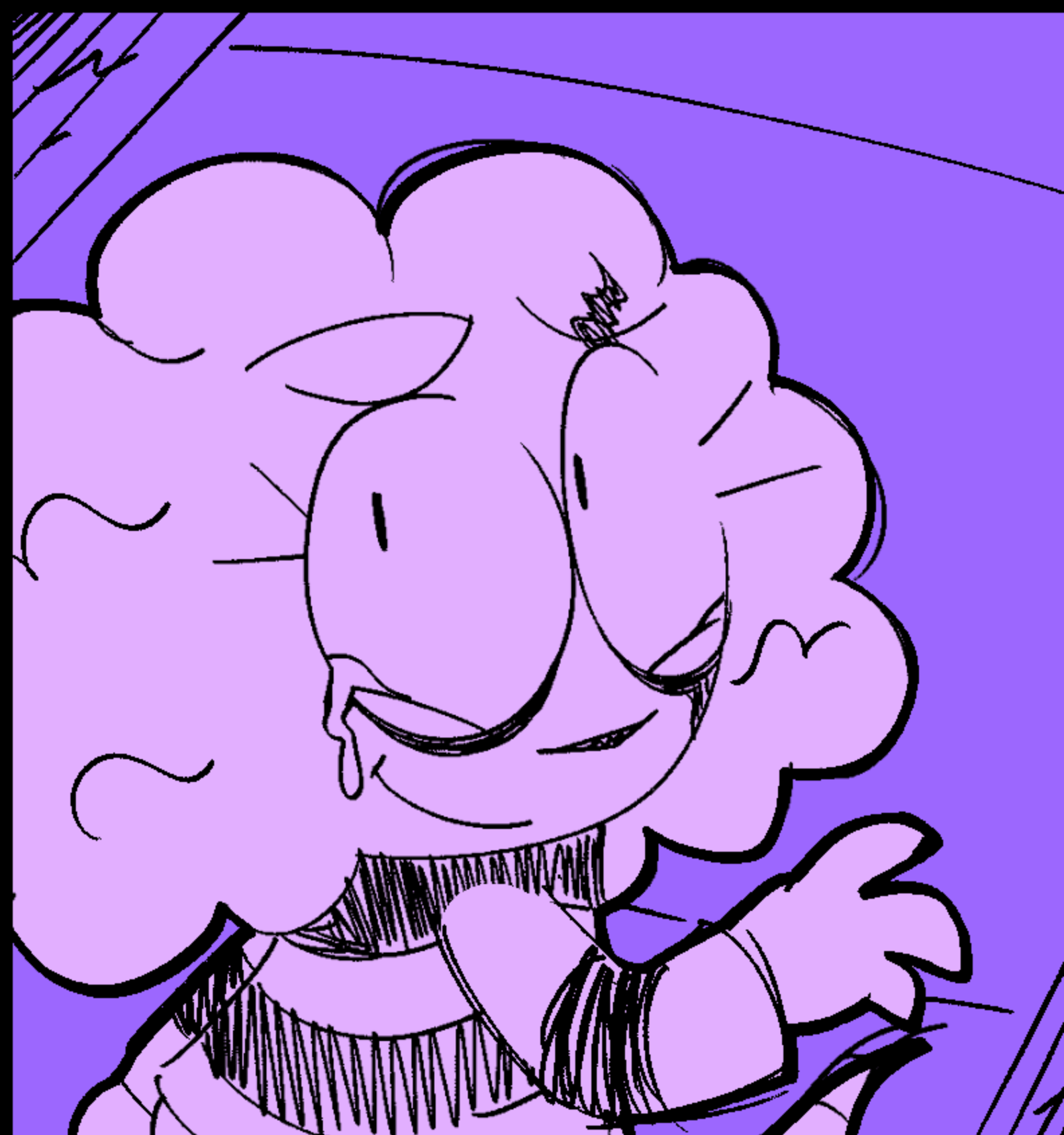
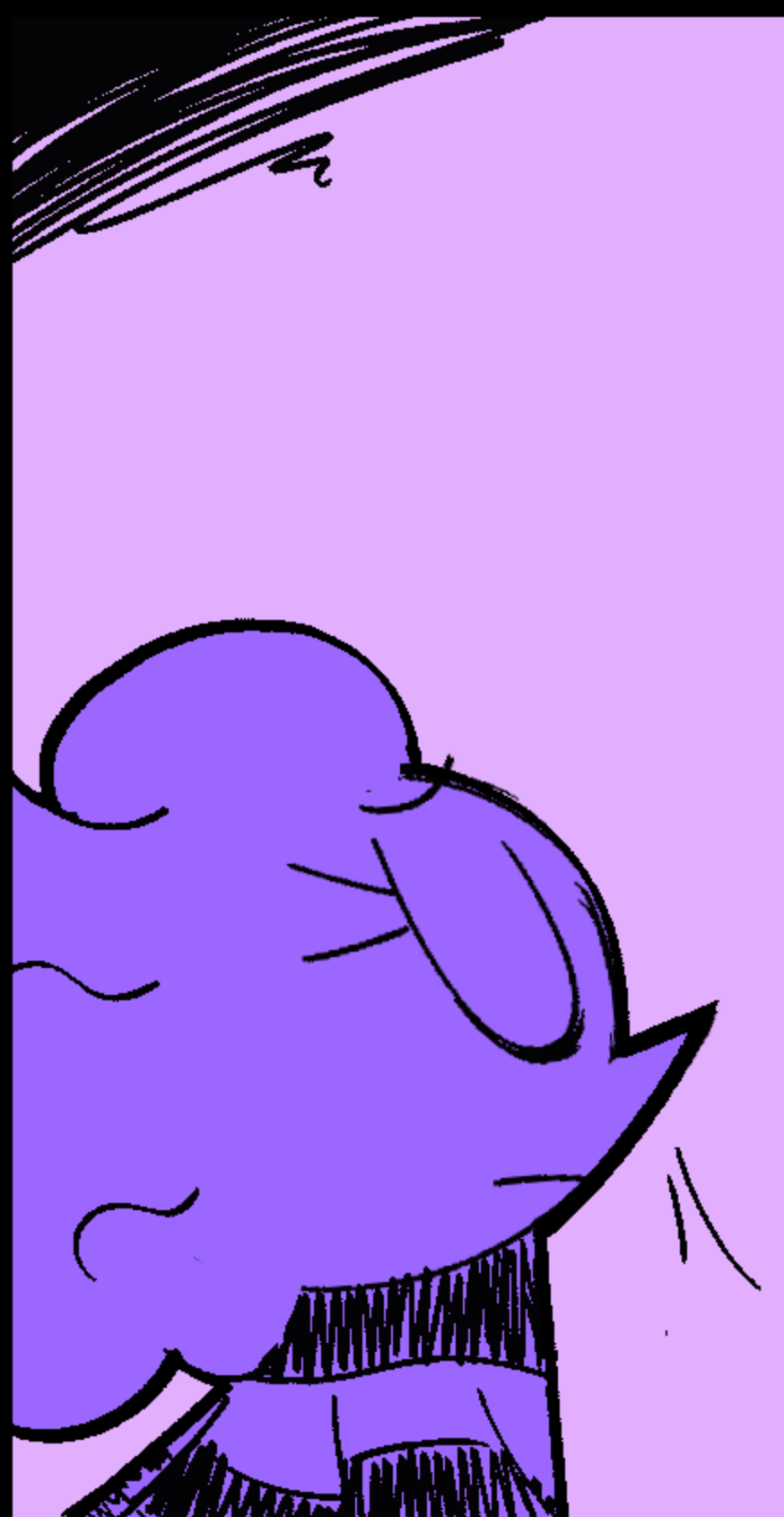
YOU DON'T GET TO DECIDE MY
RIGHT TO MATTER. YOU
NEVER DID!

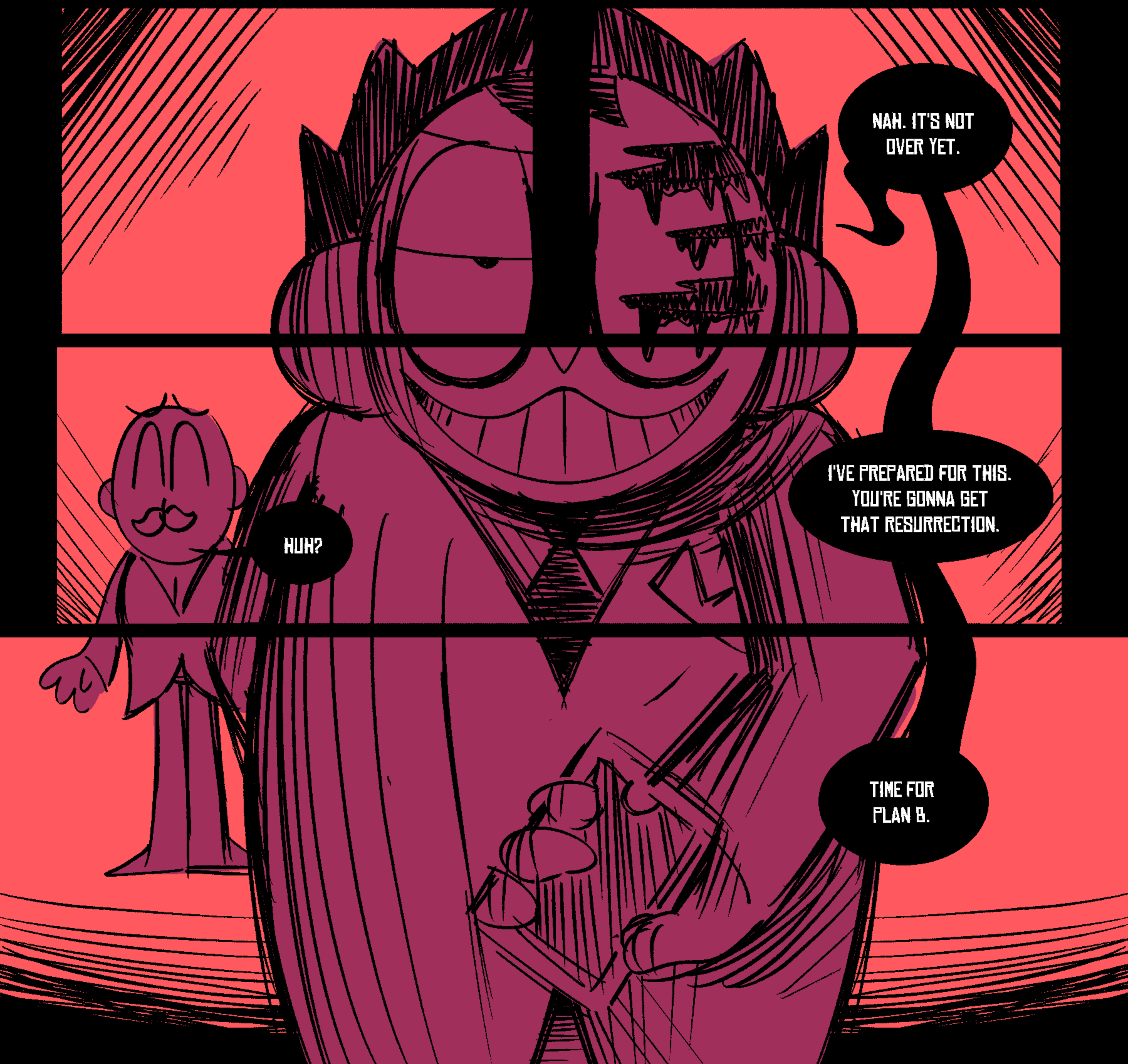
SUCK MY DICK!



YOU SHITHEAD!! I'LL SUE
YOU! I'LL TELL EVERYONE
YOU ASSAULTED ME!!

I'LL... OWW... GOD...





NAH. IT'S NOT
OVER YET.

HUH?

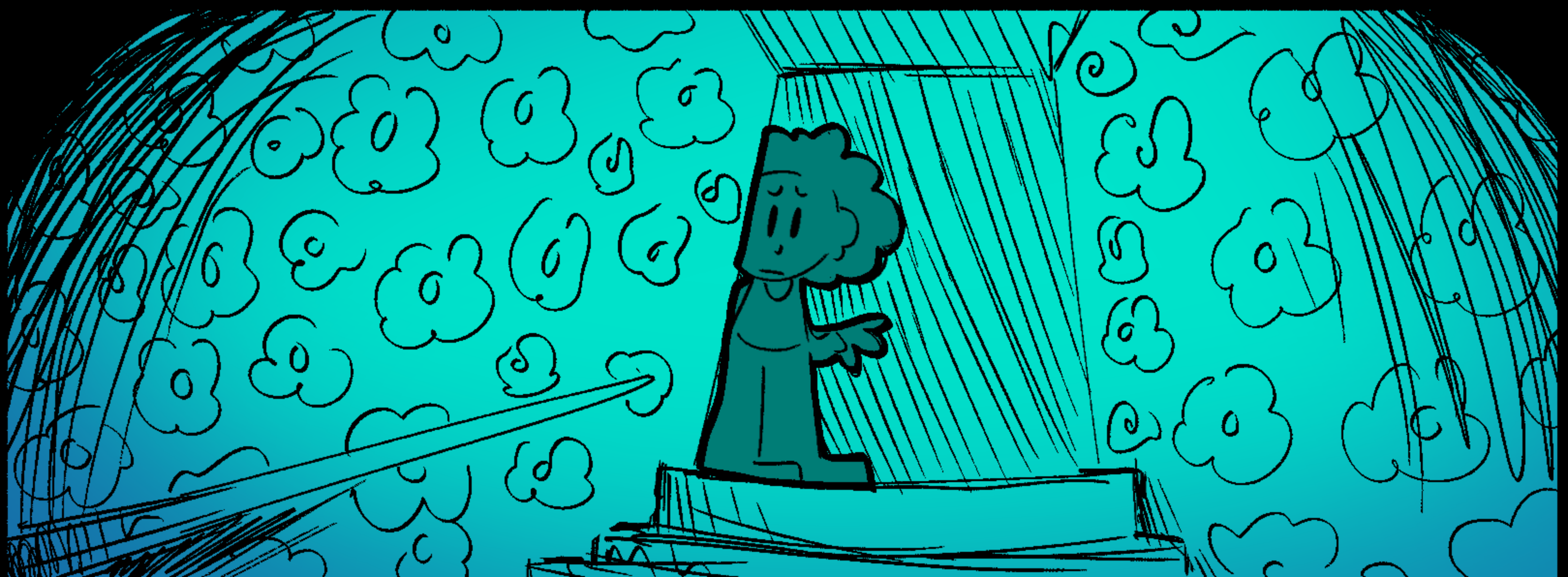
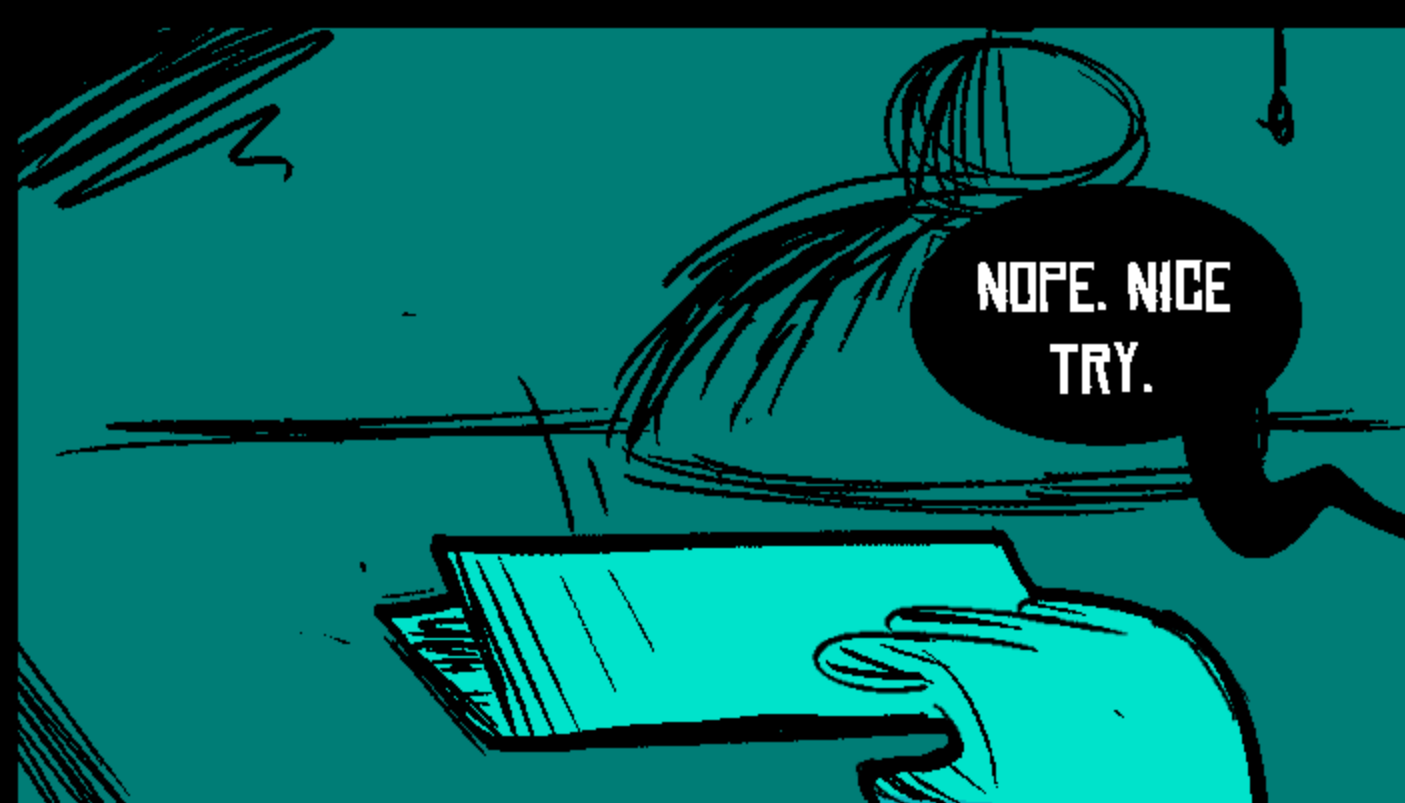
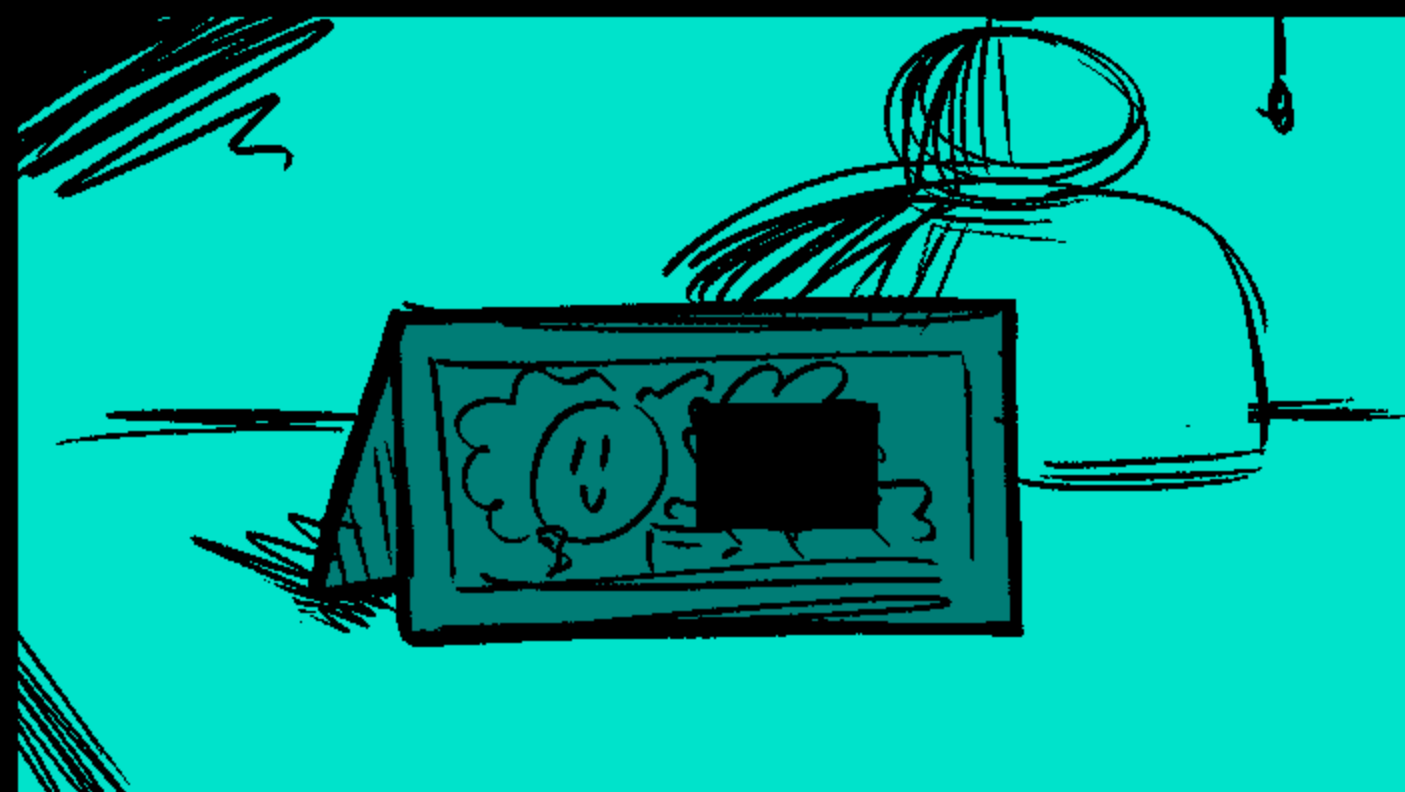
I'VE PREPARED FOR THIS.
YOU'RE GONNA GET
THAT RESURRECTION.

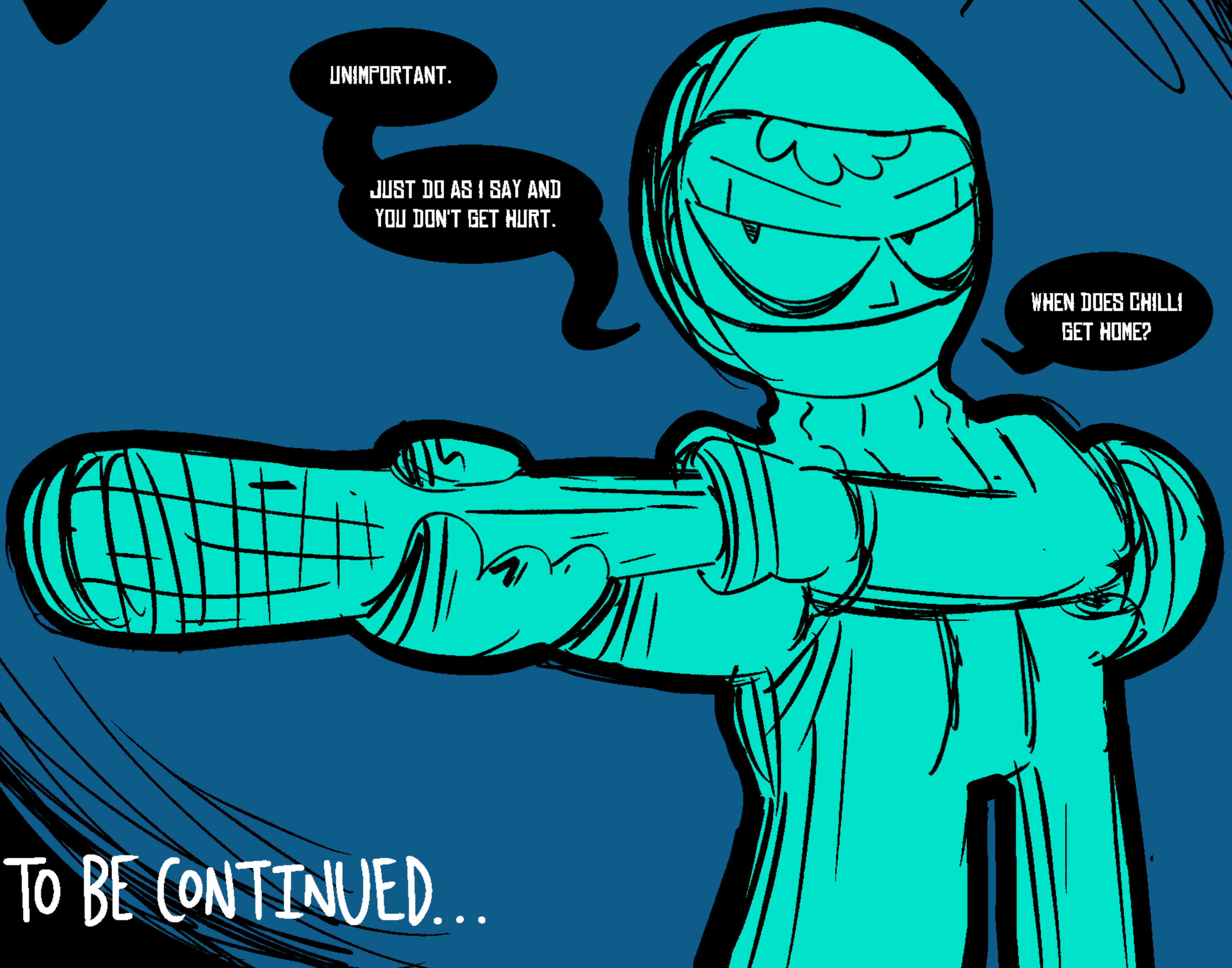
TIME FOR
PLAN B.



WELL THANKS FOR CALLING.
LILY! IT'S BEEN NICE TALKING
TO YOU!

YOU TOO!





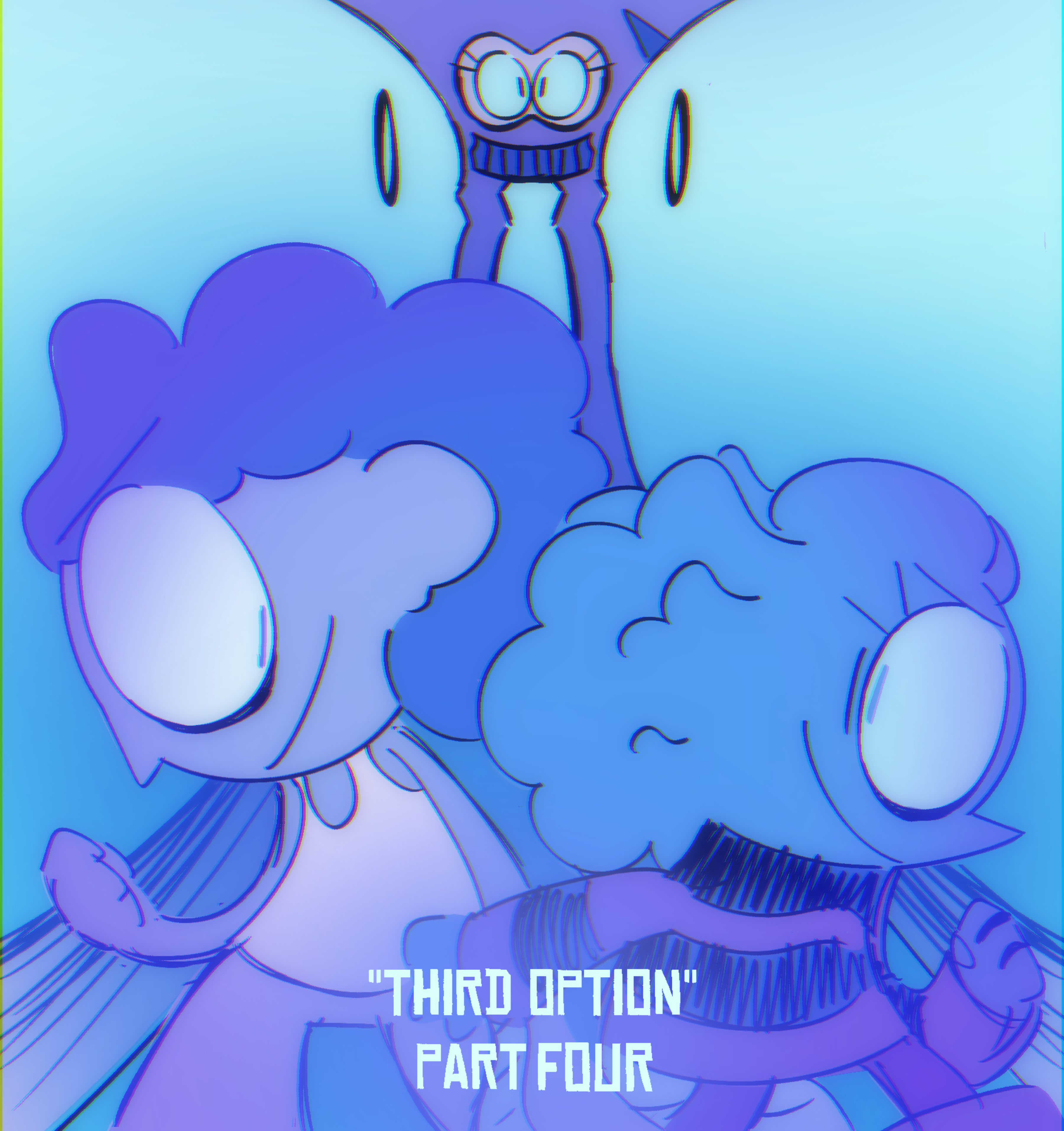
TO BE CONTINUED...



#16

CHILLI

THE VAMPIRE OPOSSUM



"THIRD OPTION"
PART FOUR

tw:

abuse

blood

bright colors

death

existentialism

explosion

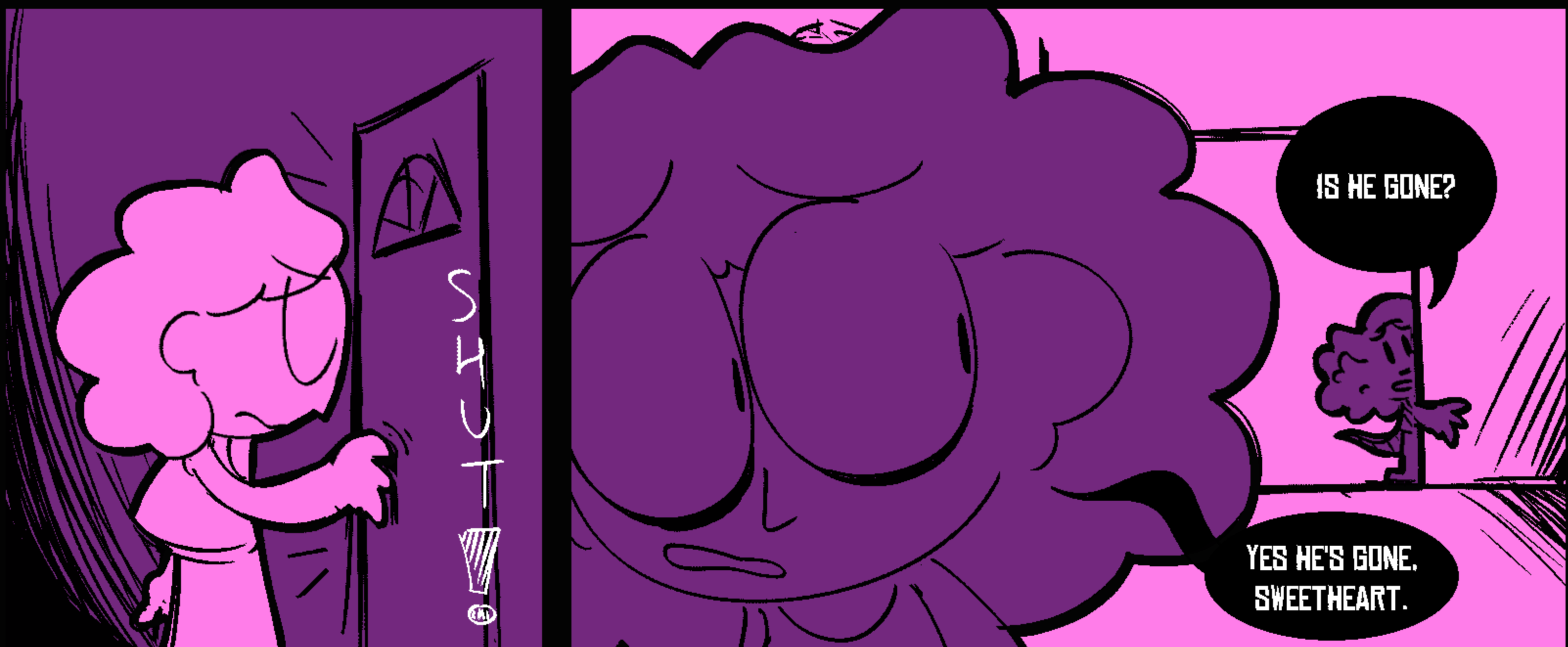
fighting

fire

flesh

gore

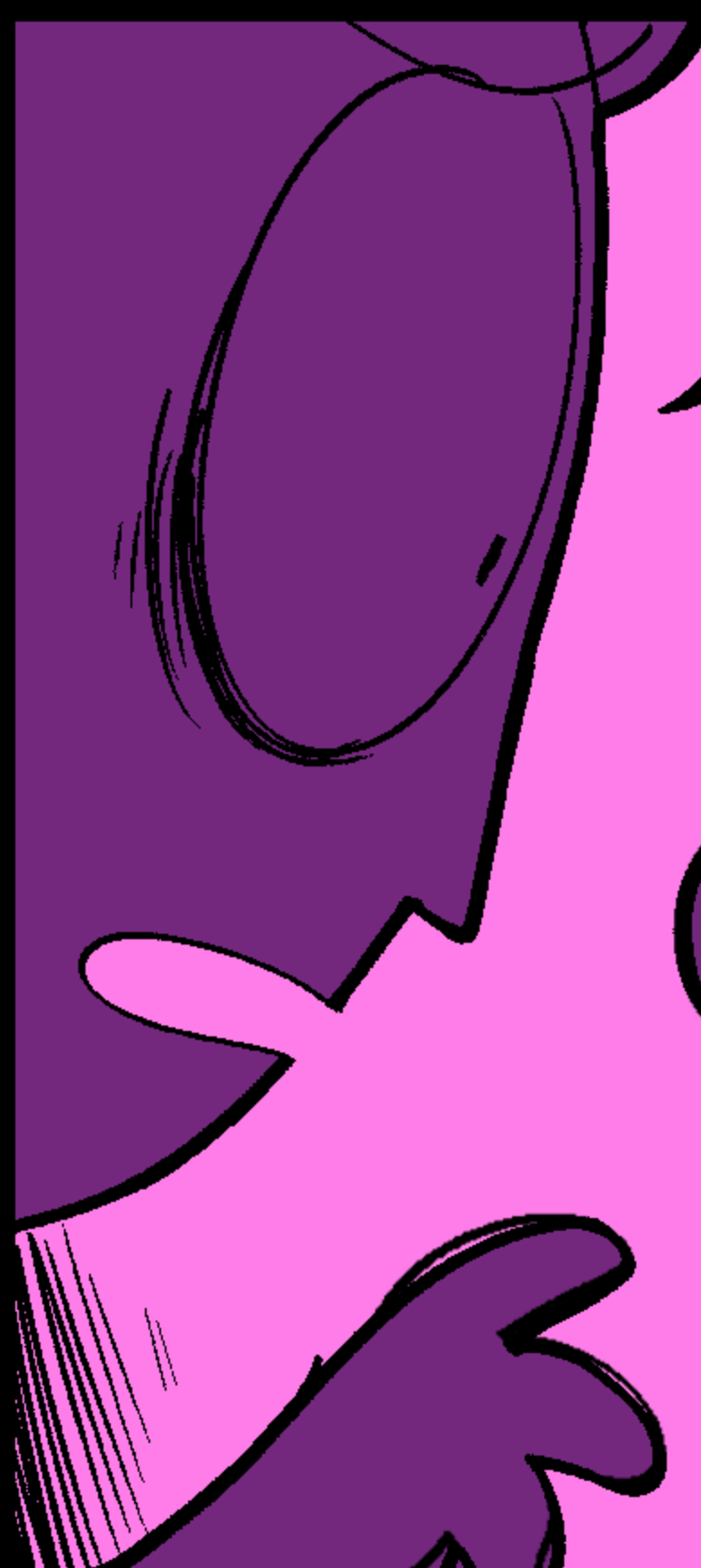
teeth





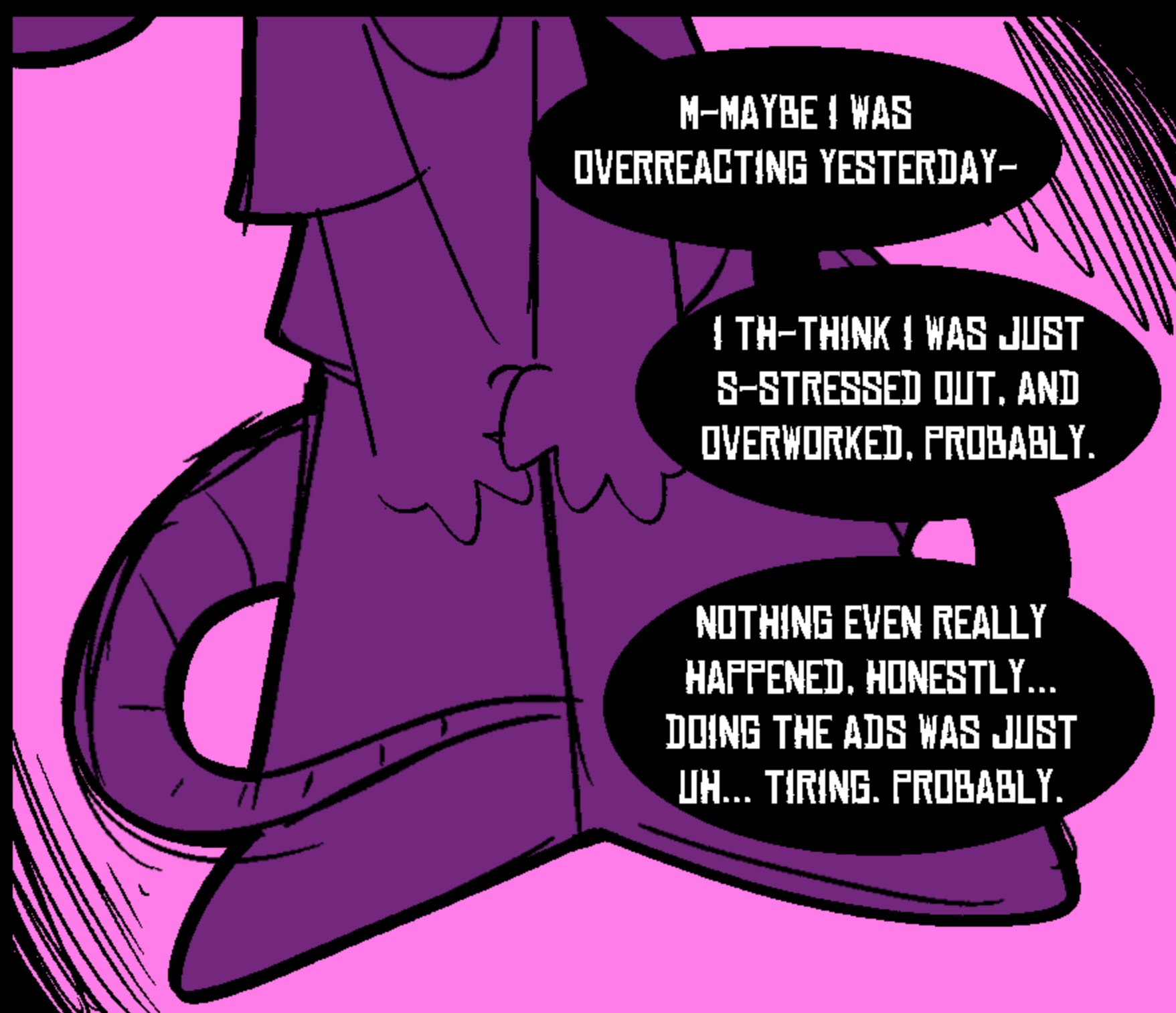
SO UH... DO YOU WANNA...
TALK ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED?

UHHHH...



THE MAYOR DIDN'T UH.... TRY TO...
TOUCH YOU, OR ANYTHING, RIGHT?

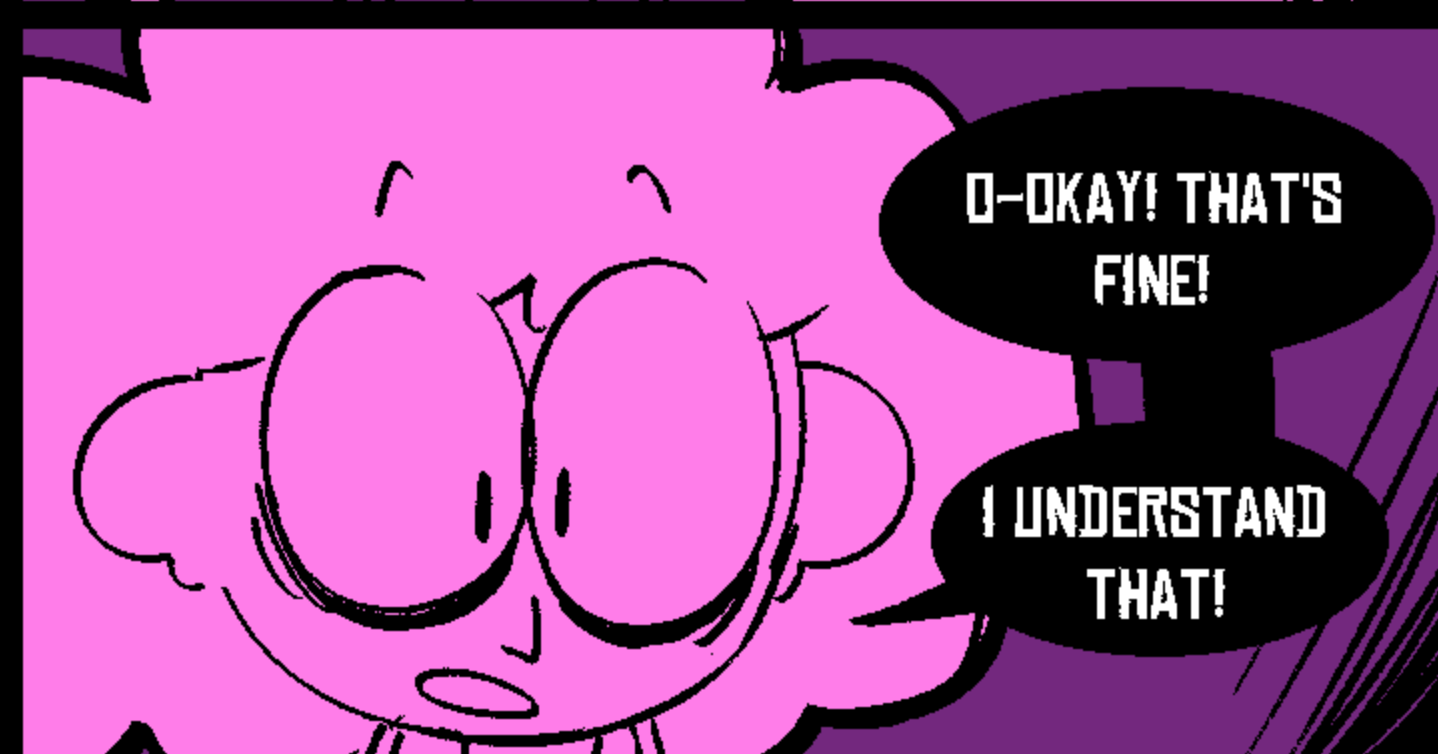
OH NO NO, N- NOTHING
LIKE THAT!



M-MAYBE I WAS
OVERREACTING YESTERDAY-

I TH-THINK I WAS JUST
S-STRESSED OUT, AND
OVERWORKED, PROBABLY.

NOTHING EVEN REALLY
HAPPENED, HONESTLY...
DOING THE ADS WAS JUST
UH... TIRING, PROBABLY.



O-O-KAY! THAT'S
FINE!

I UNDERSTAND
THAT!



YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO
THE ADS ANYMORE IF YOU
DON'T WANT TO.

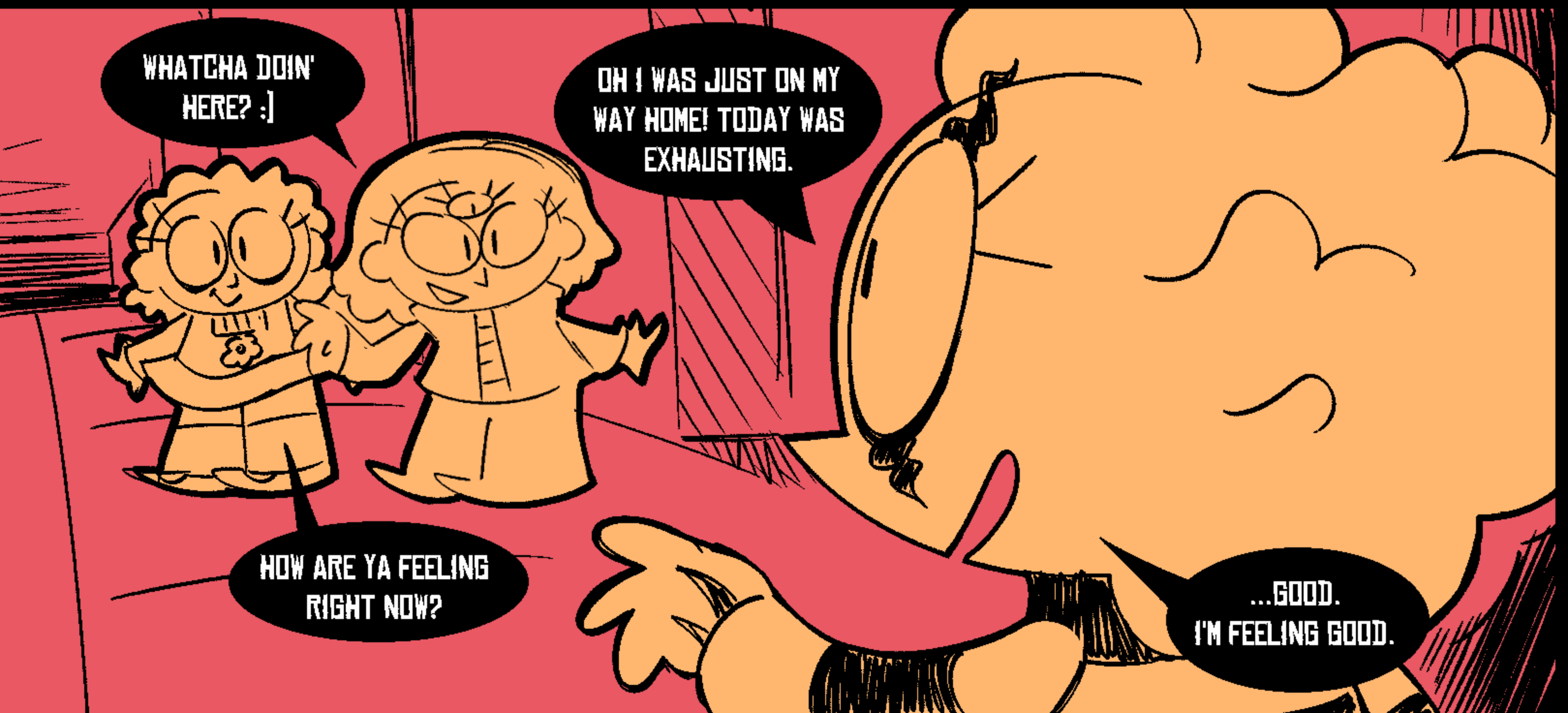
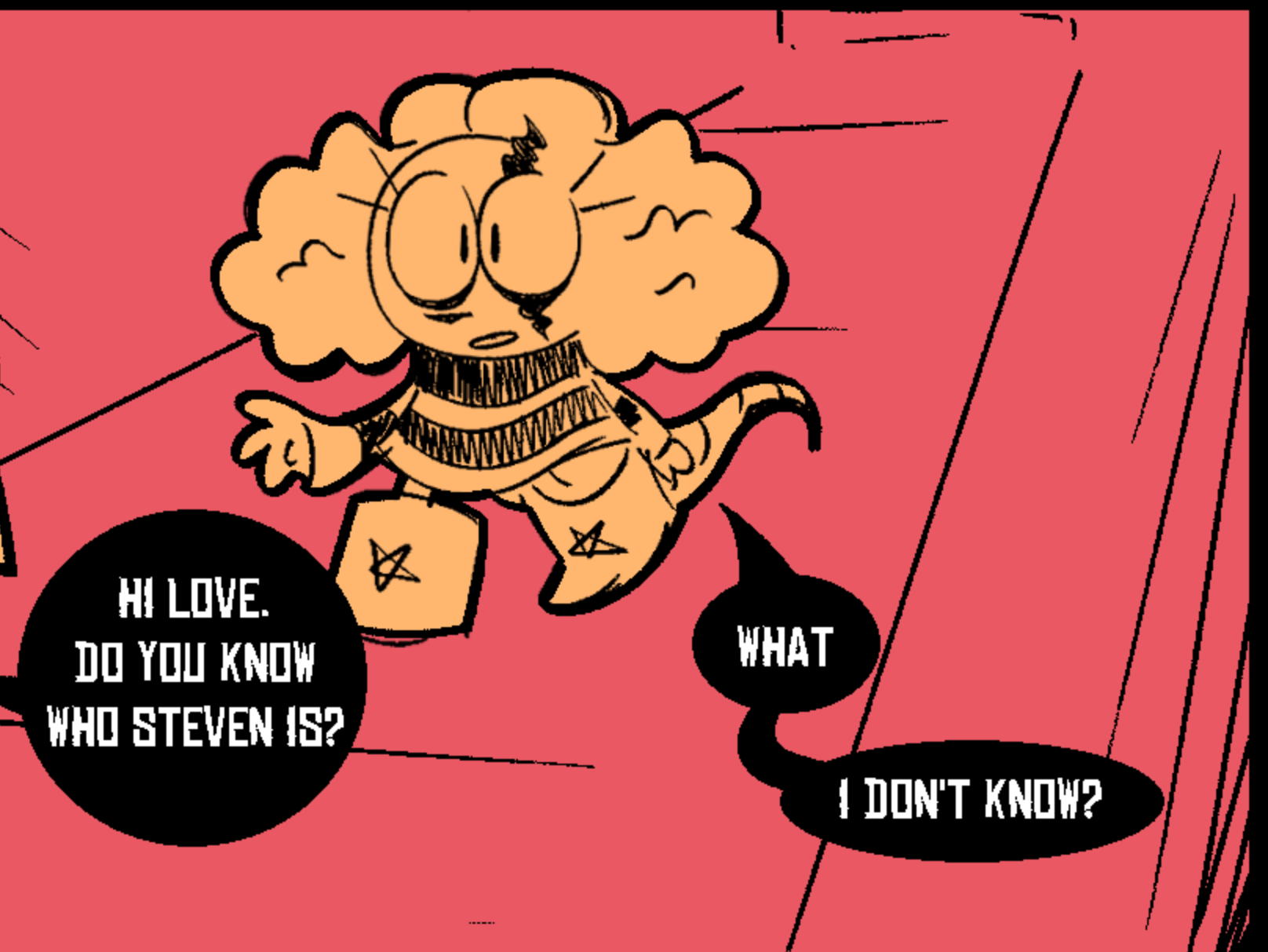
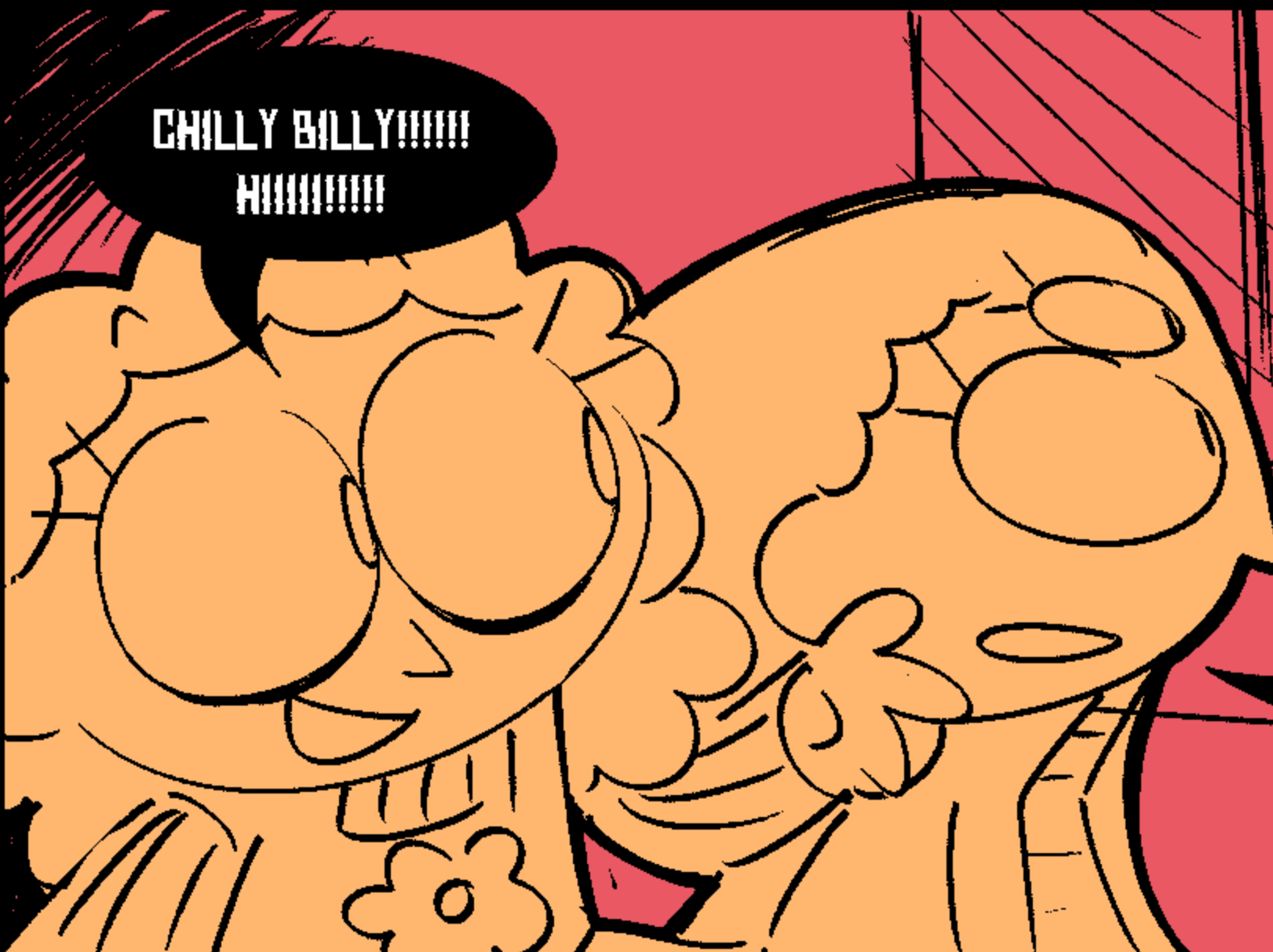
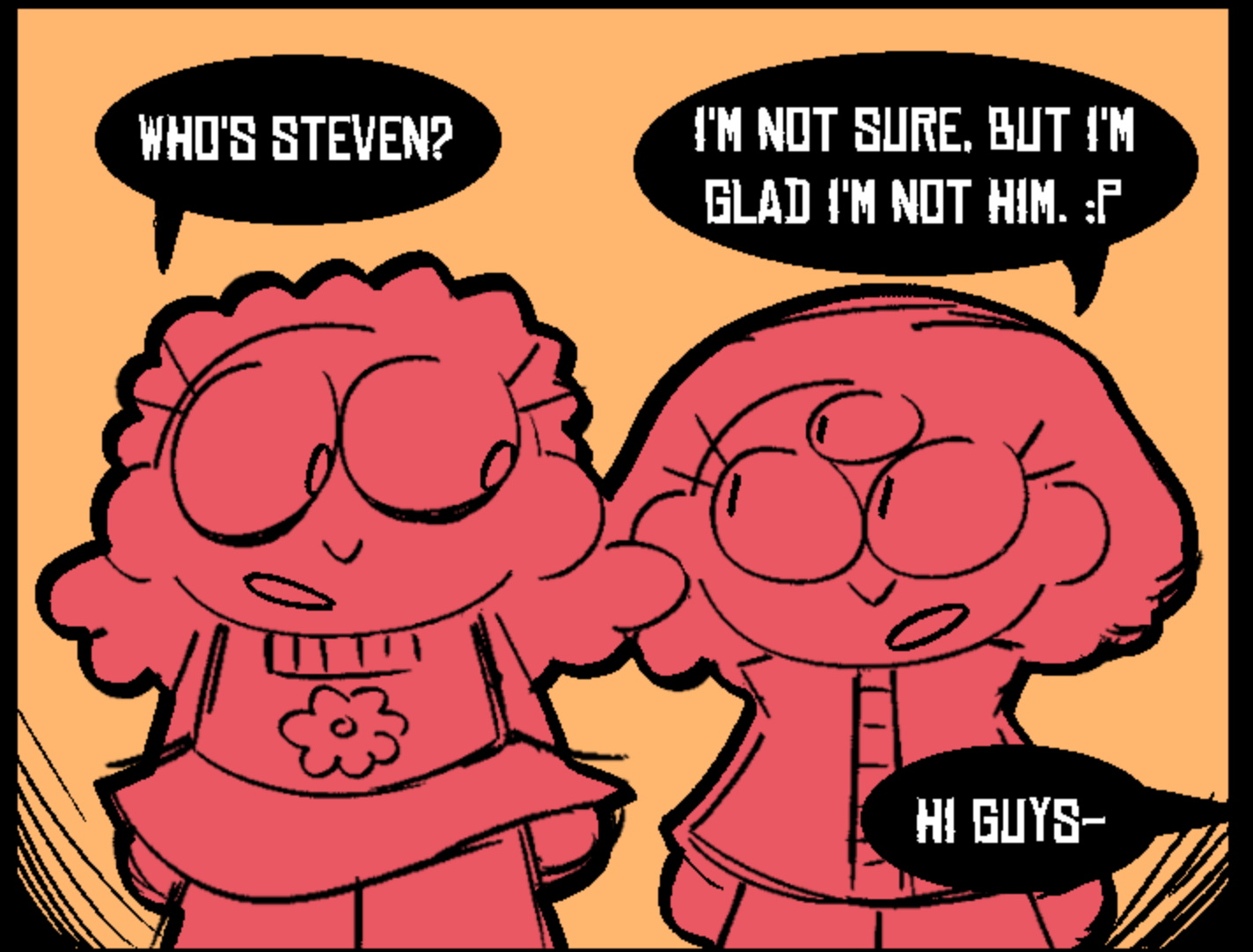
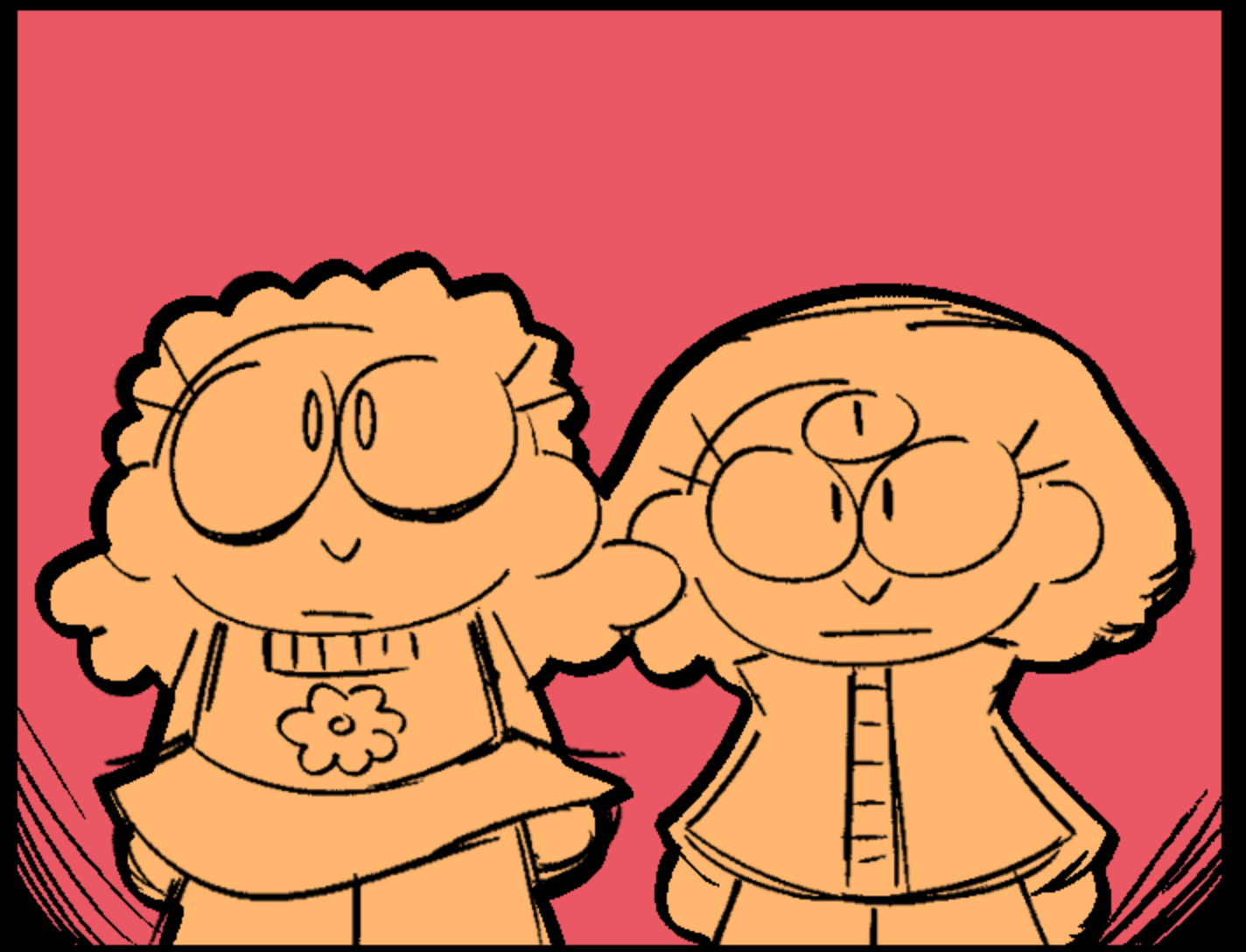
J-JUST KNOW THAT YOU'RE
ALWAYS ABLE TO TALK TO
ME IF SOMETHING'S EVER
WRONG, O-KAY?

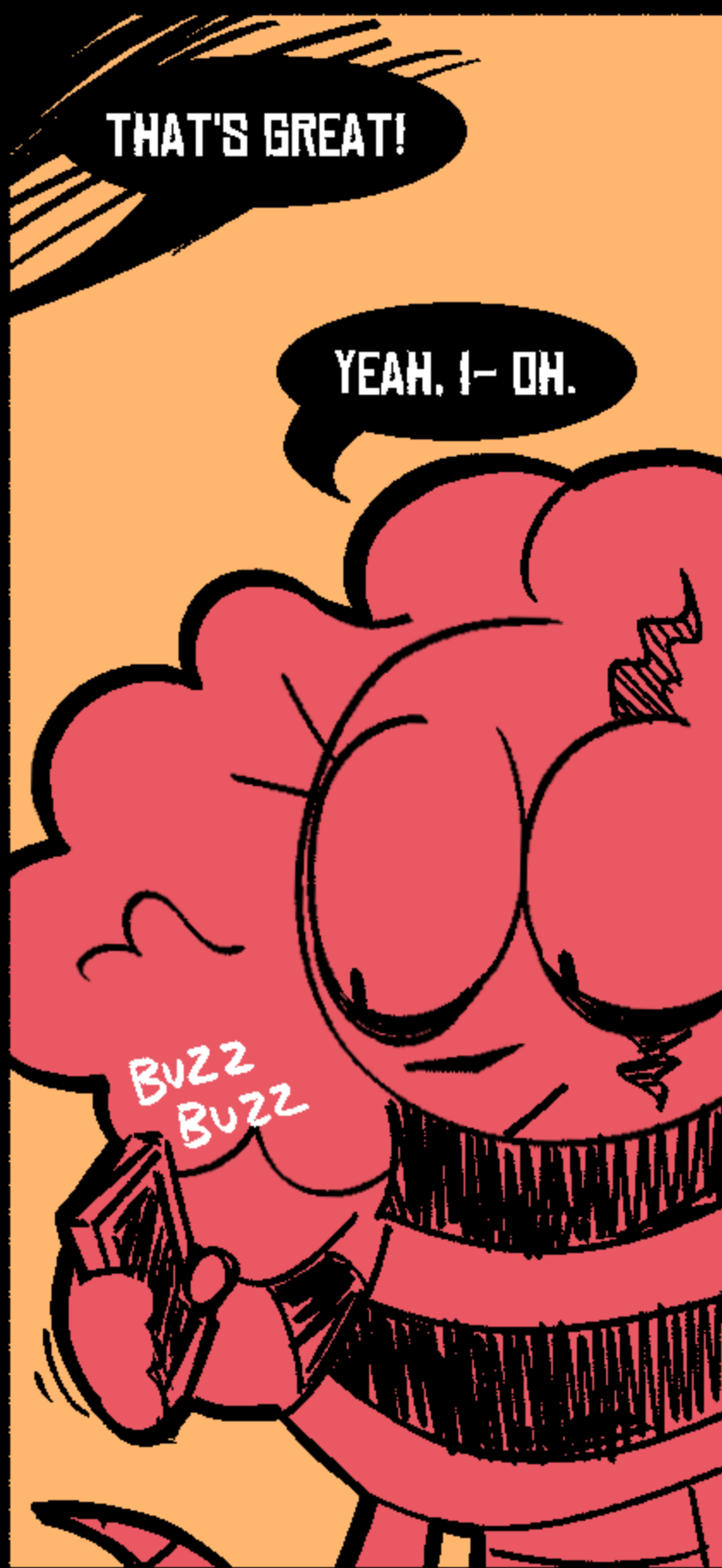
I KNOW, DAD!



ALRIGHT.
I LOVE YOU.

L-LOVE YA
TOO...

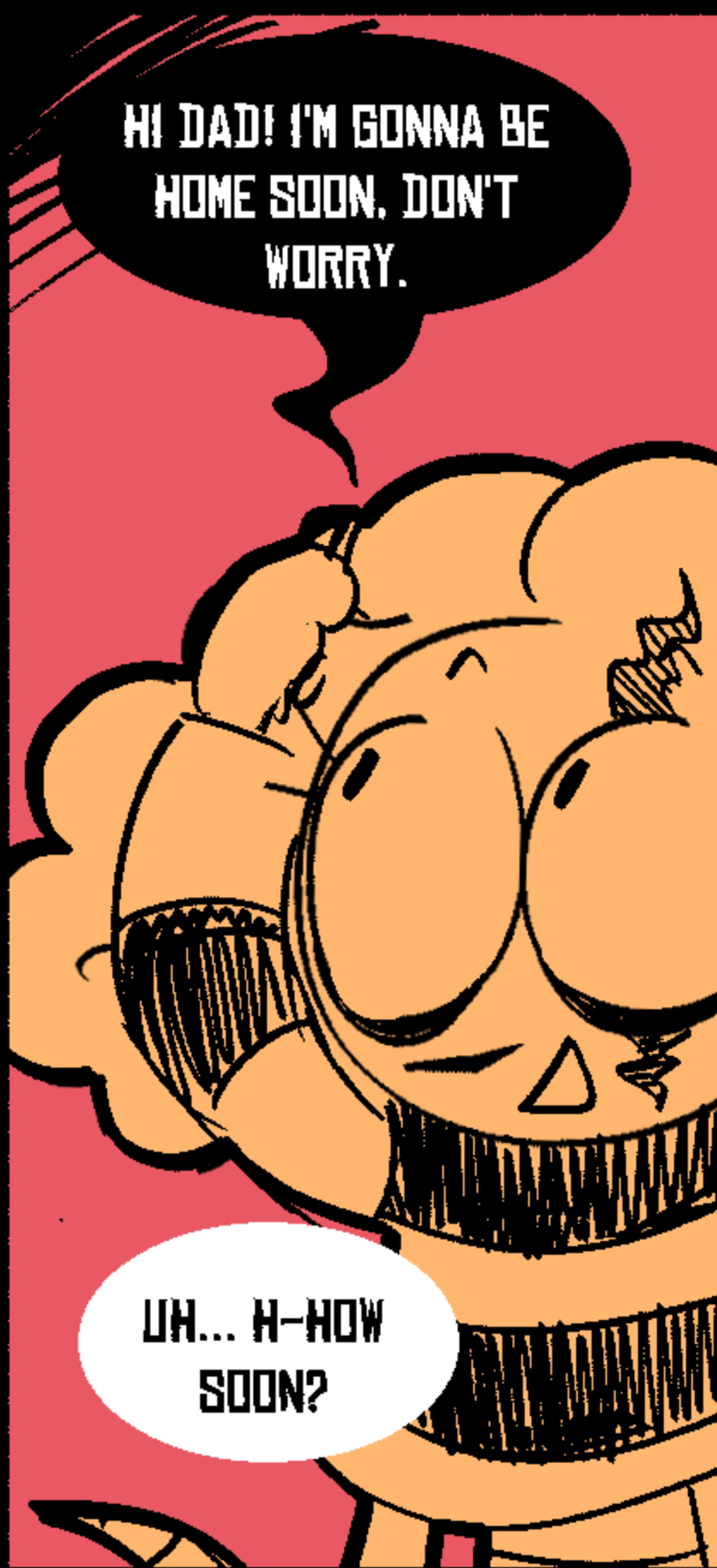




THAT'S GREAT!

YEAH. I- OH.

BUZZ
BUZZ



HI DAD! I'M GONNA BE
HOME SOON. DON'T
WORRY.

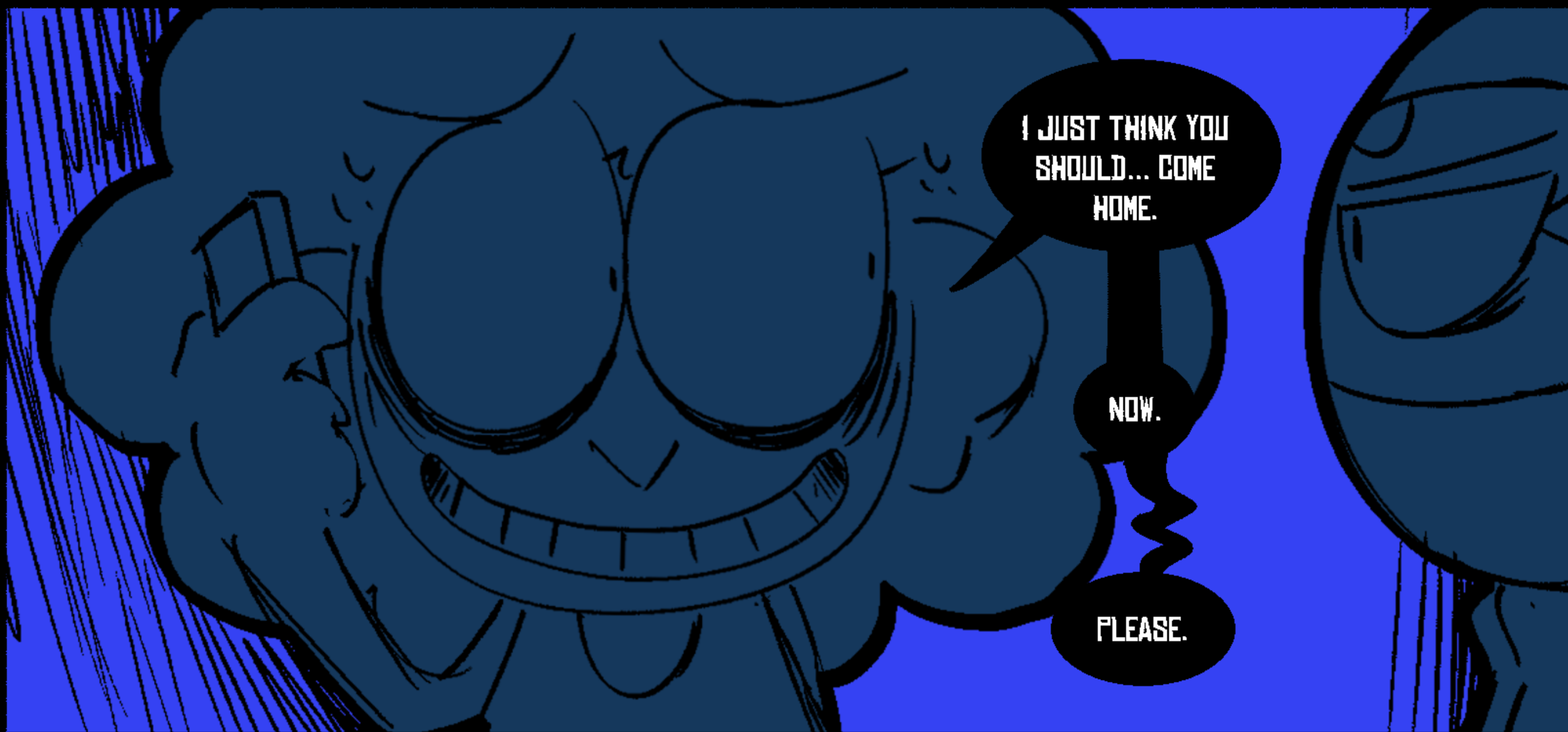
UH... H-HOW
SOON?



LIKE UH... 10 MINUTES.
MAYBE?

IS EVERYTHING
OKAY?

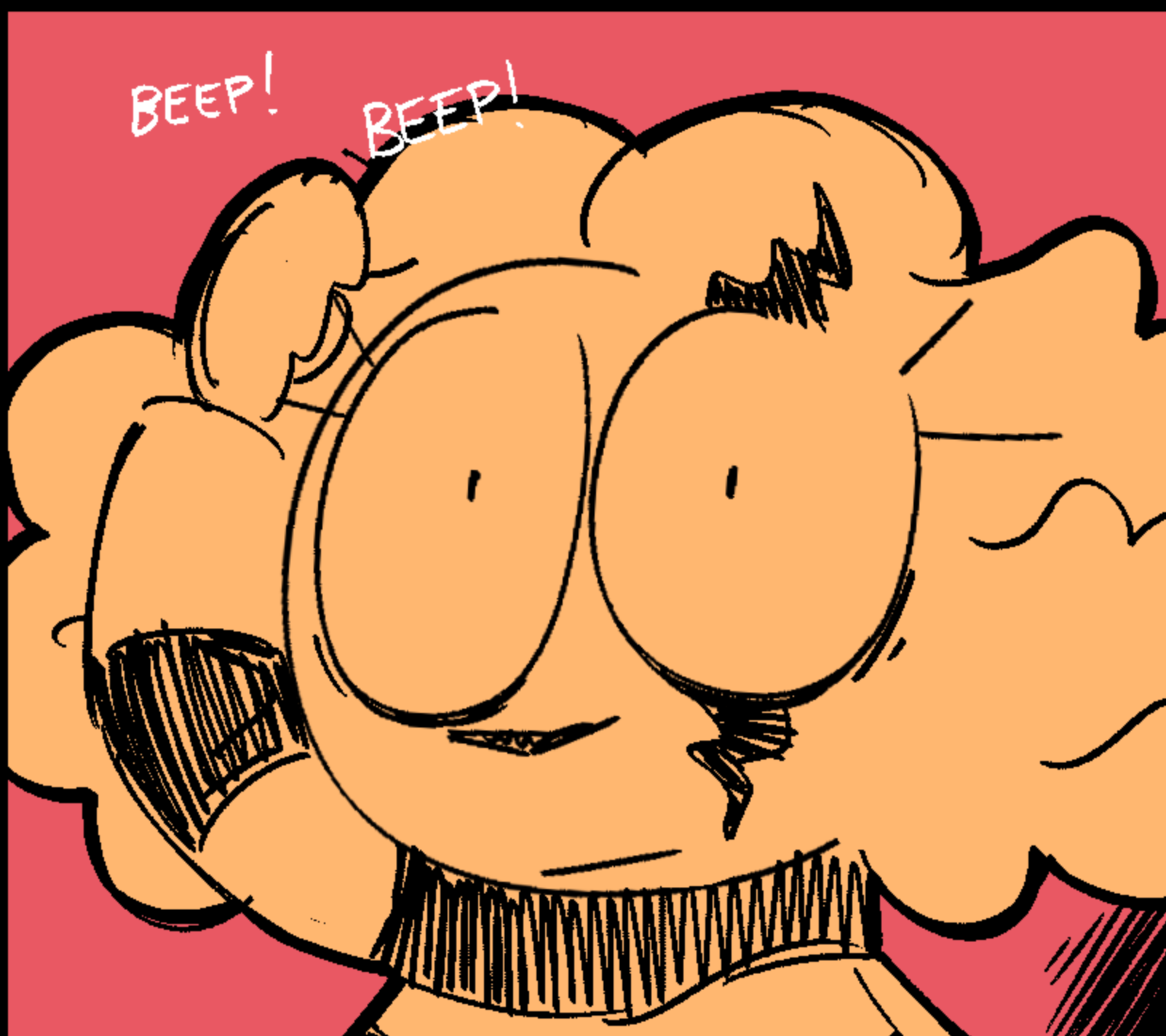
Y-YEAH. IT'S ALL
GOOD HERE. HAHA!



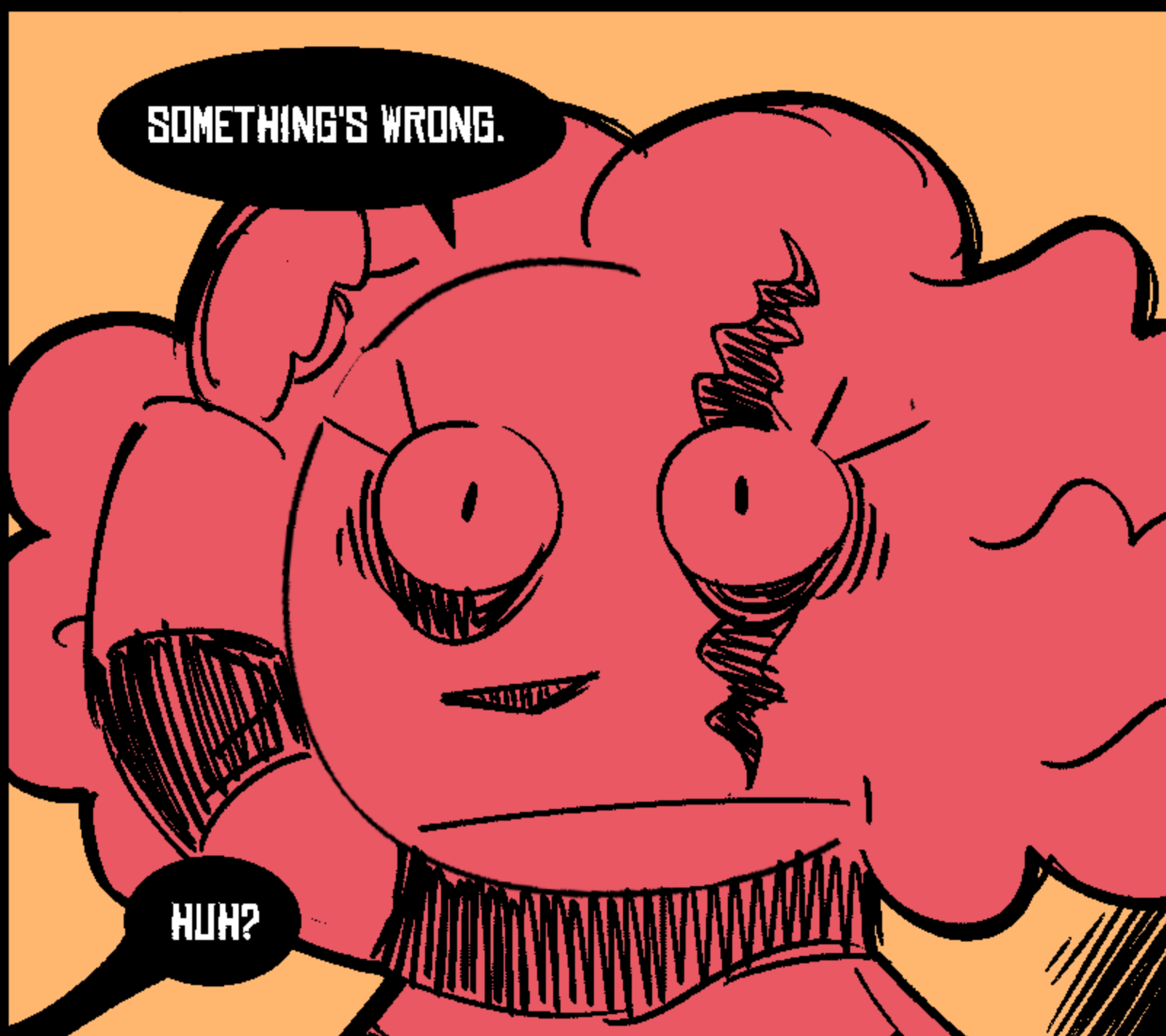
I JUST THINK YOU
SHOULD... COME
HOME.

NOW.

PLEASE.

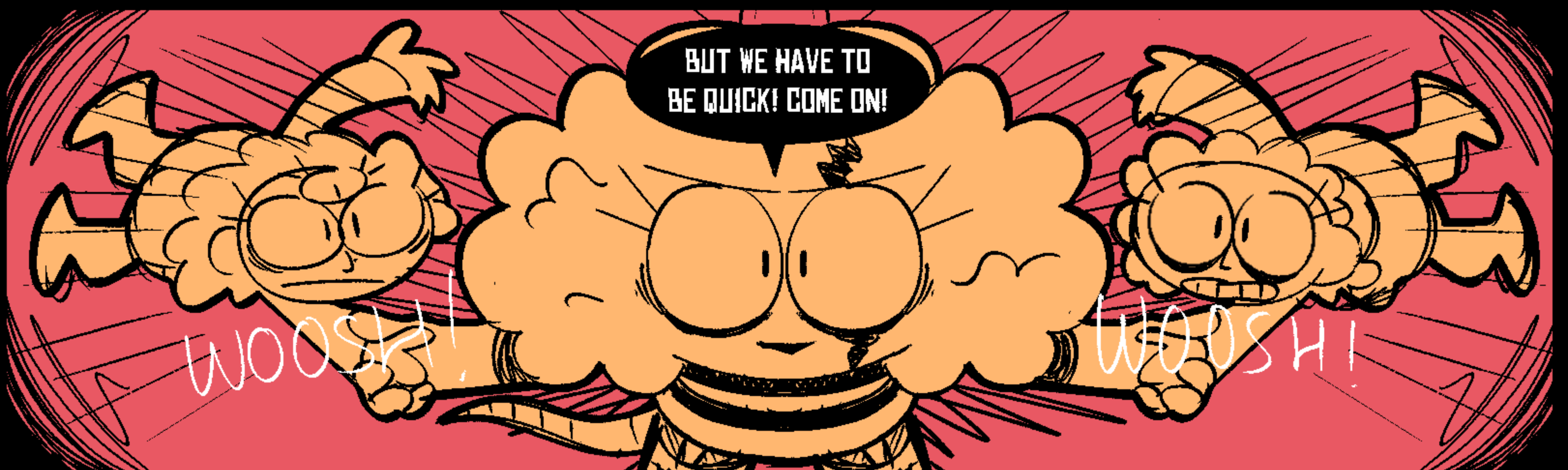
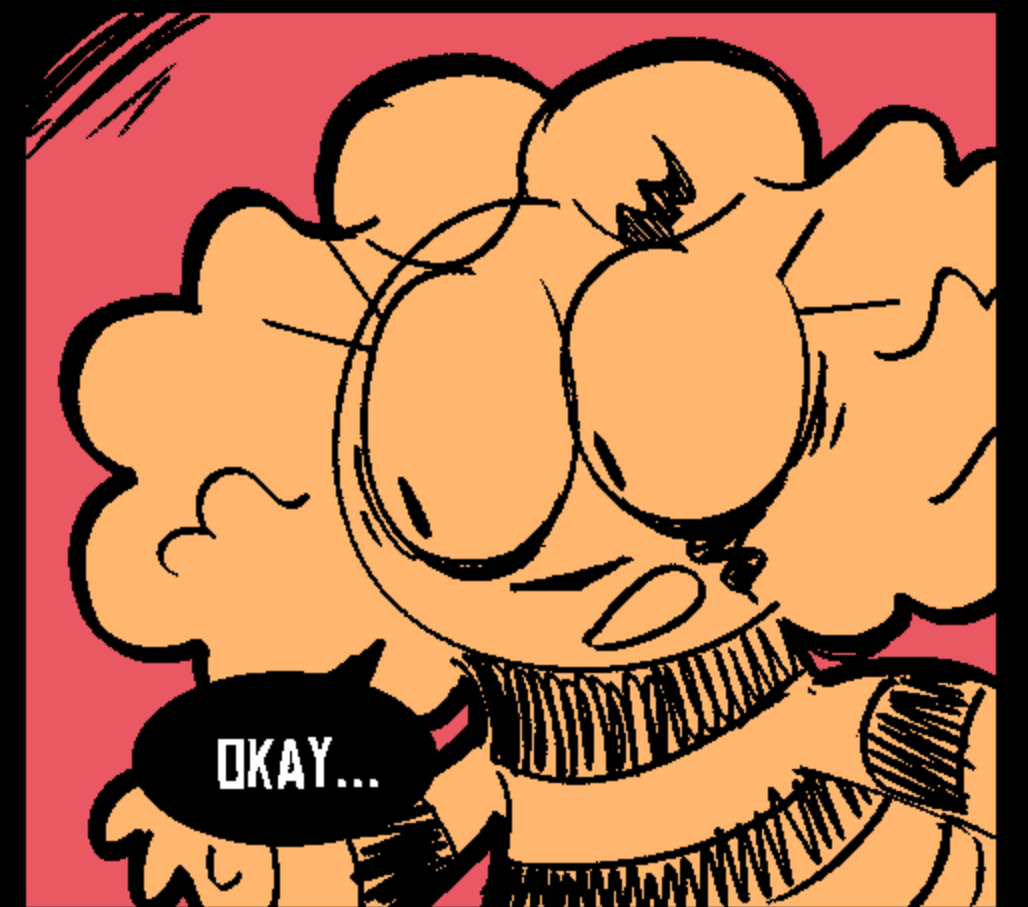
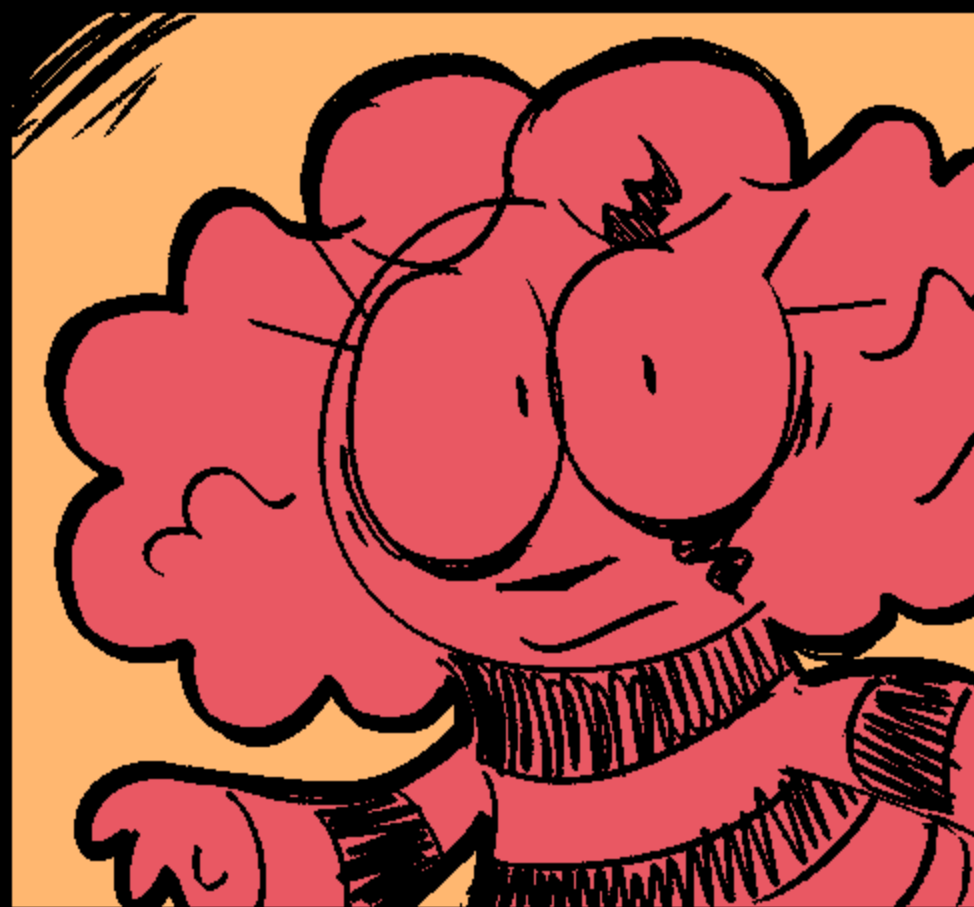
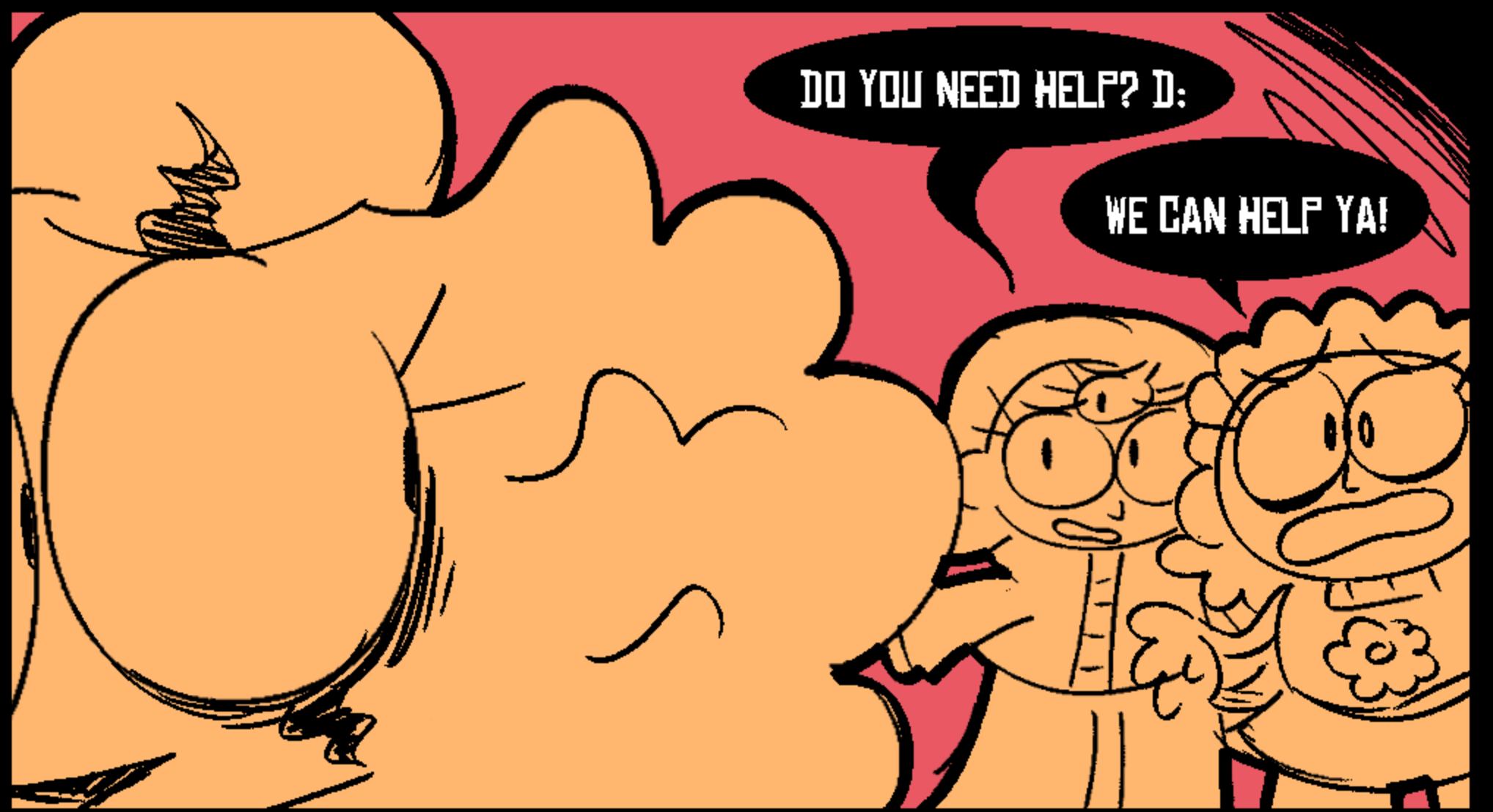
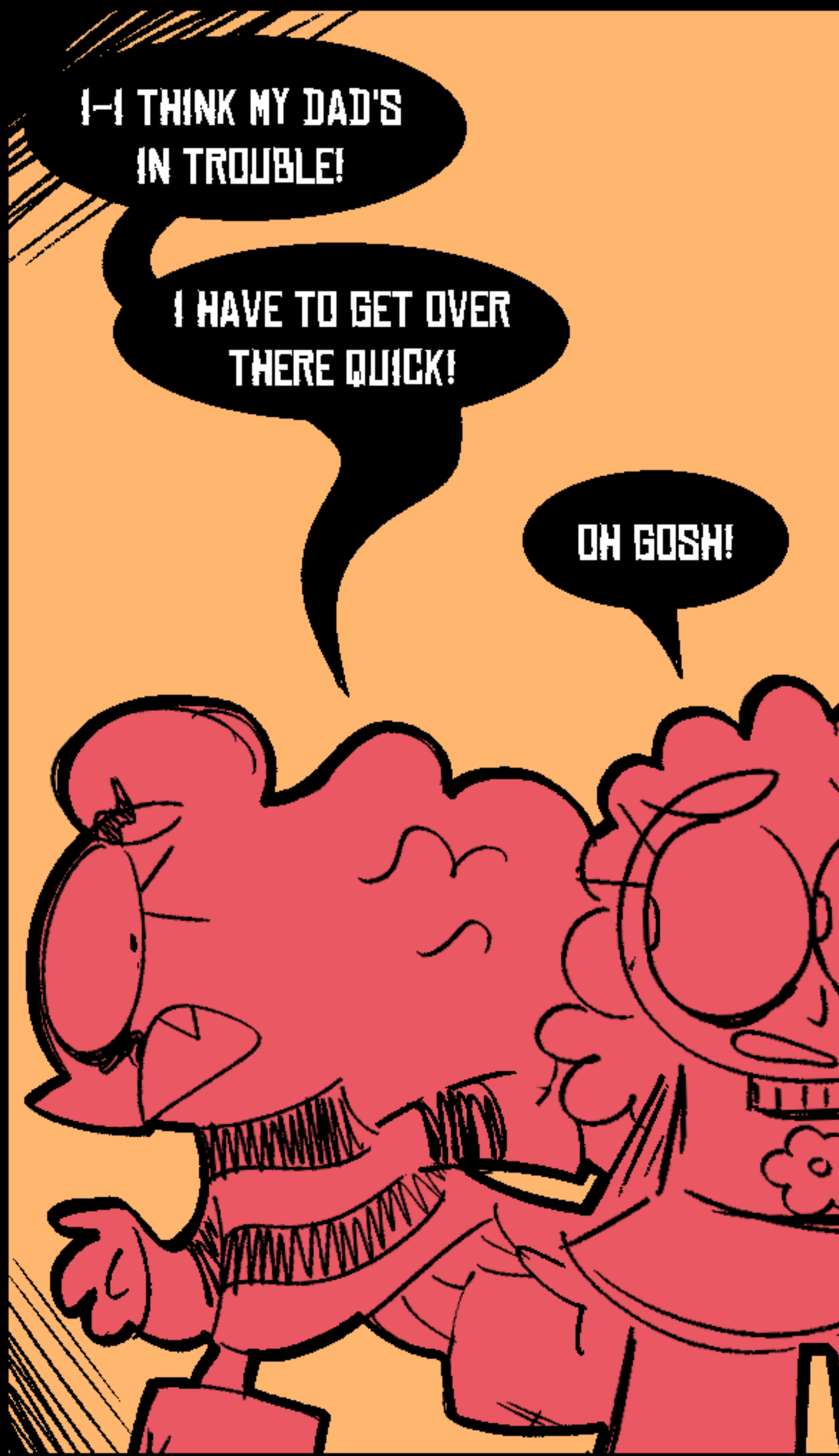


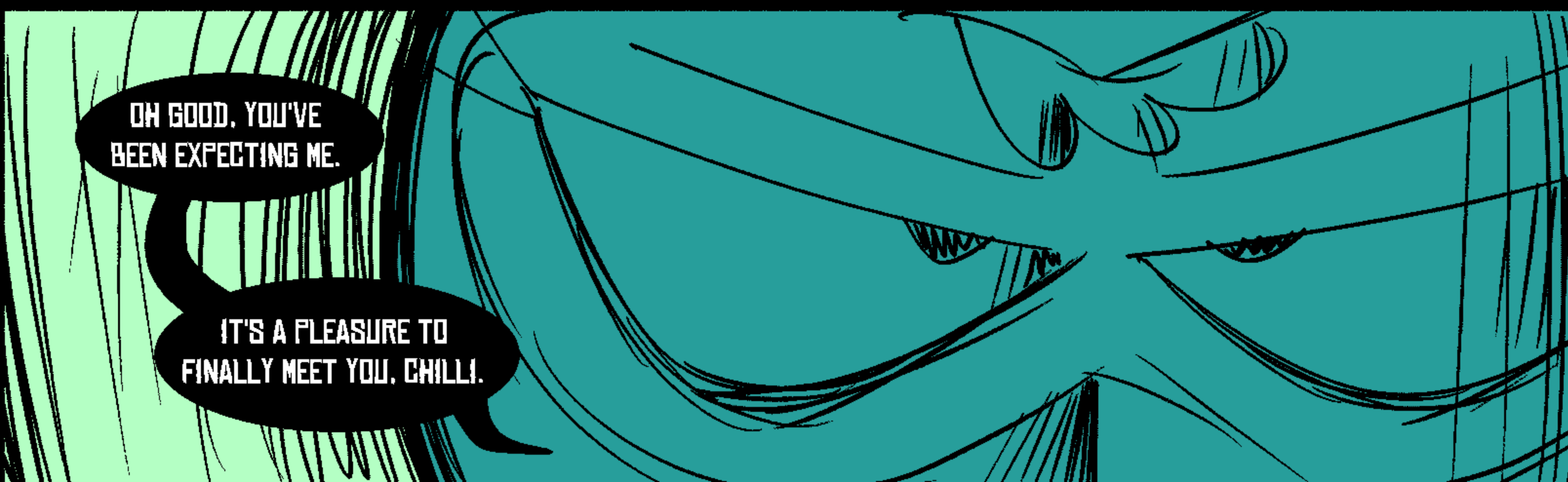
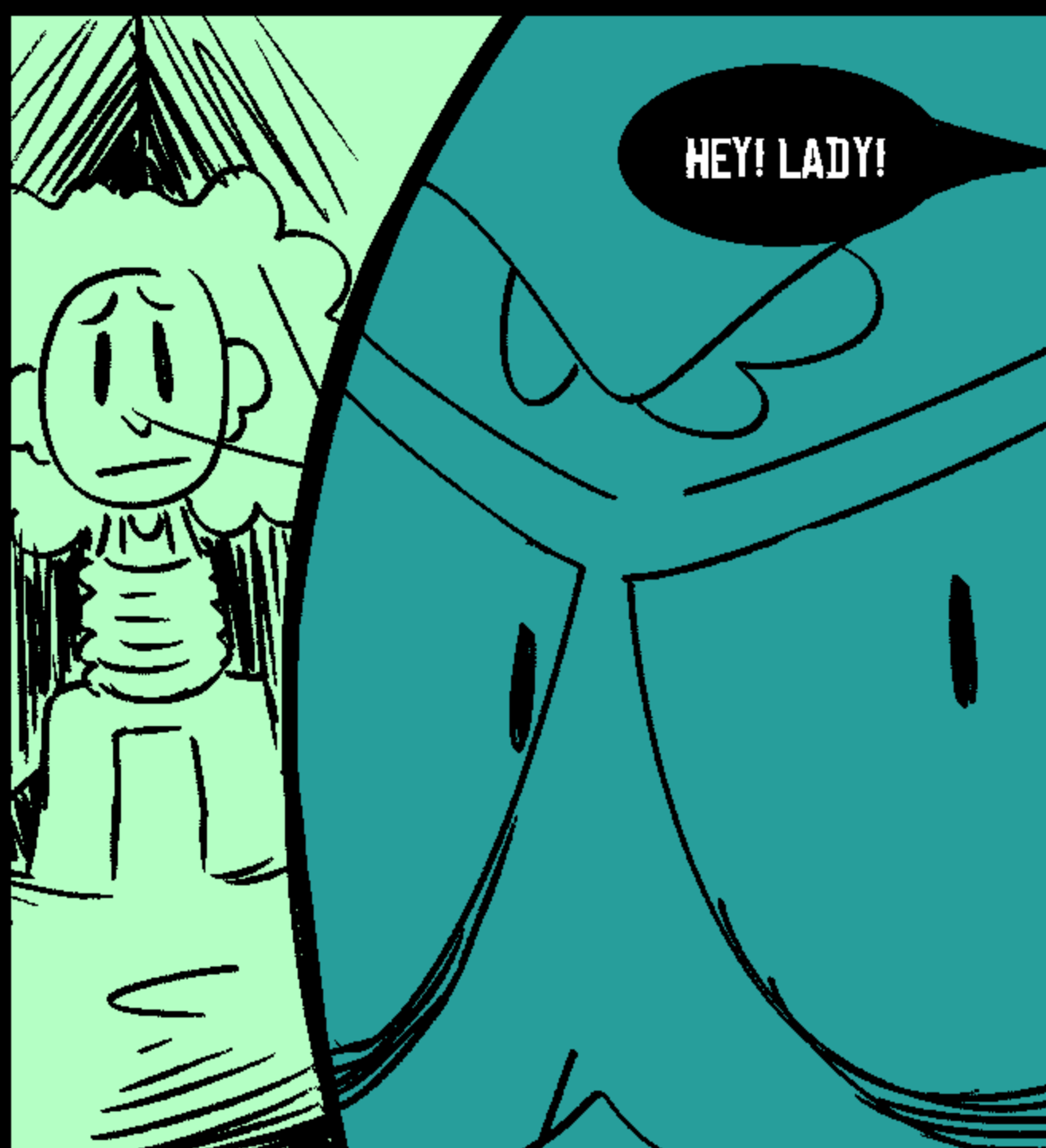
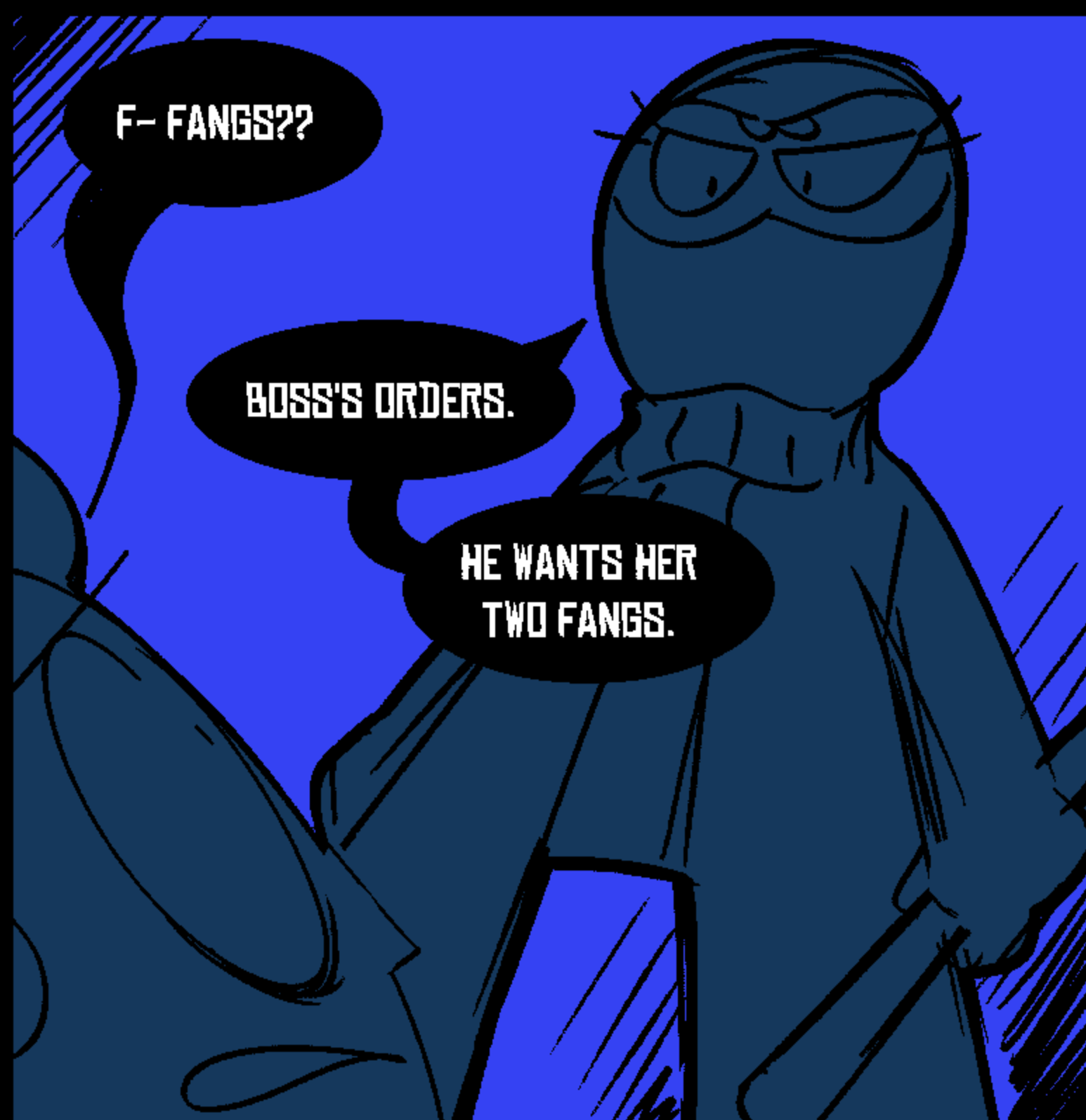
BEEP! BEEP!



SOMETHING'S WRONG.

HUH?





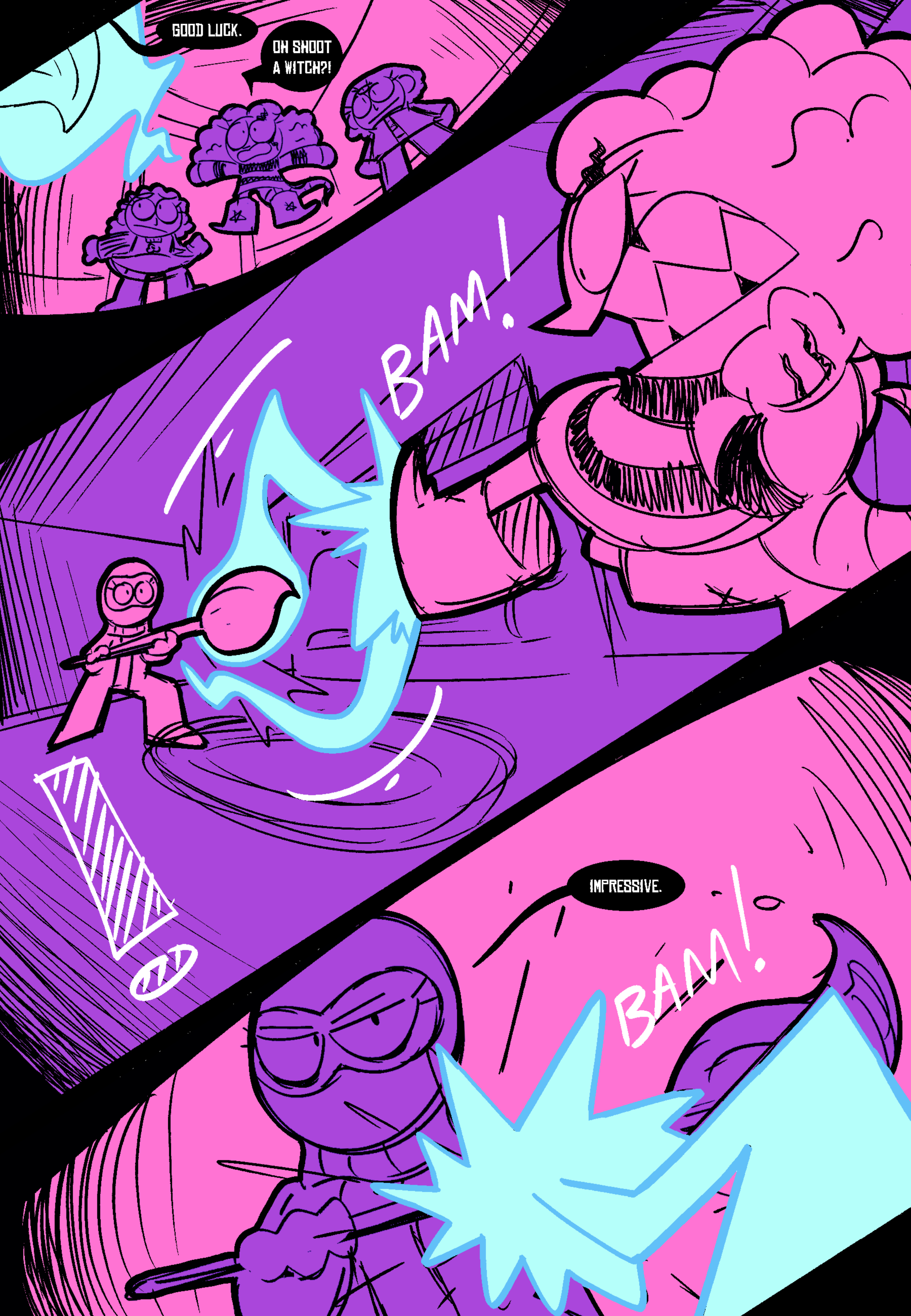
GOOD LUCK.

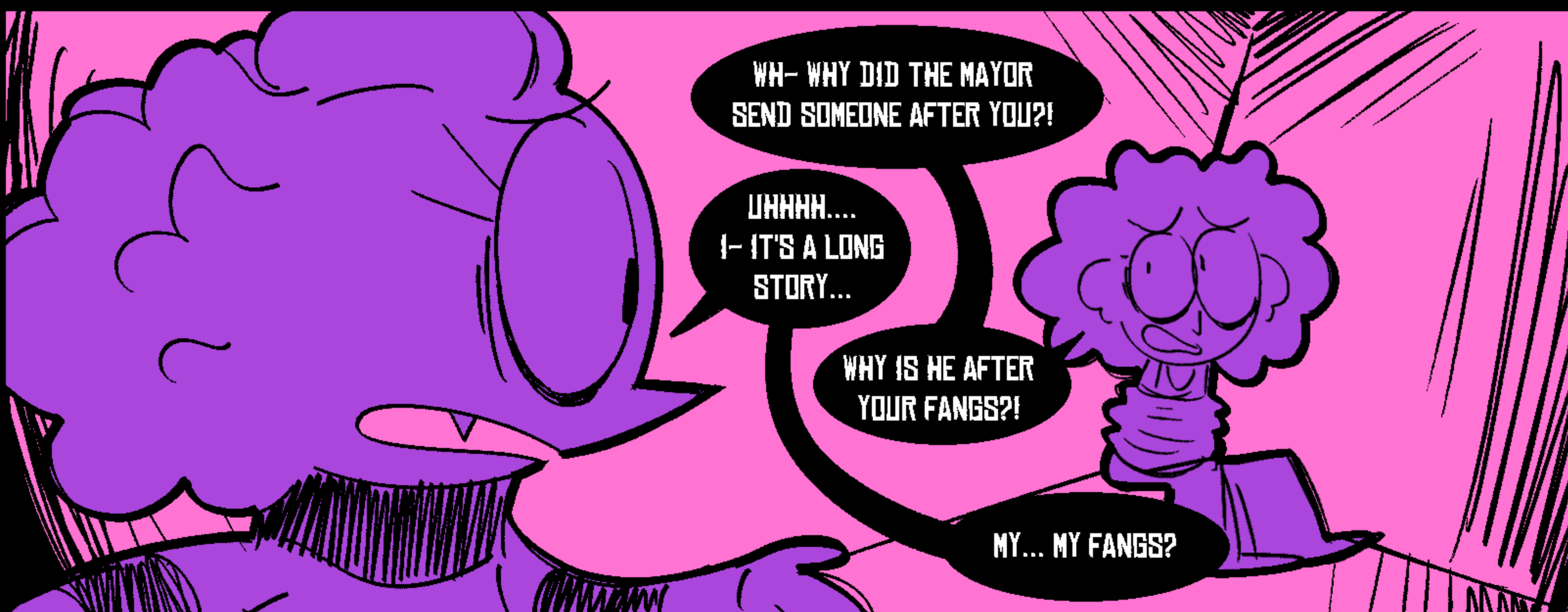
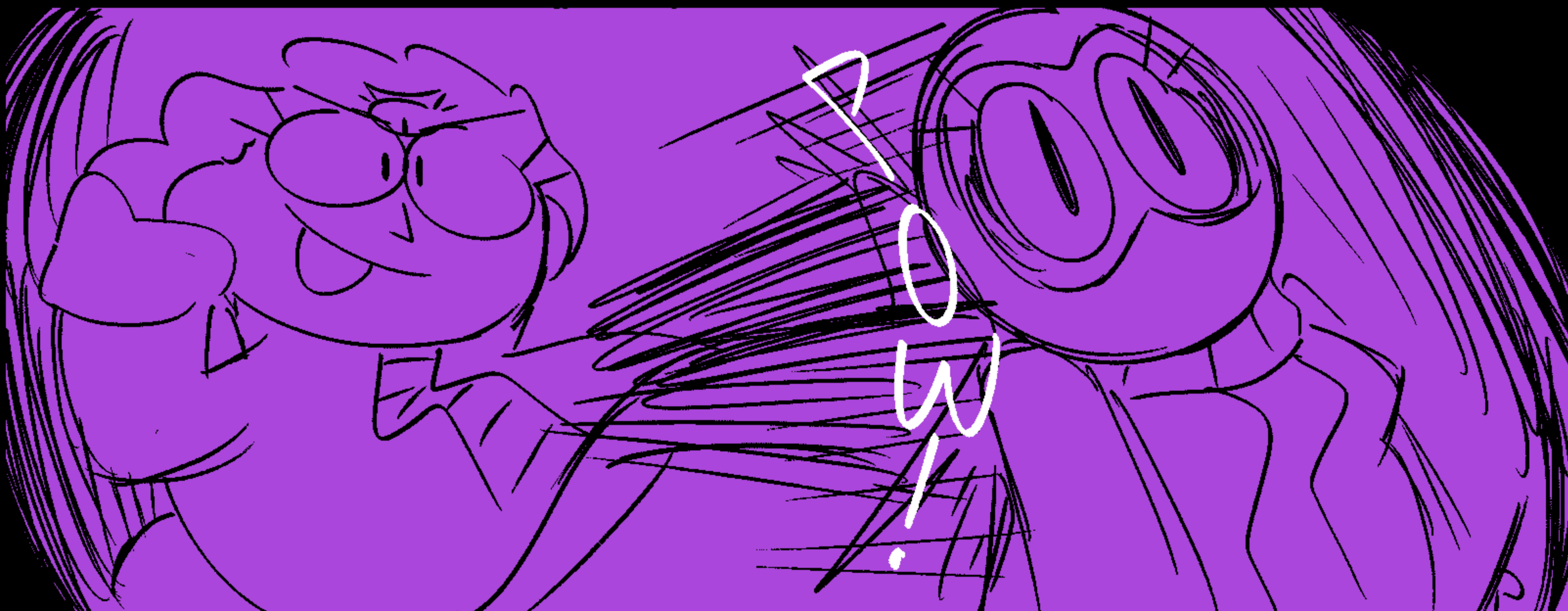
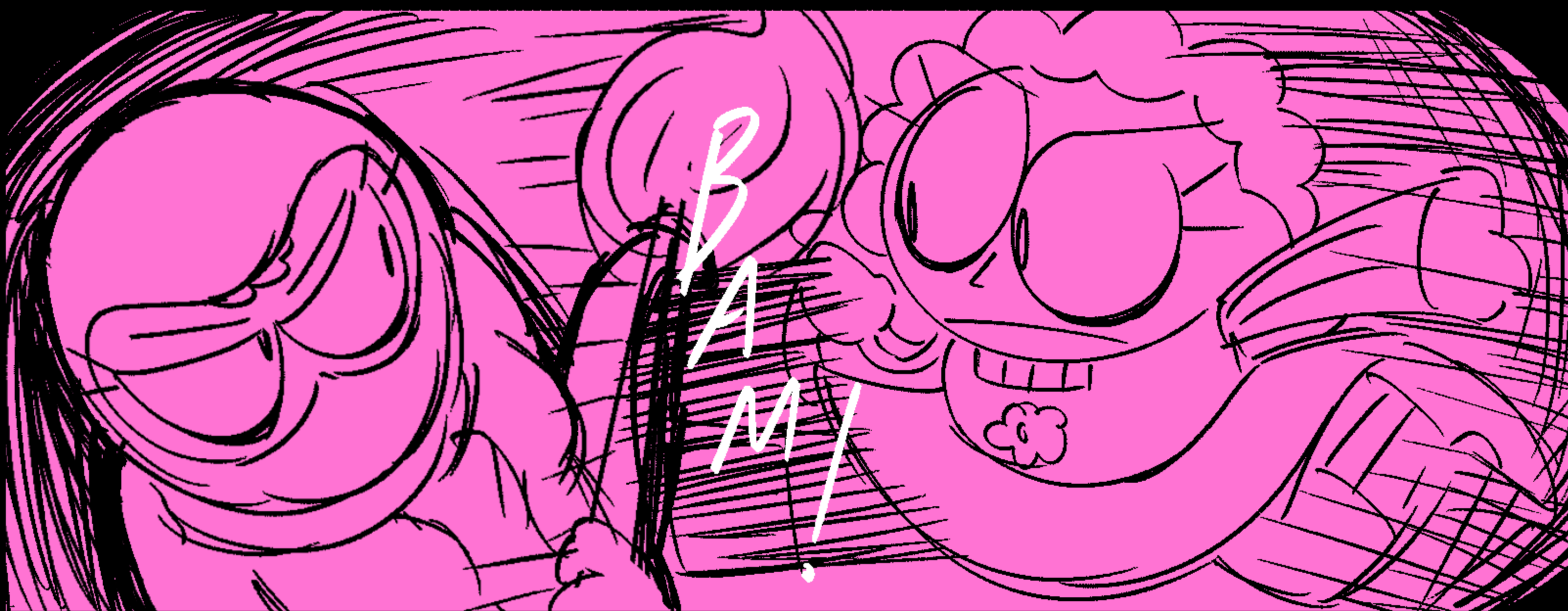
OH SHOOT
A WITCH?!

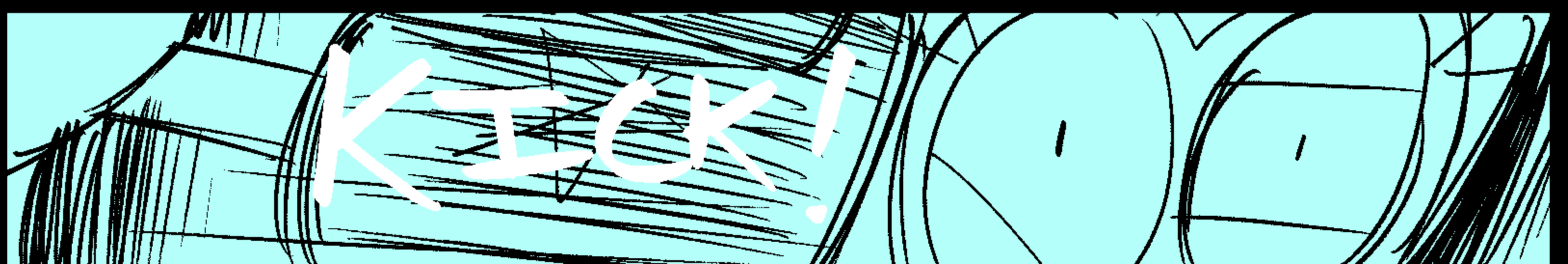
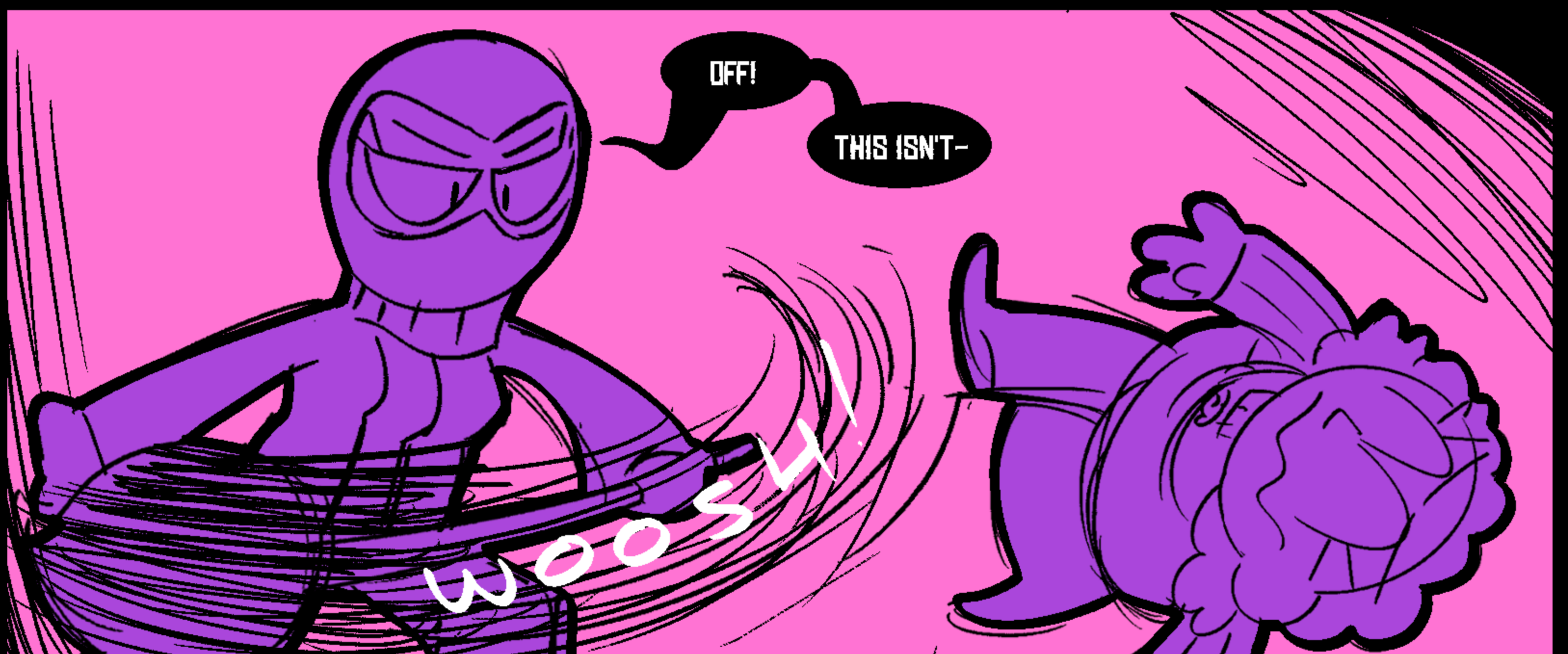
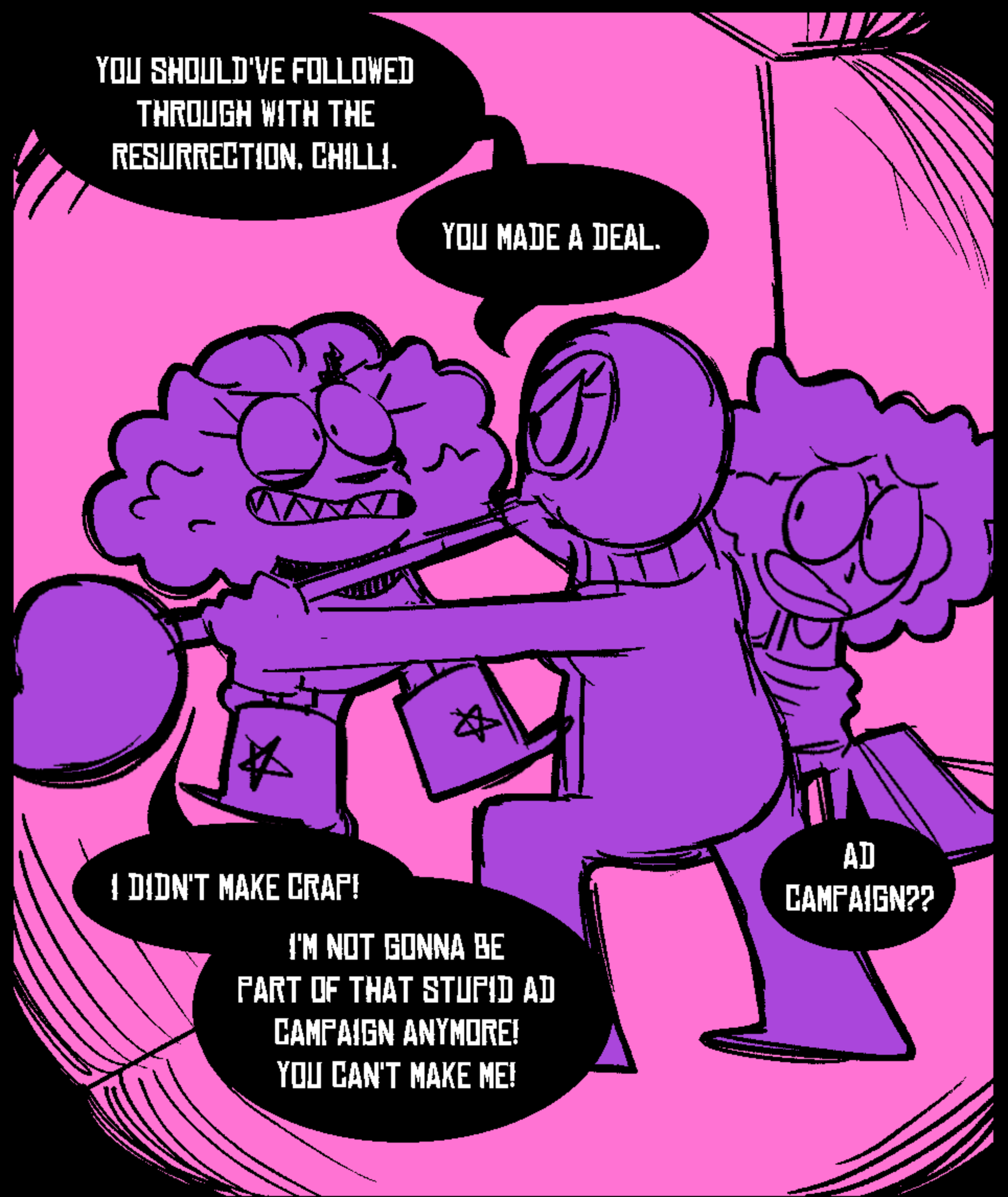
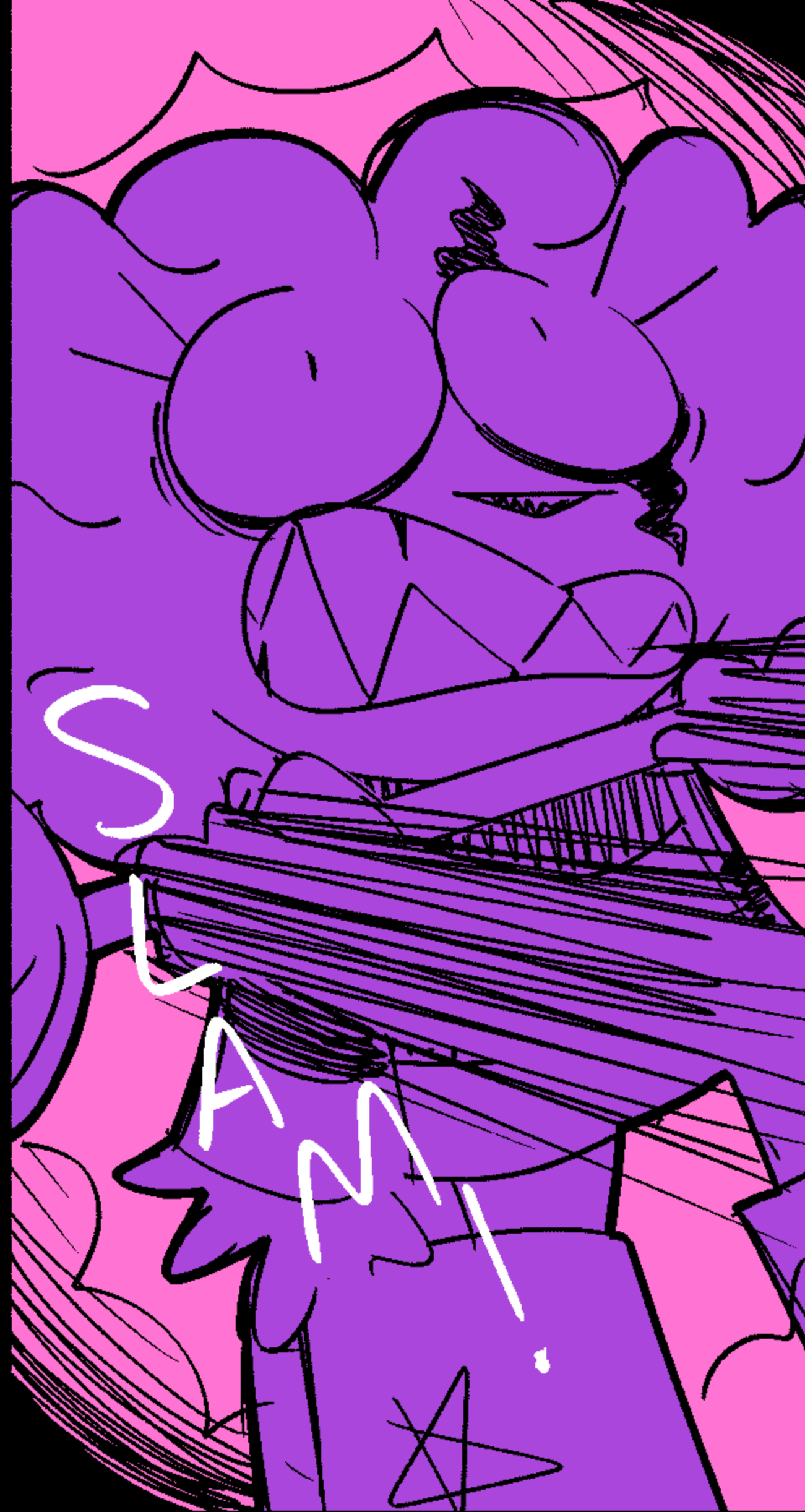
BAM!

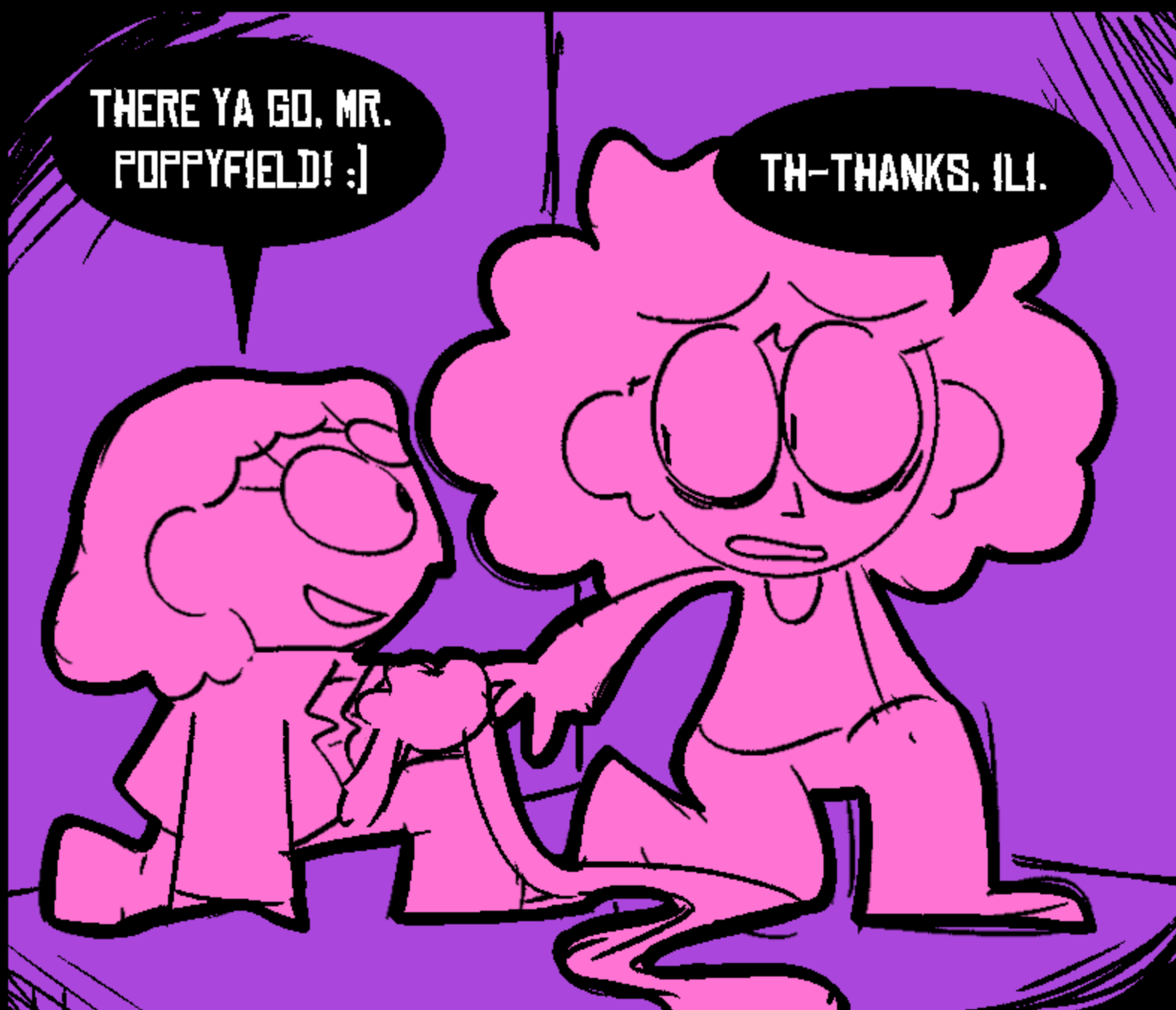
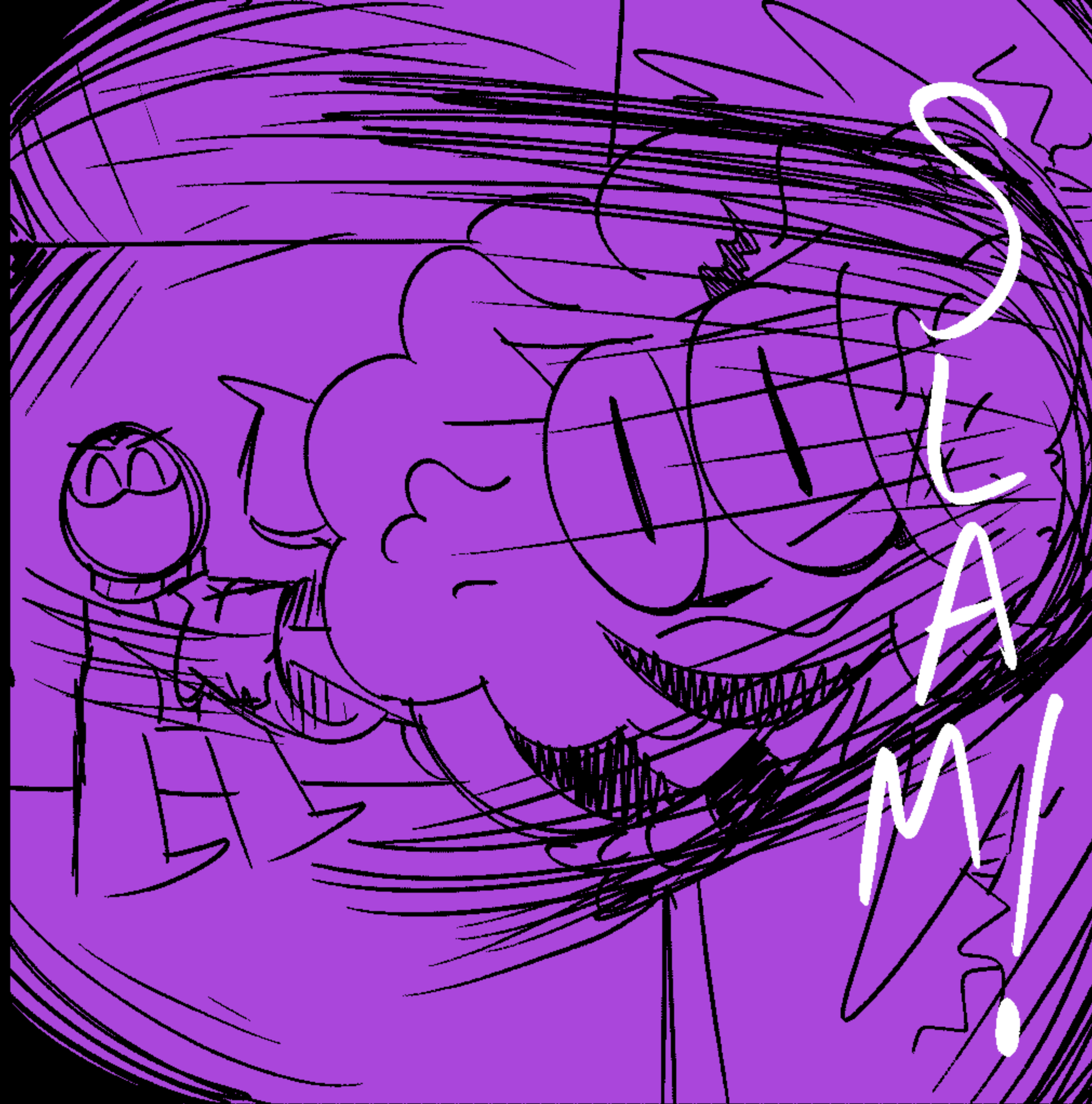
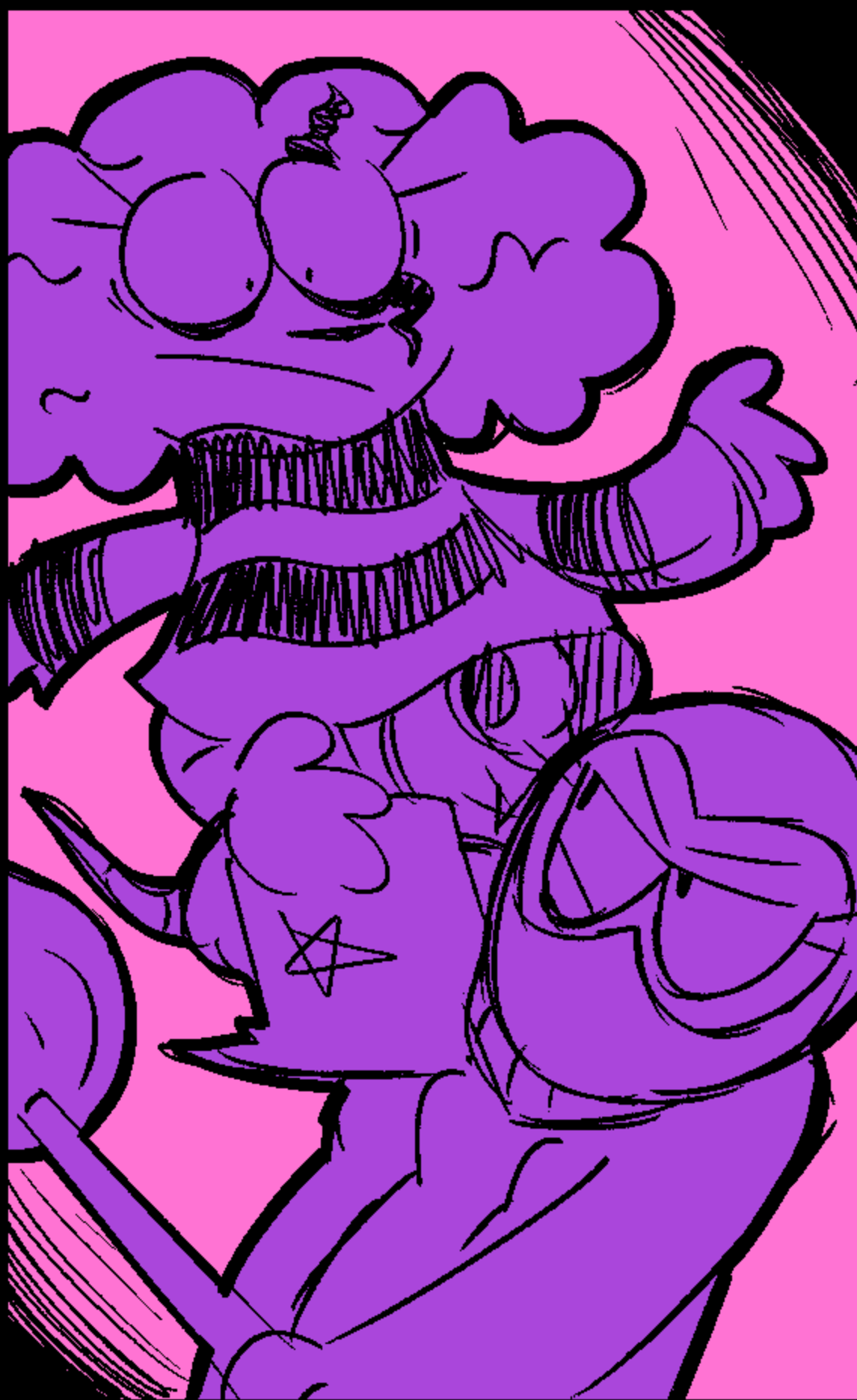
IMPRESSIVE.

BAM!









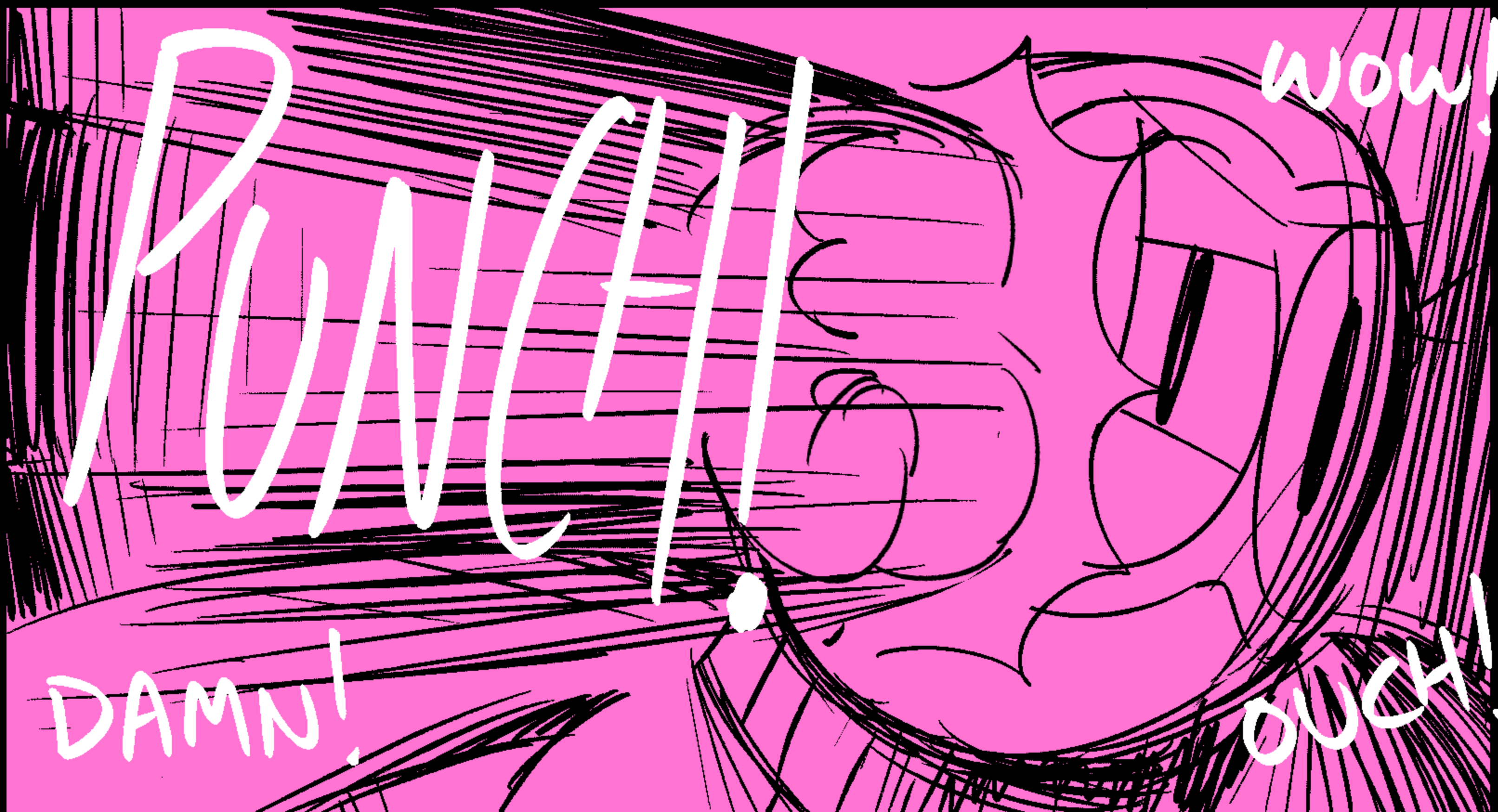
THERE YA GO, MR. POPPYFIELD! :]

TH-THANKS. I.I.



LEAVE MY DAUGHTER ALONE. SHE TOLD YOU SHE'S NOT DOING THE ADS.

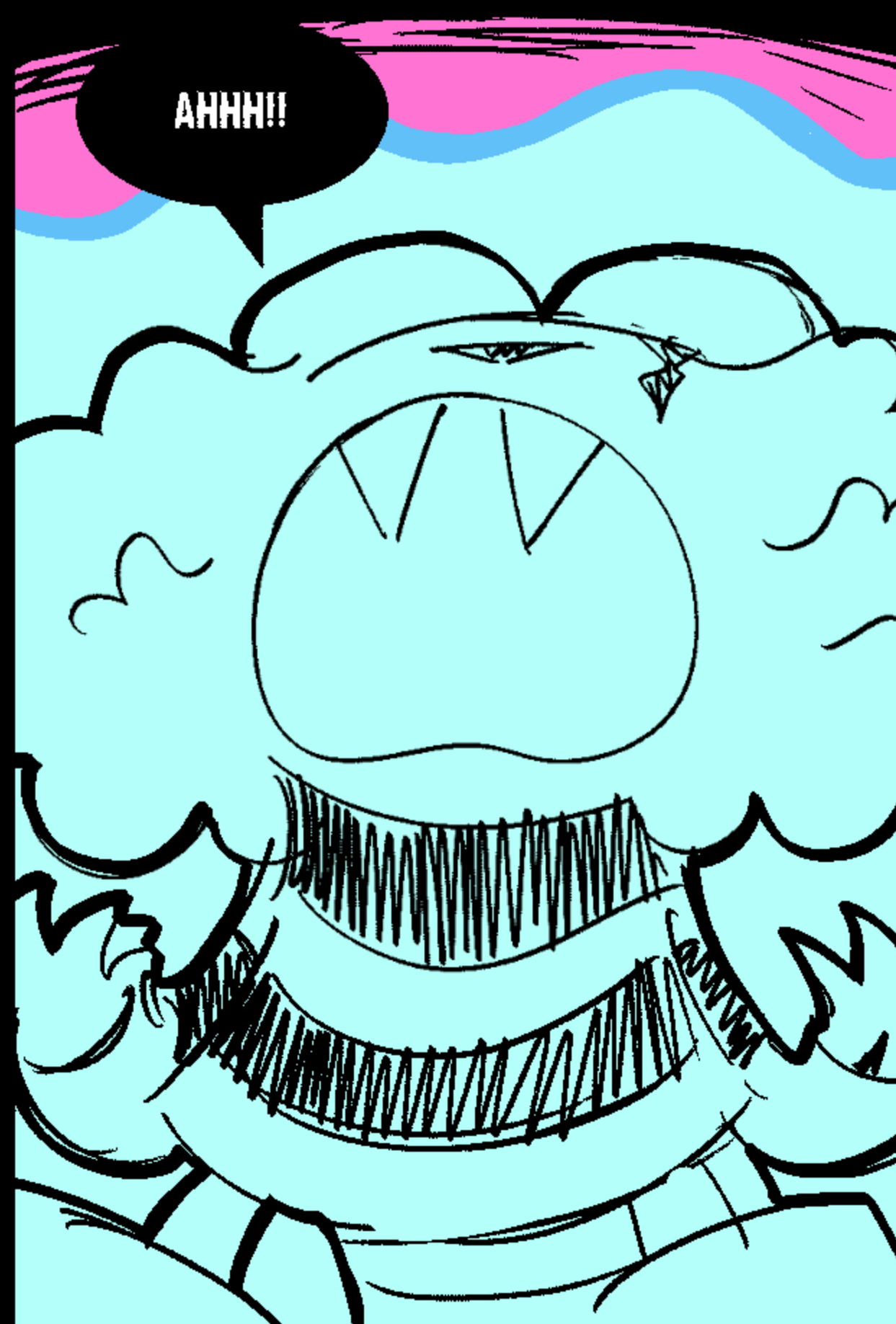
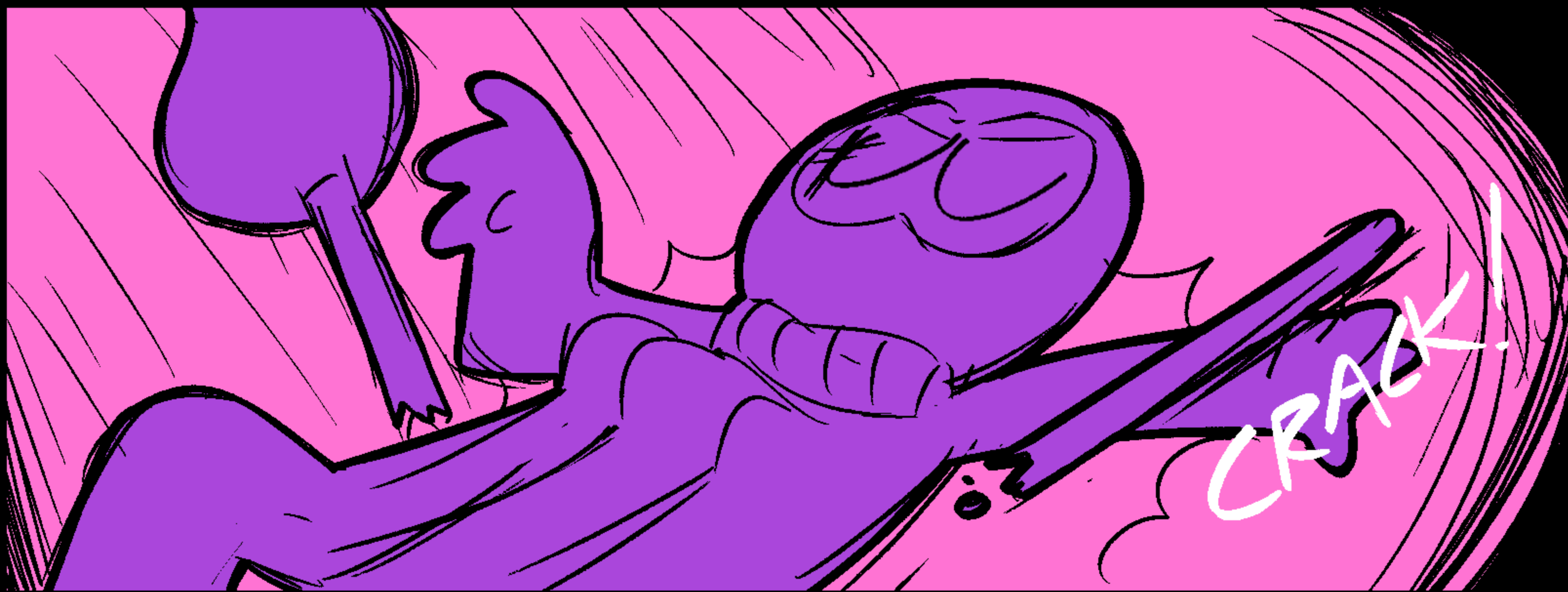
HOW DID YOU-

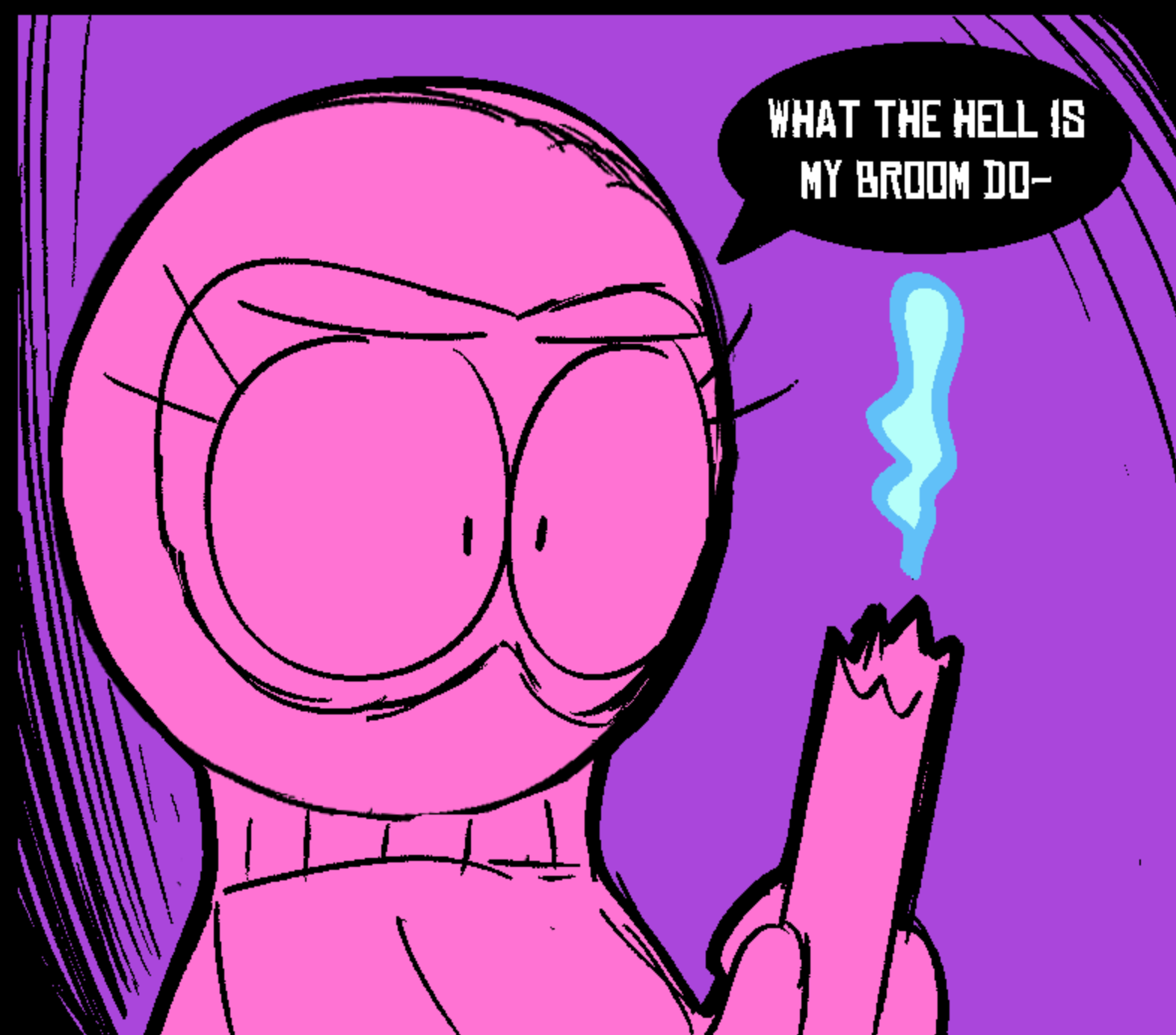
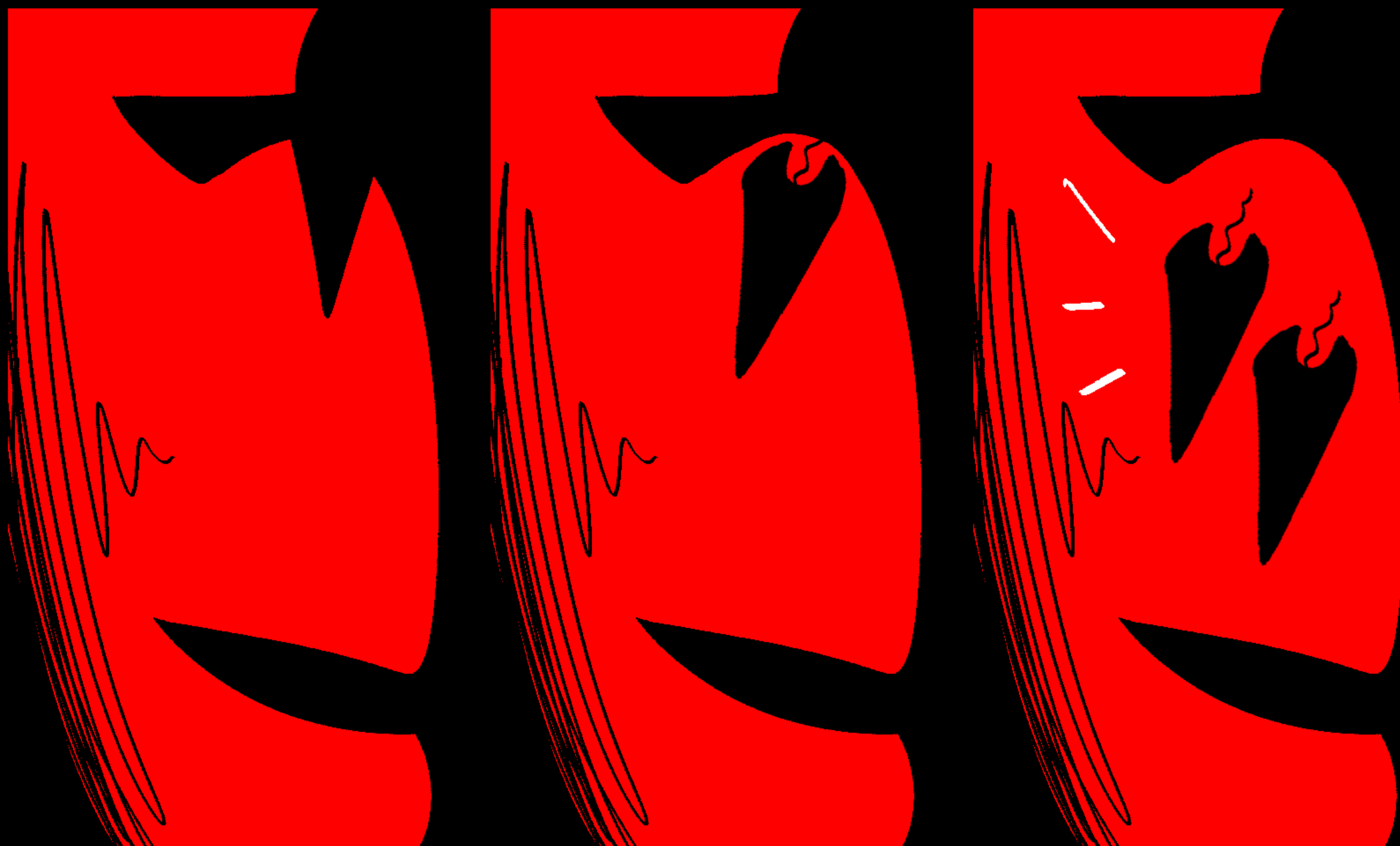


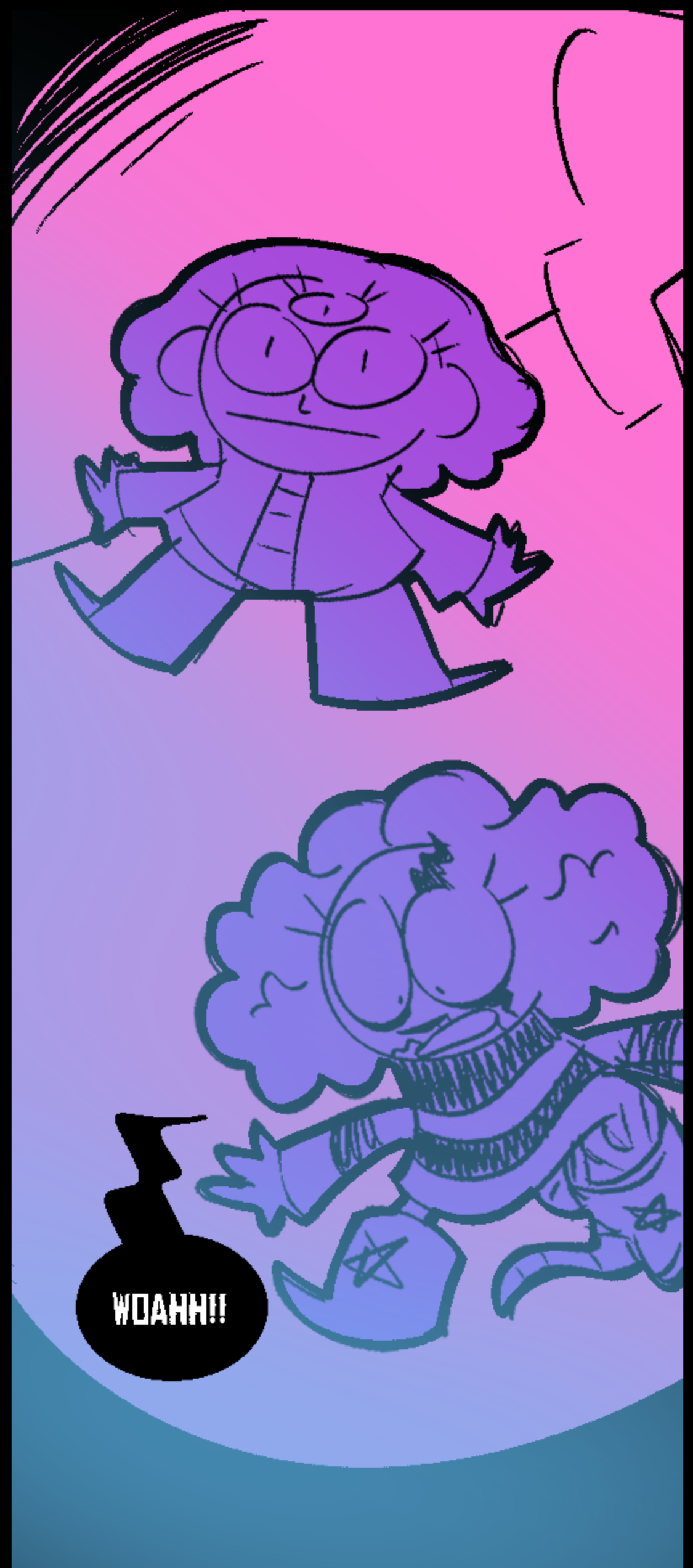
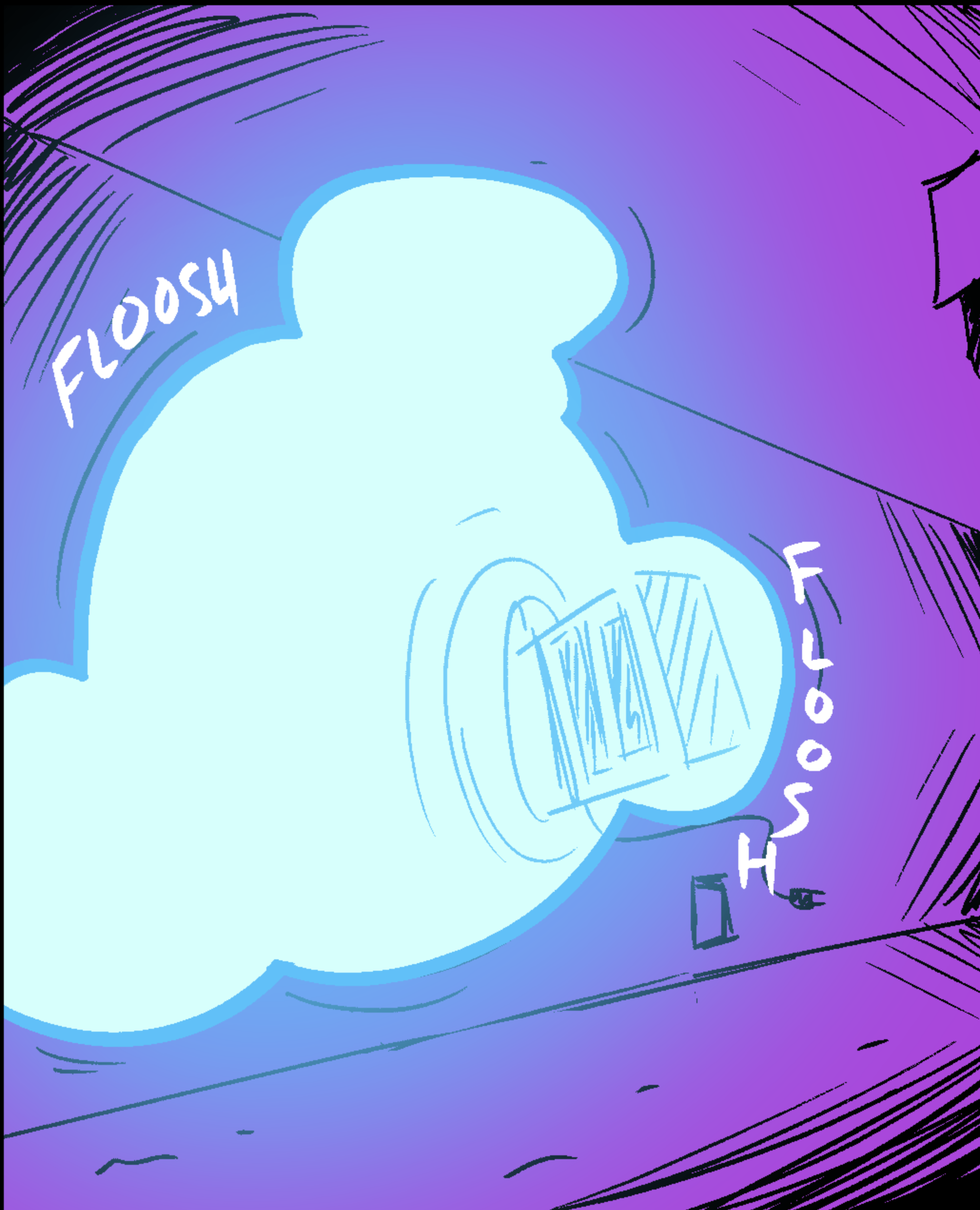
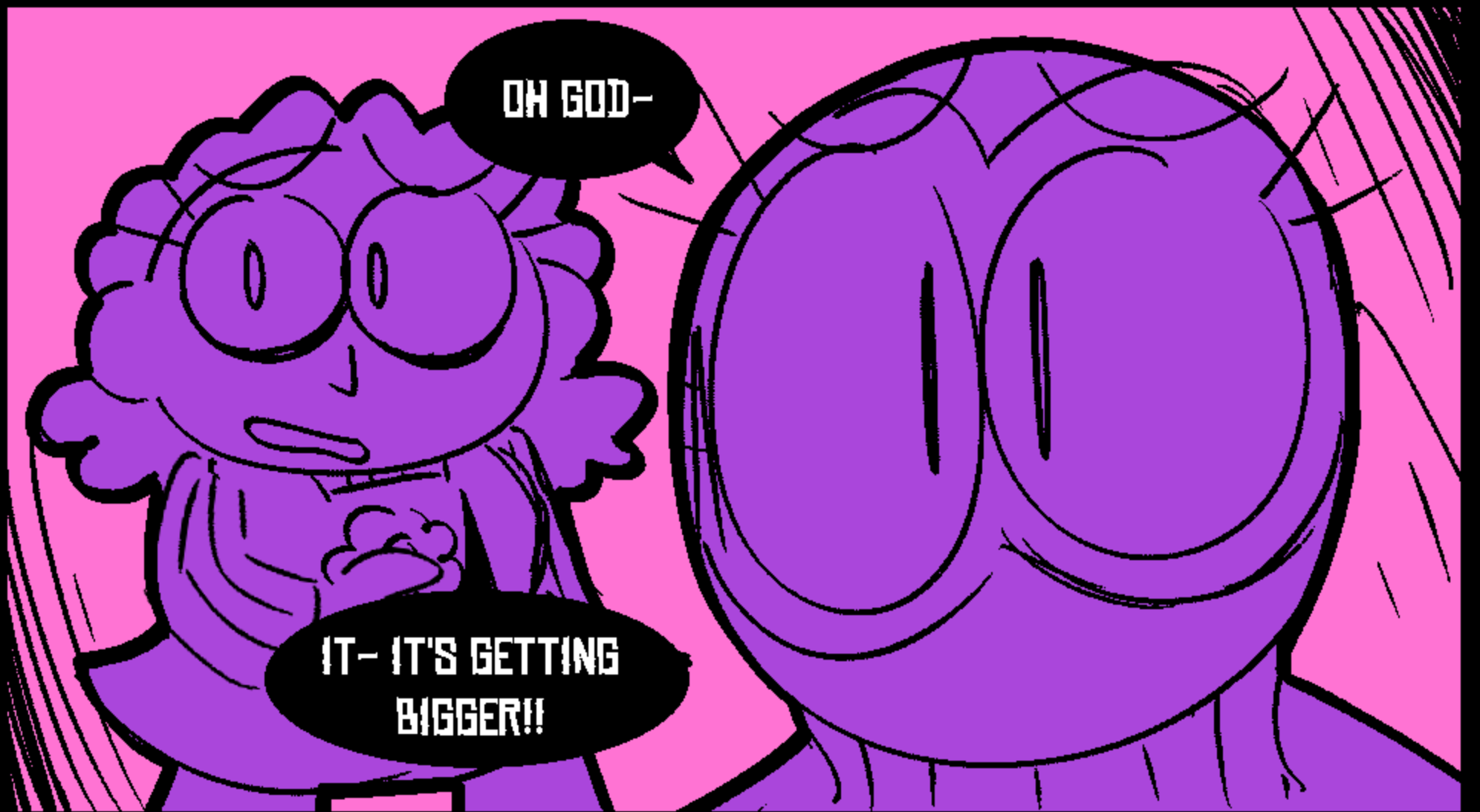
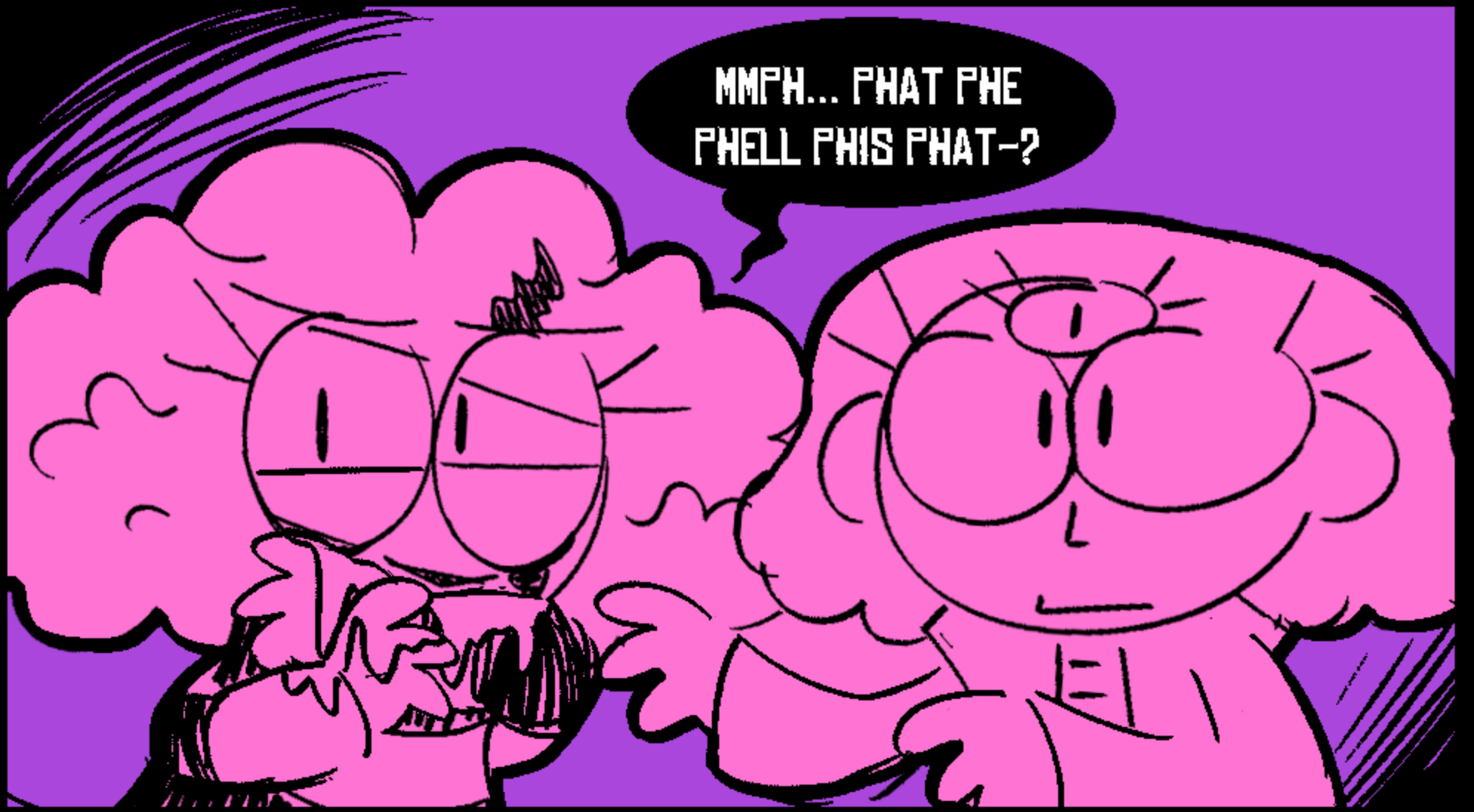
wow!

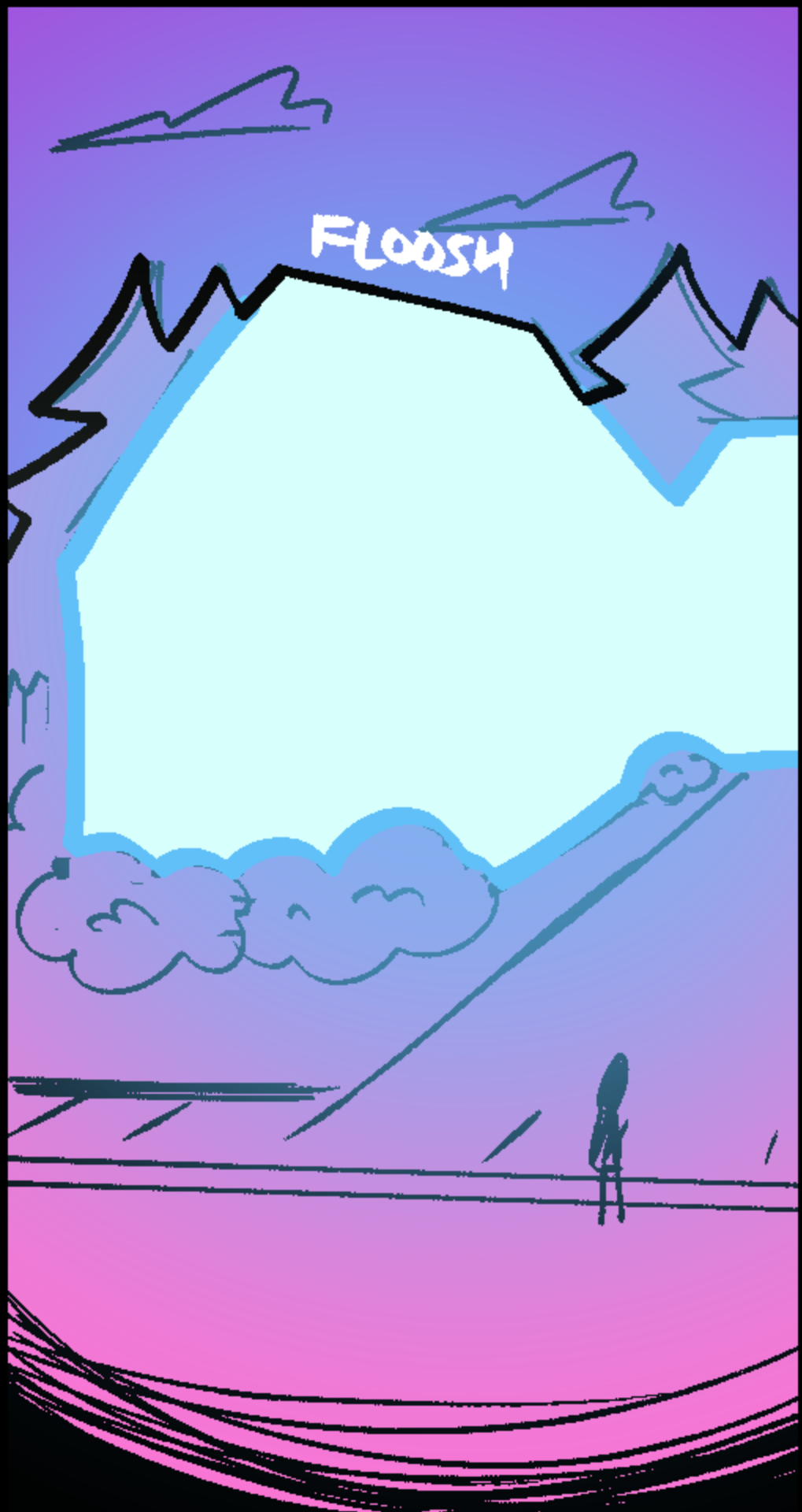
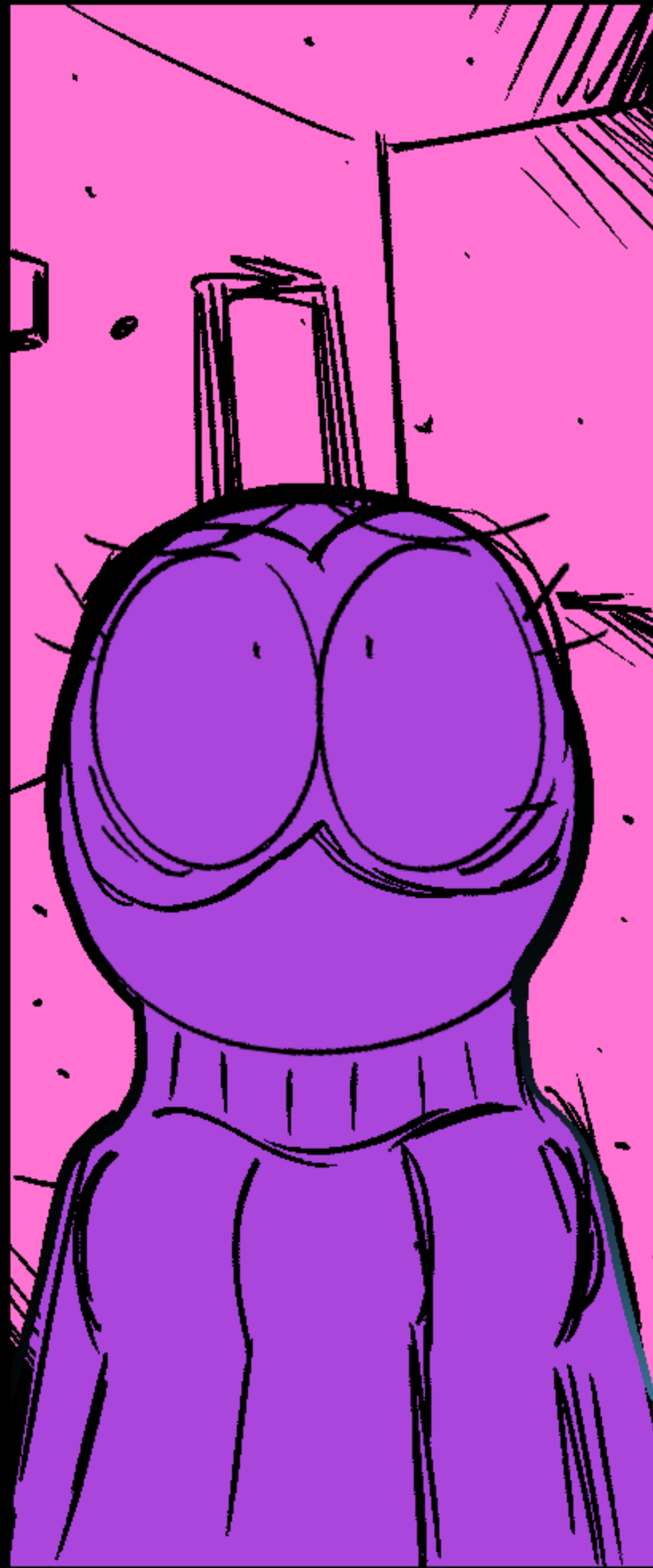
DAMN!

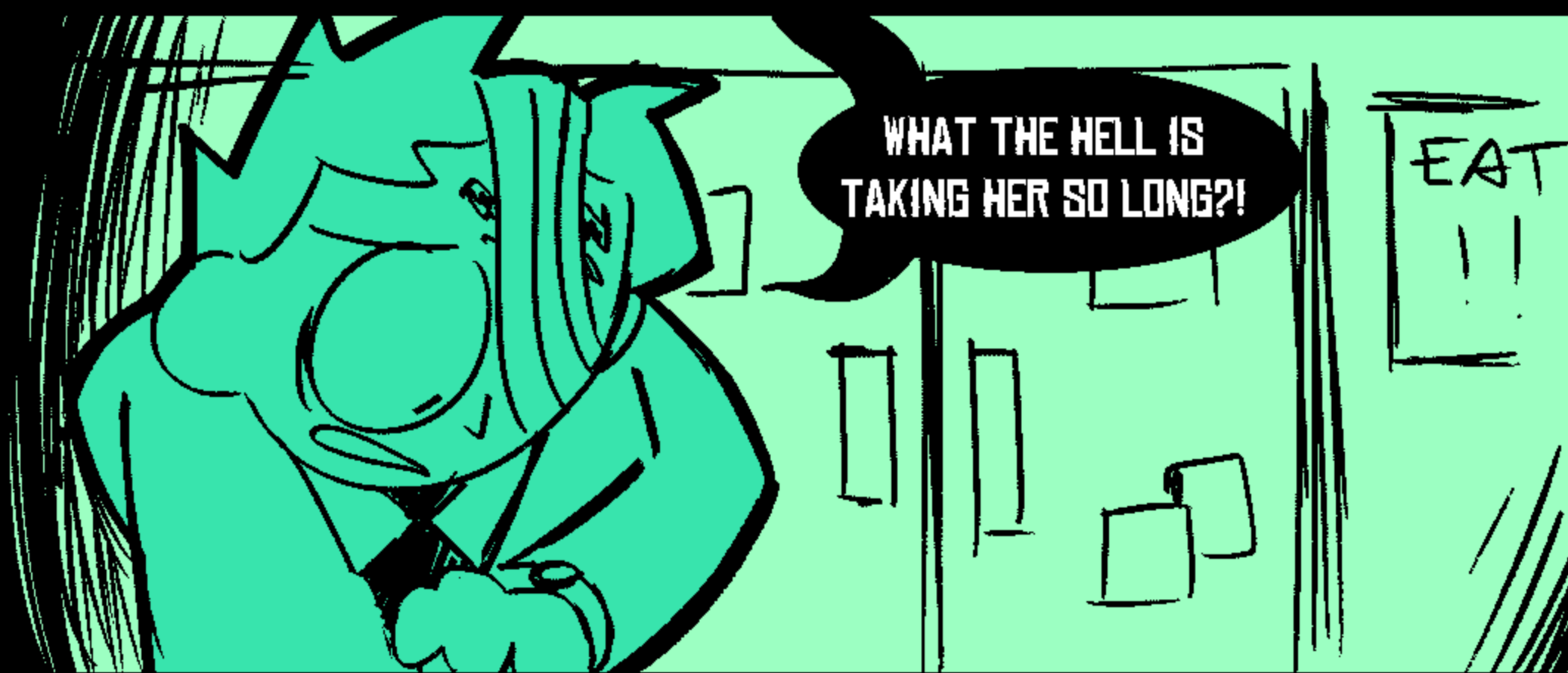
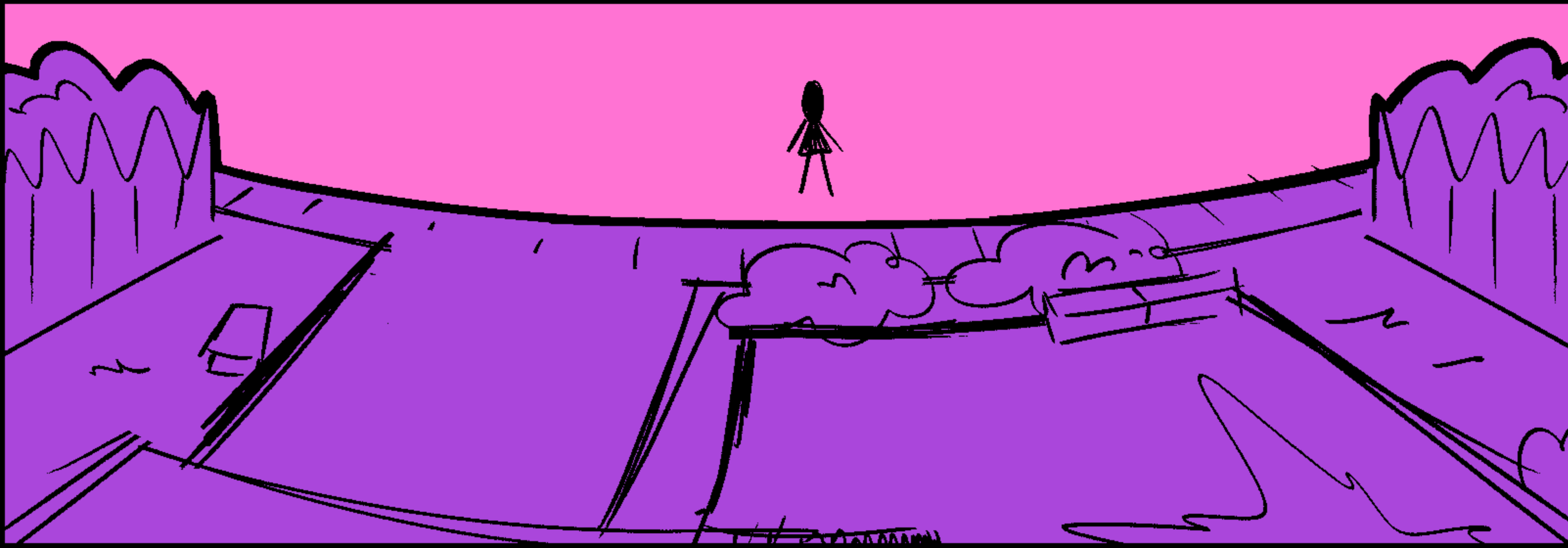
ouch!

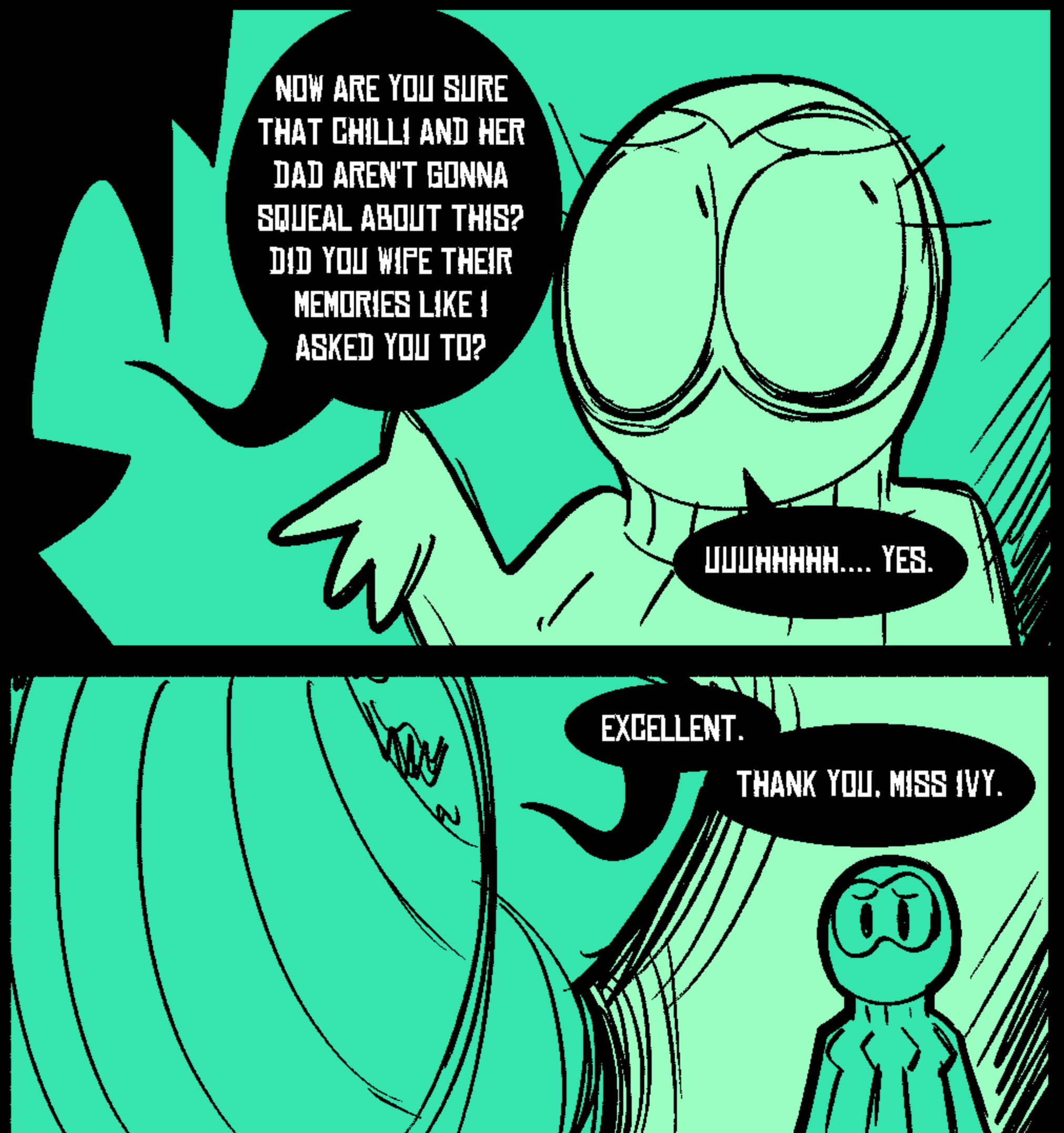


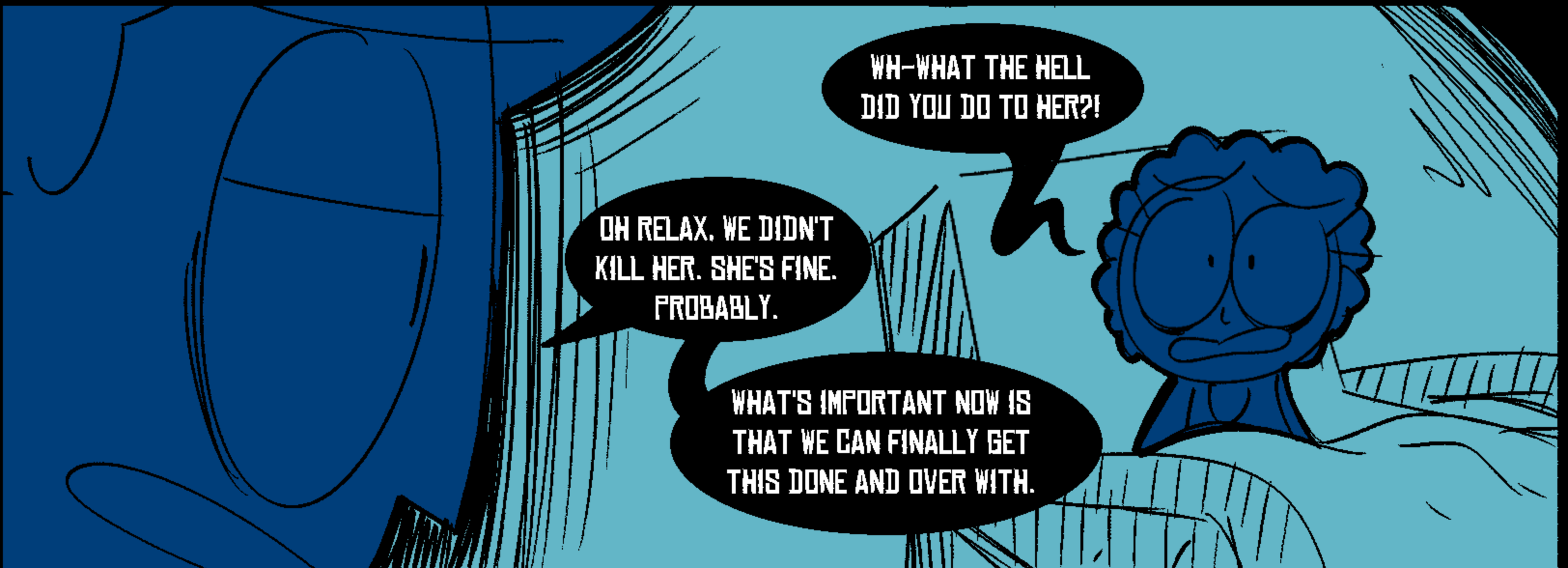
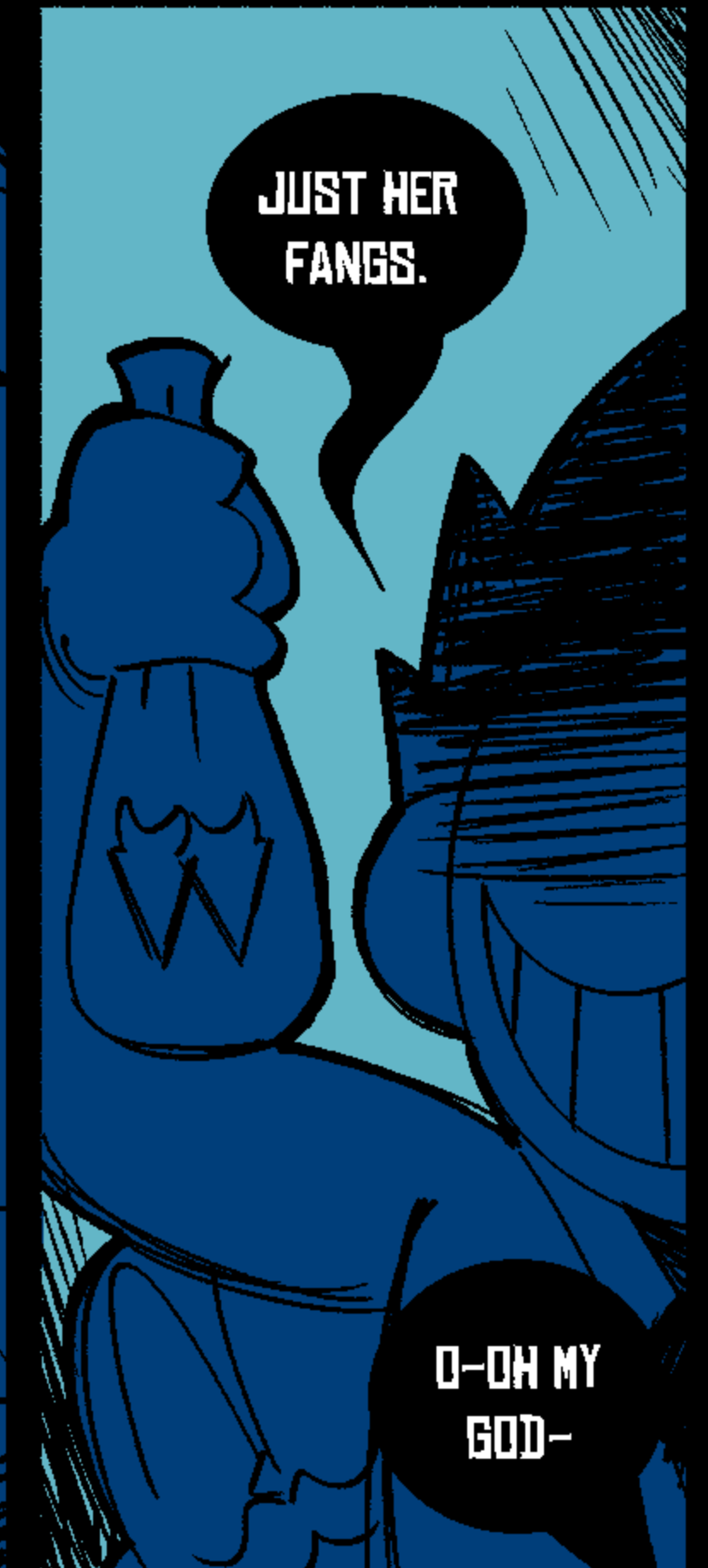




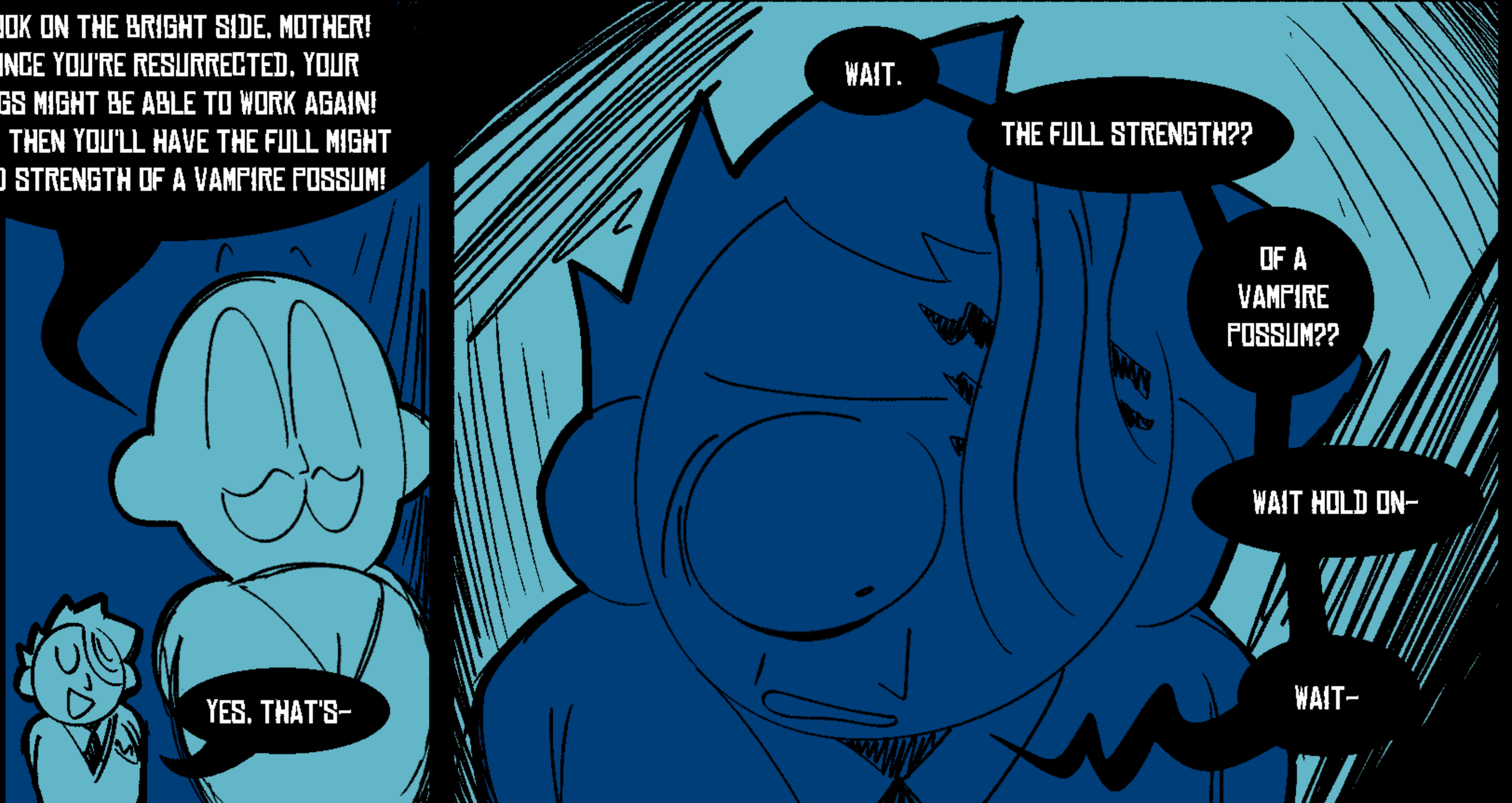


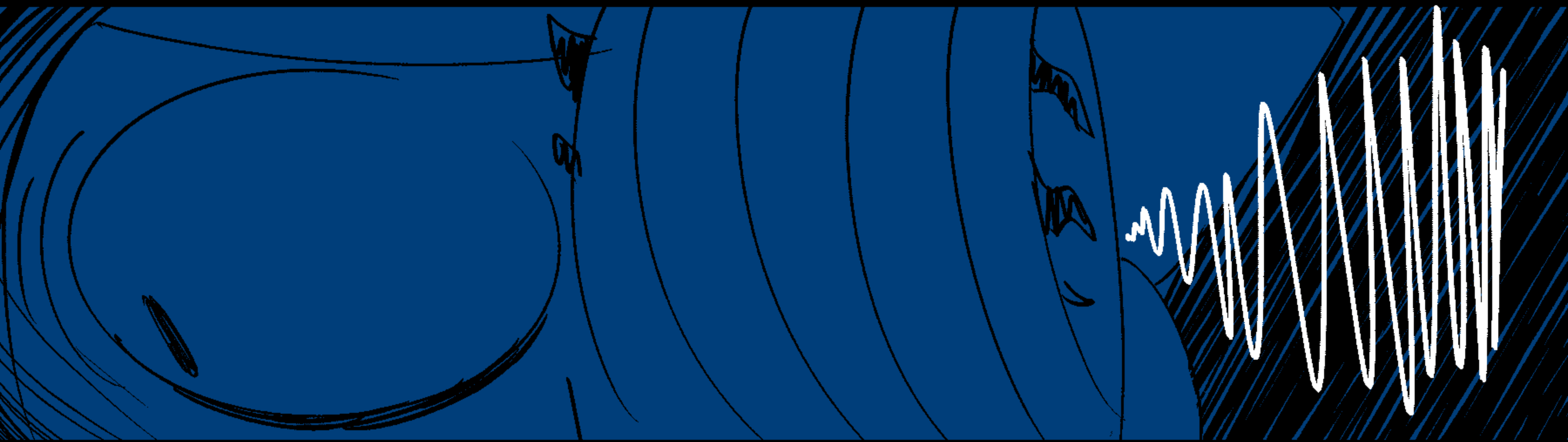


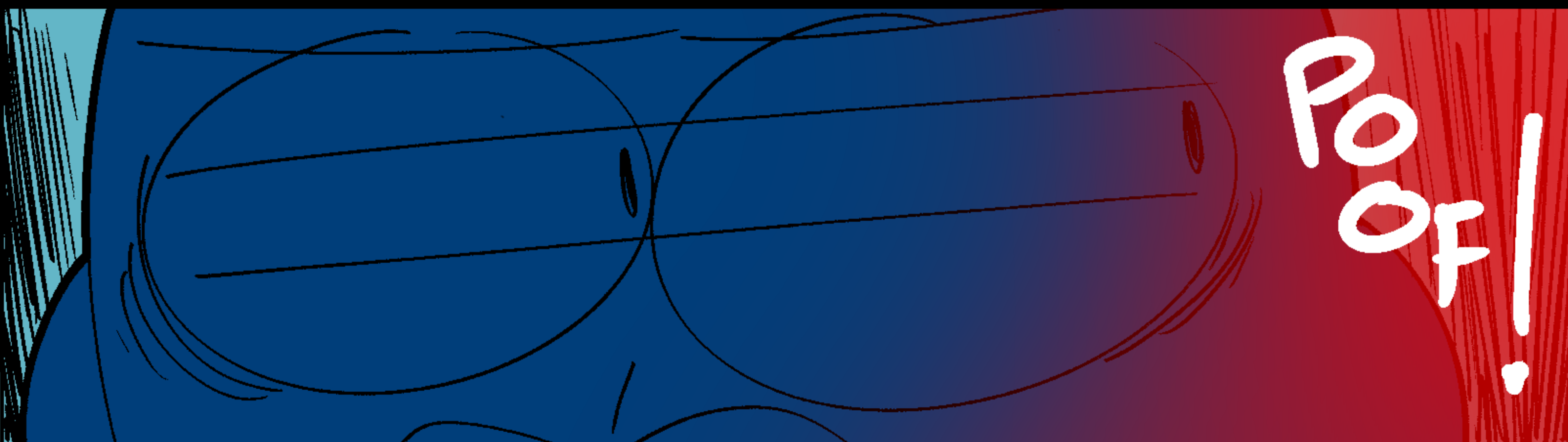


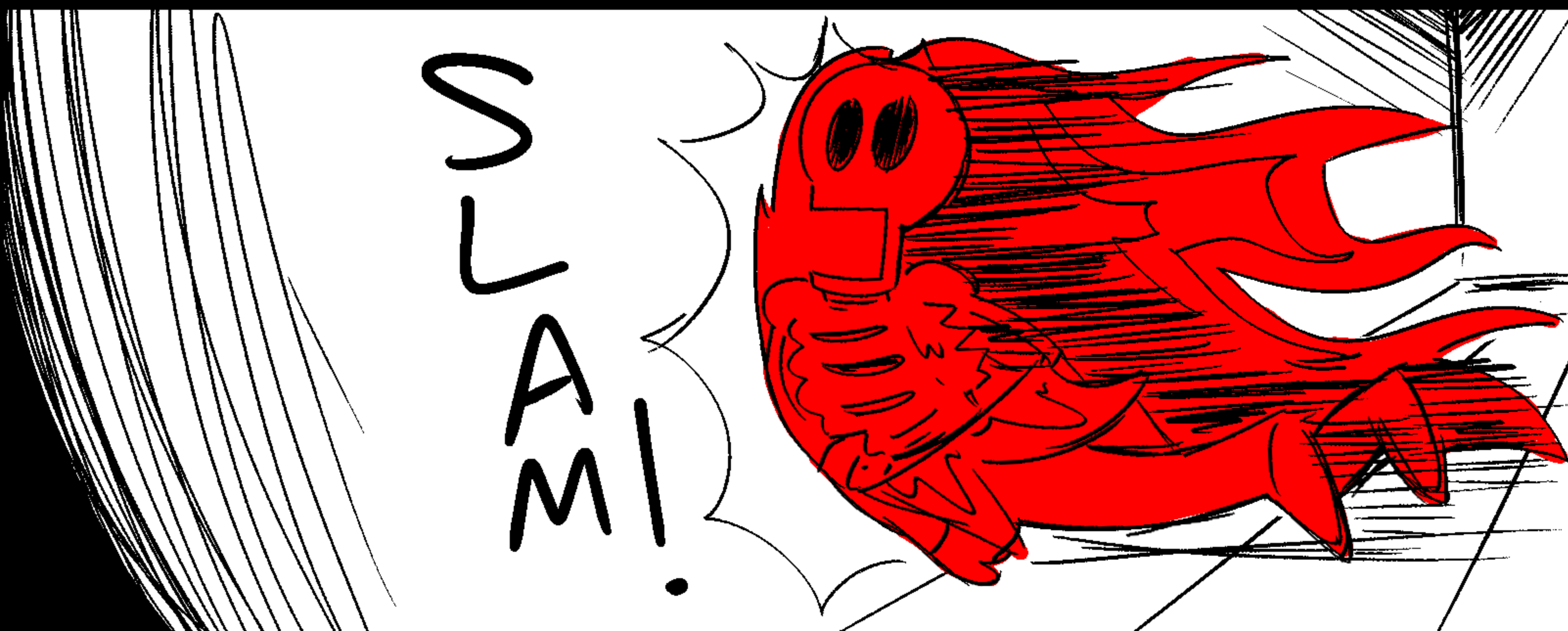


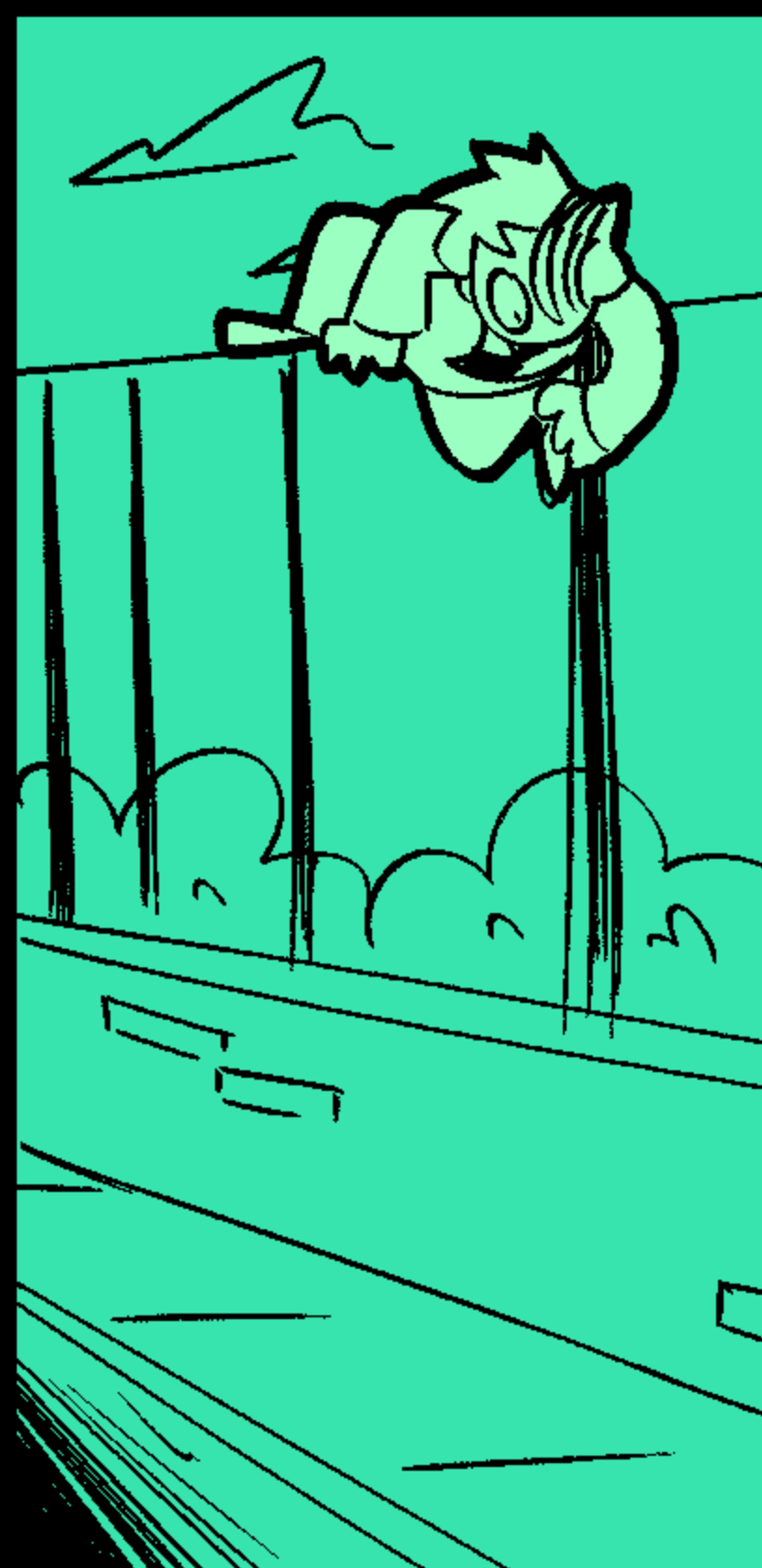
LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE, MOTHER!
ONCE YOU'RE RESURRECTED, YOUR
LEGS MIGHT BE ABLE TO WORK AGAIN!
AND THEN YOU'LL HAVE THE FULL MIGHT
AND STRENGTH OF A VAMPIRE POSSUM!

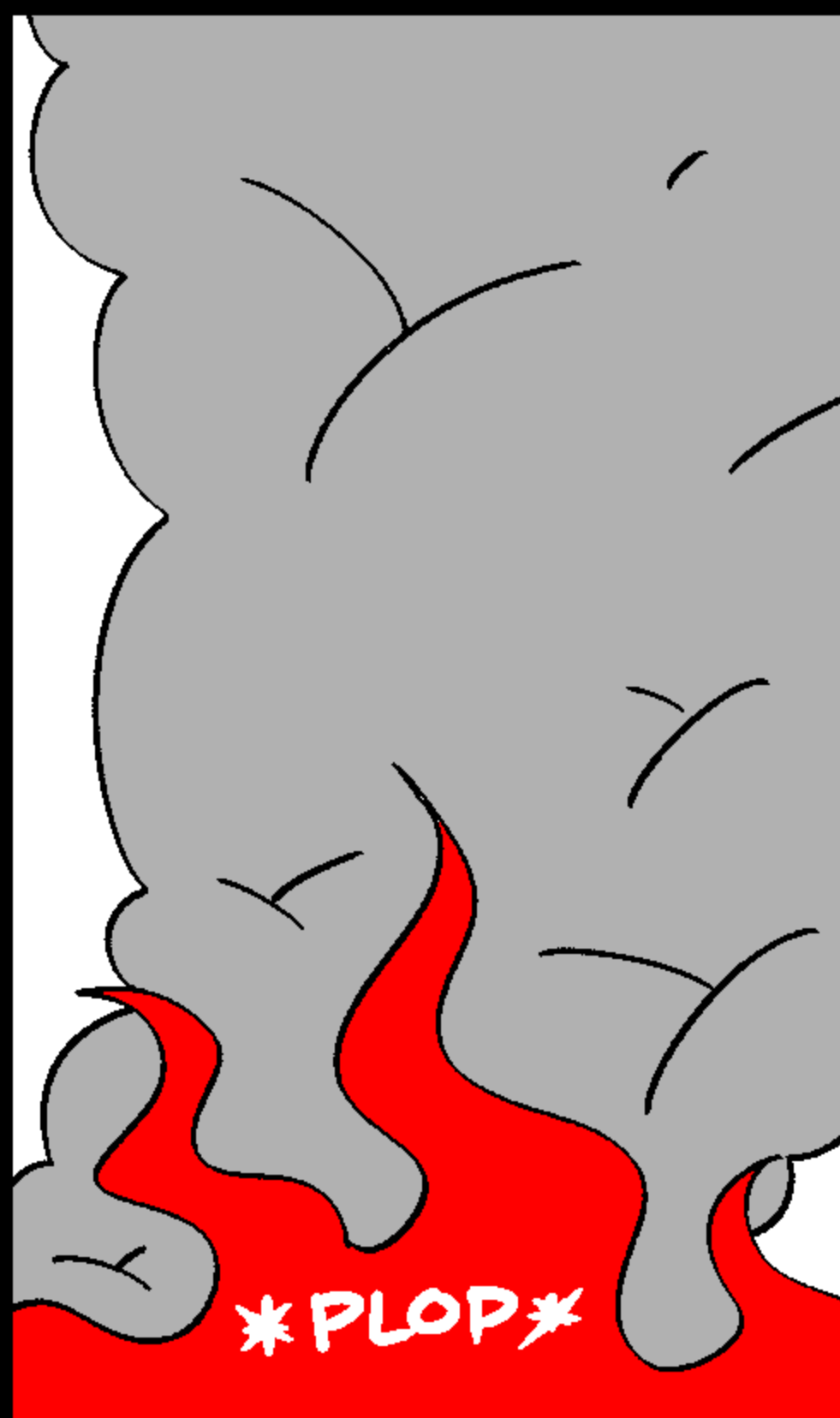
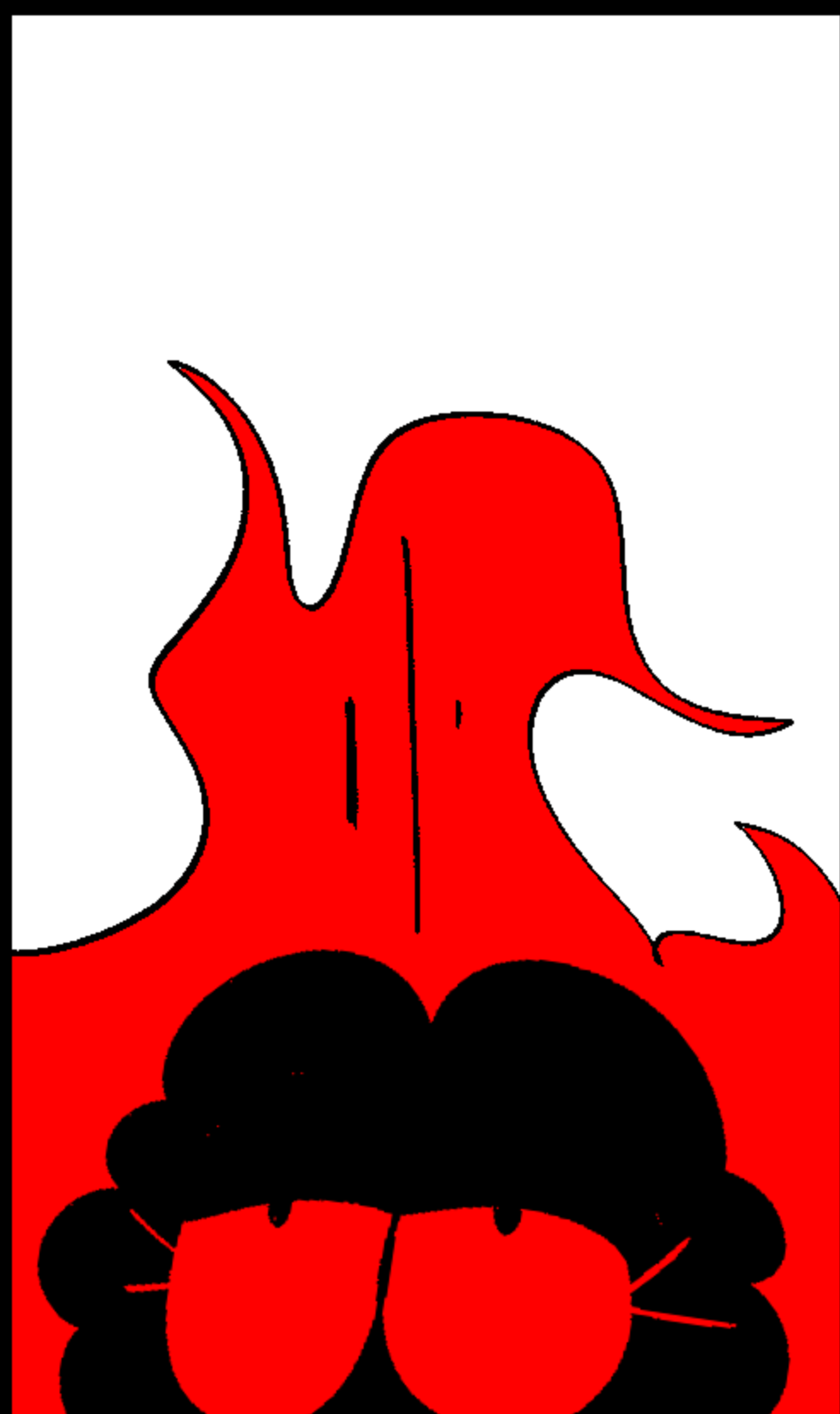


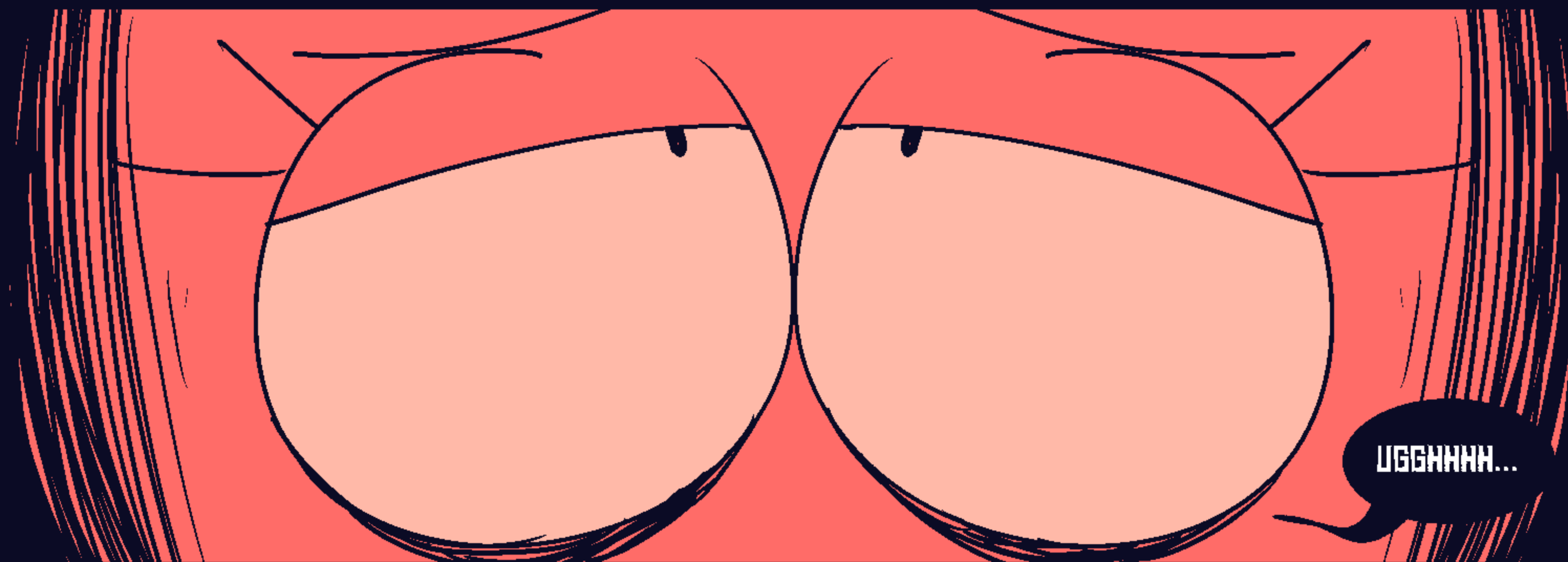












UGGHHHH...



CONGRATS! YOU'RE DEAD!
PLEASE WAIT TO GET ASSIGNED.

FINALLY.



P-PLEASE, Y-YOU CAN'T SEND ME TO HELL, I-I HAVE TOO MANY ENEMIES DOWN THERE!

I'M NOT GONNA TELL YOU AGAIN, MISTER. YOU NEED TO LEAVE.



WH- WHAT IF WE MADE A DEAL?! P-PERHAPS YOU'D BE INTERESTED IN INVESTING IN MY COMPANY-

HARD PASS.

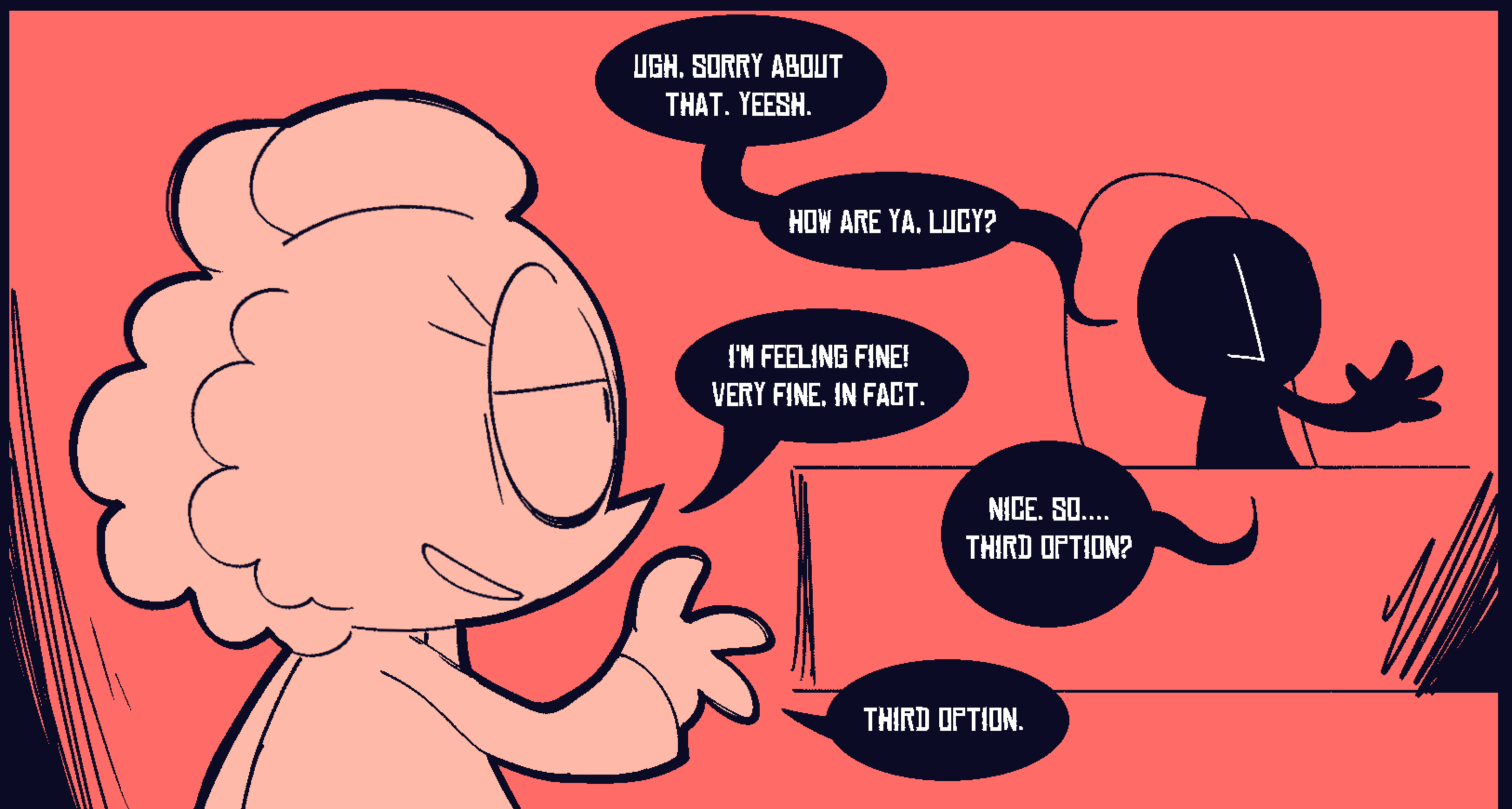
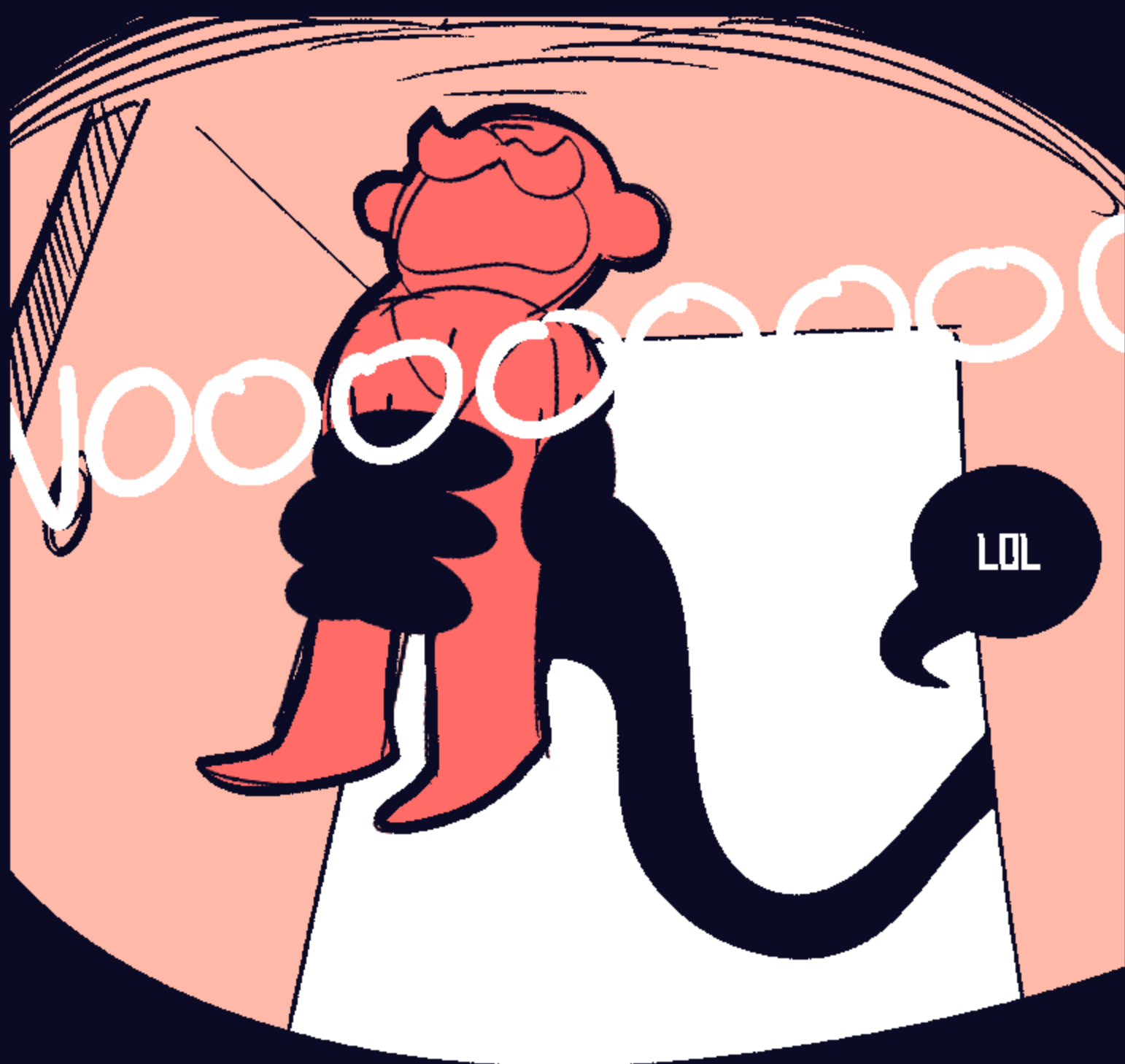
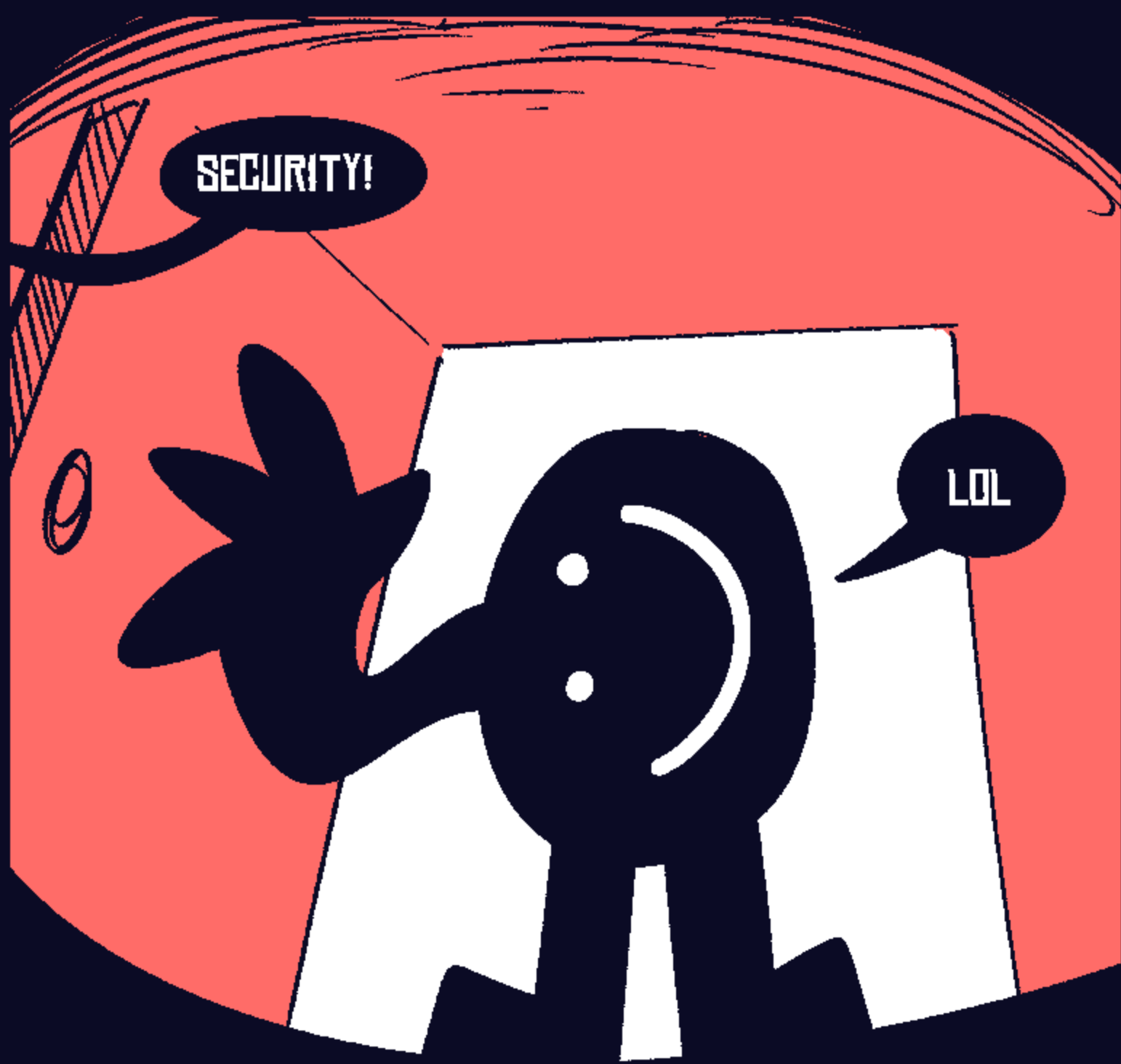


RELAX MAX, YOU'LL PROBABLY BE IN THE FANCY PART OF HELL ANYWAY.

SAY HI TO YOUR DAD FOR ME.

YOU!!! YOU BITCH!!

ALRIGHT, THAT'S IT-



NOW JUST TO BE CLEAR, YOU'RE
ABSOLUTELY SURE YOU WANNA
GO THROUGH WITH THIS?



I'VE BEEN SURE
FOR 20 YEARS.

WELL, IN
THAT CASE...

THERE'S SOMEONE YOU PROBABLY
WANT TO TAKE WITH YOU-



OH- OH MY GOD...



L-LINDA?!?!

THIRD
OPTION

HELLO LUCY. IT'S NICE
TO SEE YOU AGAIN.



BUT- BUT I THOUGHT YOU
CHOSE THE THIRD OPTION?!

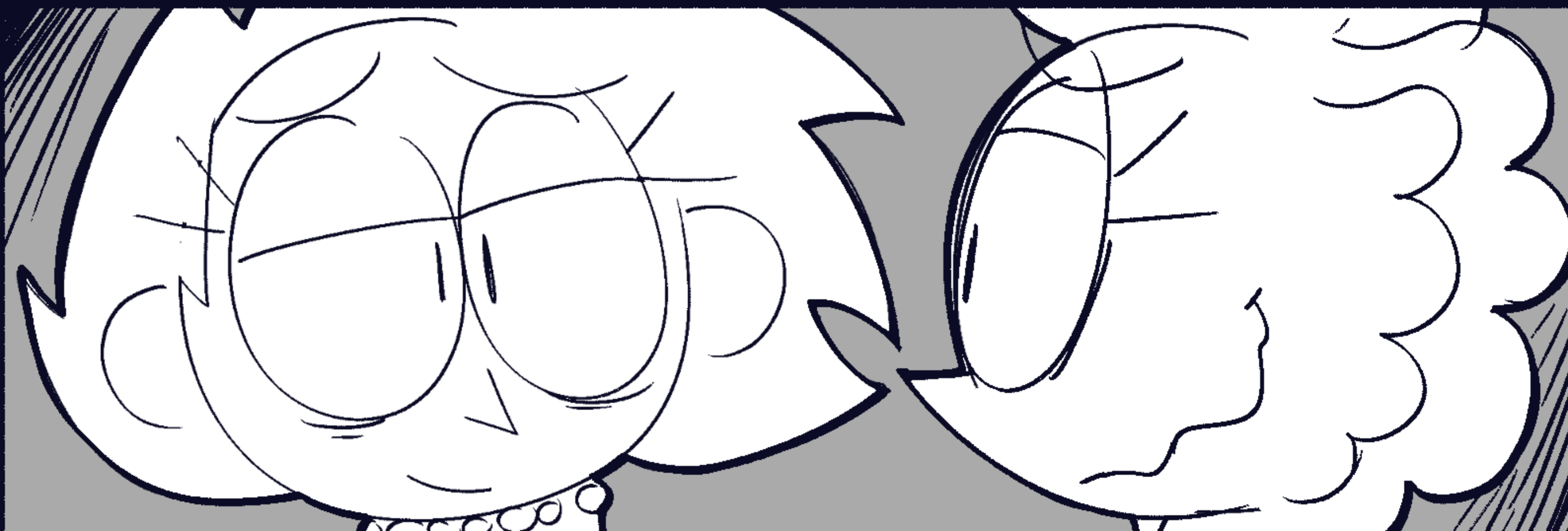
I DID.

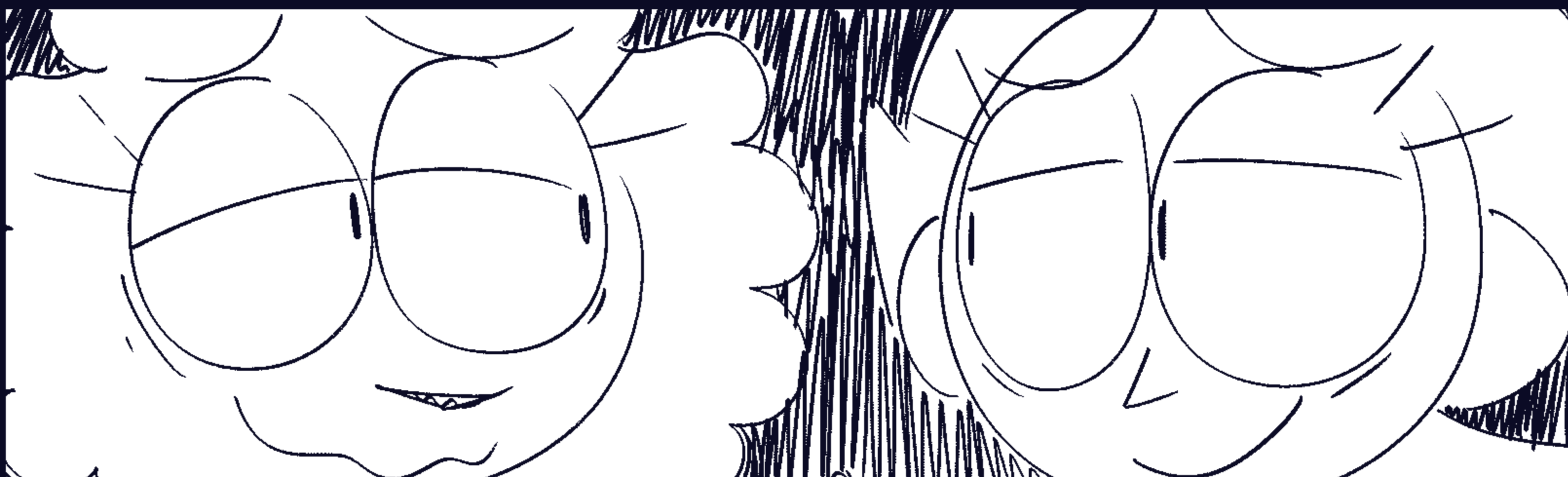
BUT I WANTED TO WAIT UNTIL
YOU COULD COME WITH ME.

SO WE COULD GO
OUT TOGETHER.



OH LINDA-







#17

CHILI

THE VAMPIRE OPOSSUM



"DEADBARK"

tw:

abuse

blizzard

blood

bright colors

dead body

emotional breakdown

fighting

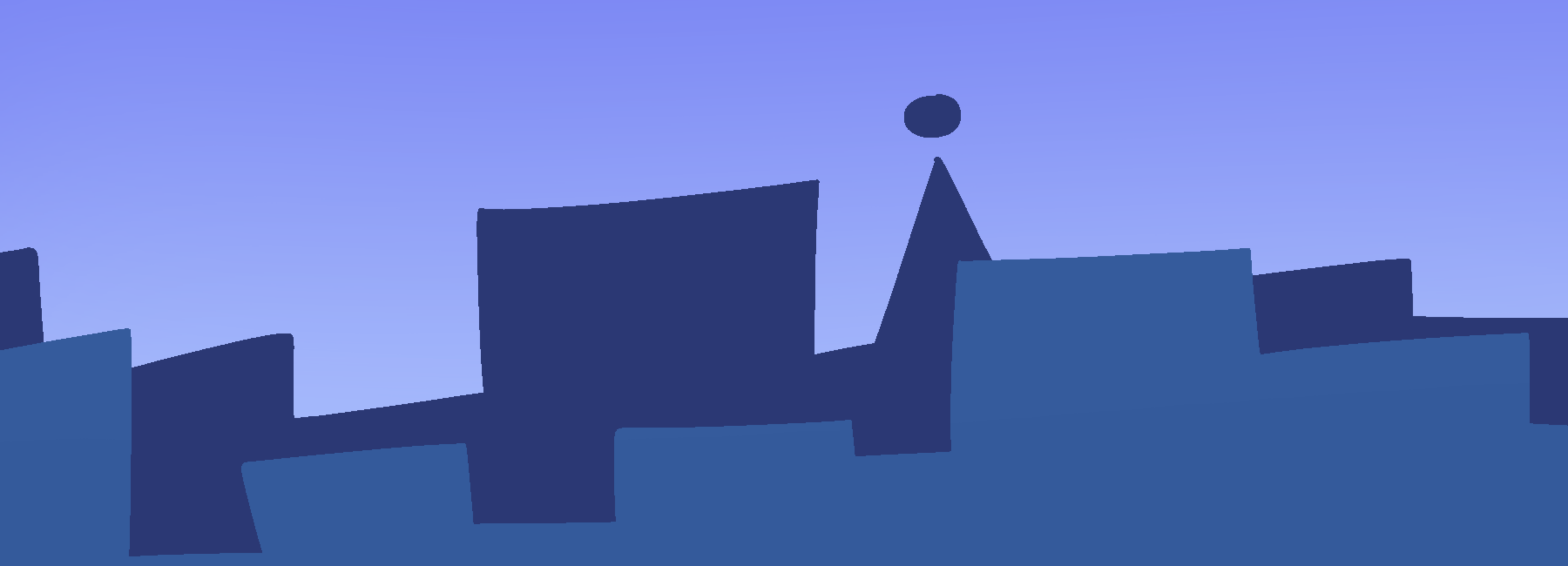
knife

murder

suicide threats

trauma

verbal abuse



welcome to **DEADBARK**

We thank you for stopping by to check out our wonderful town! Whether you're just visiting or you're looking for somewhere to settle down, we've got exactly what you're looking for!

We're home to dozens of fun vacation spots, such as our famous shopping district, as well as neat road stops, such as the Deadbark Bank! It's stable, trust us!

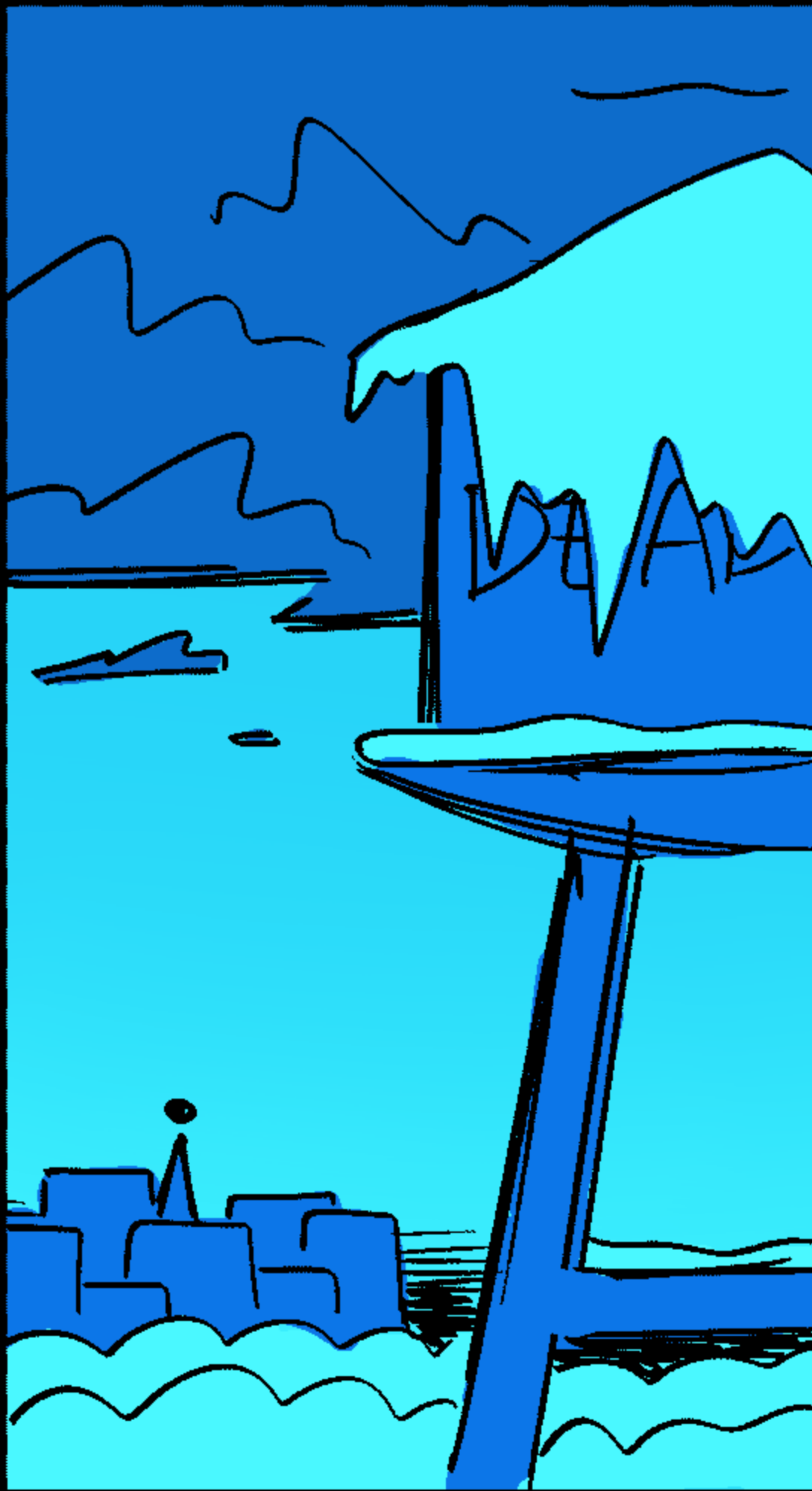
Over 80% of the residents who live here are talking dog cryptids, which, I don't know, that's cute, right? You like cute animals, right? That's gotta make you at least a little bit interested into staying here, right?!

Oh good lord, please just spend money here, our economy's fucking awful right now. Winter's coming up soon, and that's gonna close like, most of the businesses here for a couple of weeks. Deadbark Bank's in the middle of a bank run, I think? We need money BAD.

At least visit Deadbark's THE HOLE ICE RINK, that's pretty fun I think, right? I don't know.

Please give us your money. We need it. Now. Please?

Sincerely,
THE DEADBARK TOURISM BOARD



EVERYTHING ABOUT THIS TOWN SUCKS.
ESPECIALLY SCHOOL! I ONLY HAVE LIKE
TWO FRIENDS HERE! AT MY OLD SCHOOL
I HAD AT LEAST... THREE.

IT'S MISERABLE HERE!
WHY CAN'T WE JUST GO
BACK TO HEART ATTACK COVE?!

STELLA, IF WE GO BACK
TO THE COVE, WE'LL BE
ARRESTED FOR OPENING
THAT HELLHOLE.

THERE'S STILL AN
ACTIVE WARRENT FOR
US OVER THERE!

JUST GIVE THIS PLACE
A CHANCE. YOU'LL FIND
A HOME IN THIS TOWN
EVENTUALLY!

WHATEVER.

AND DROP THE
ATTITUDE WHILE
YOU'RE AT IT.

EY DAD.

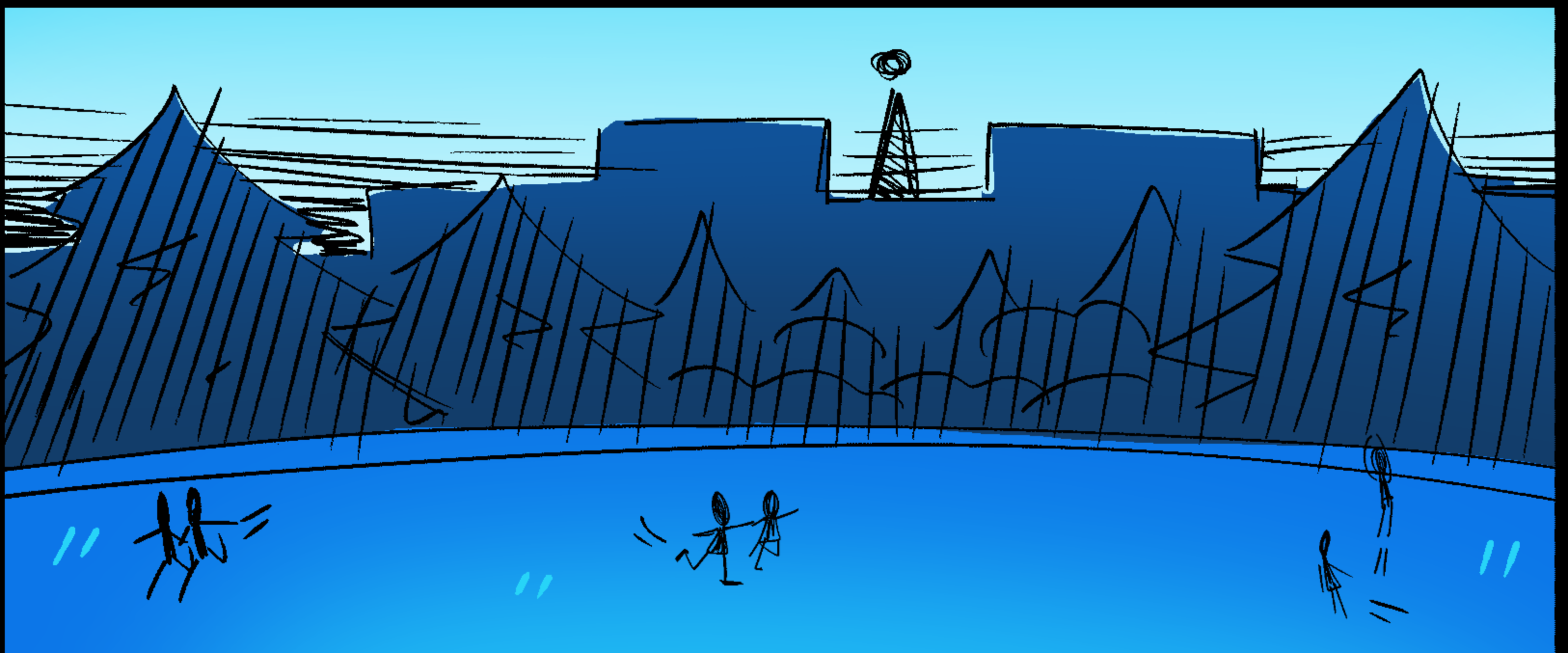
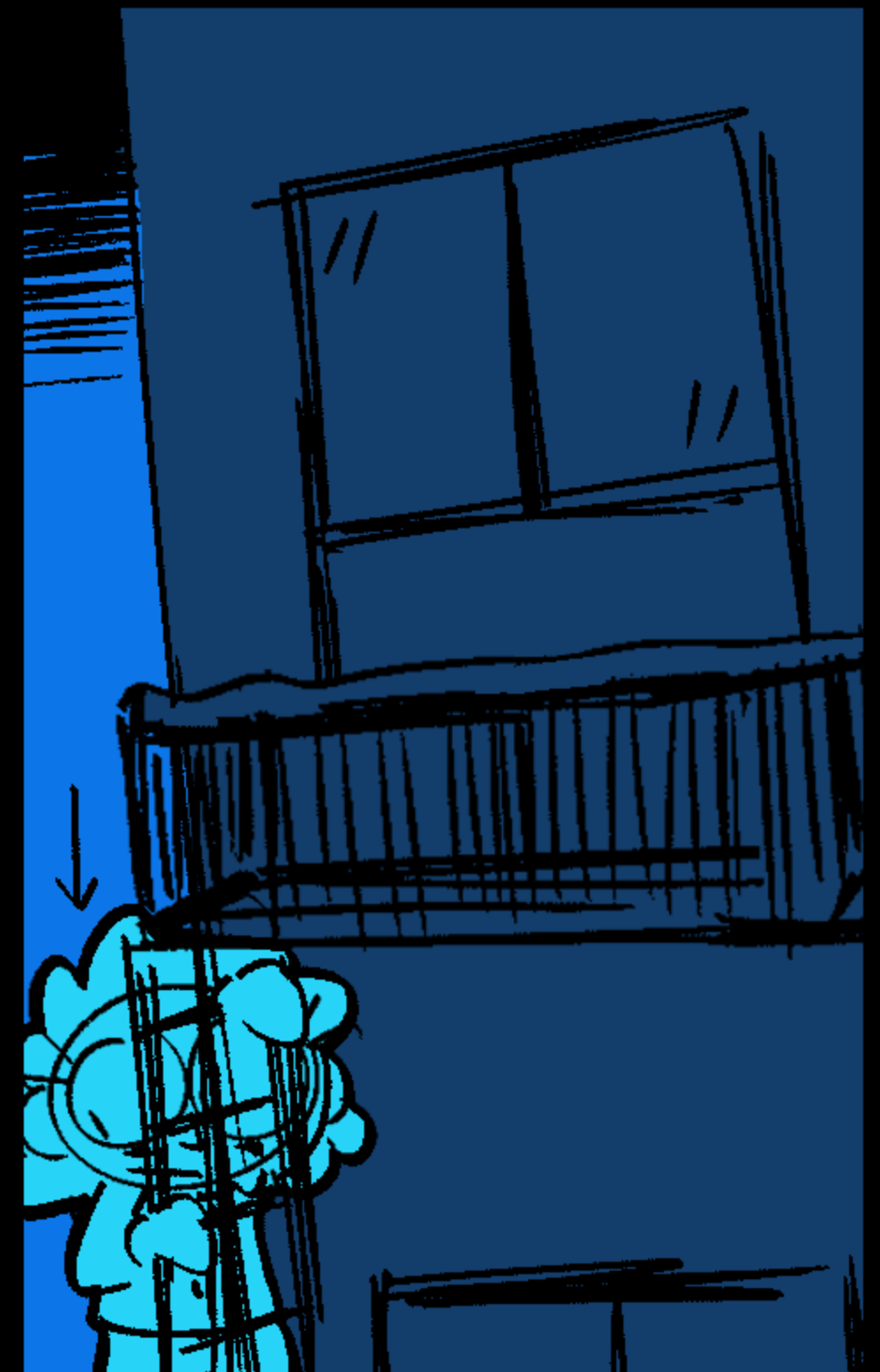
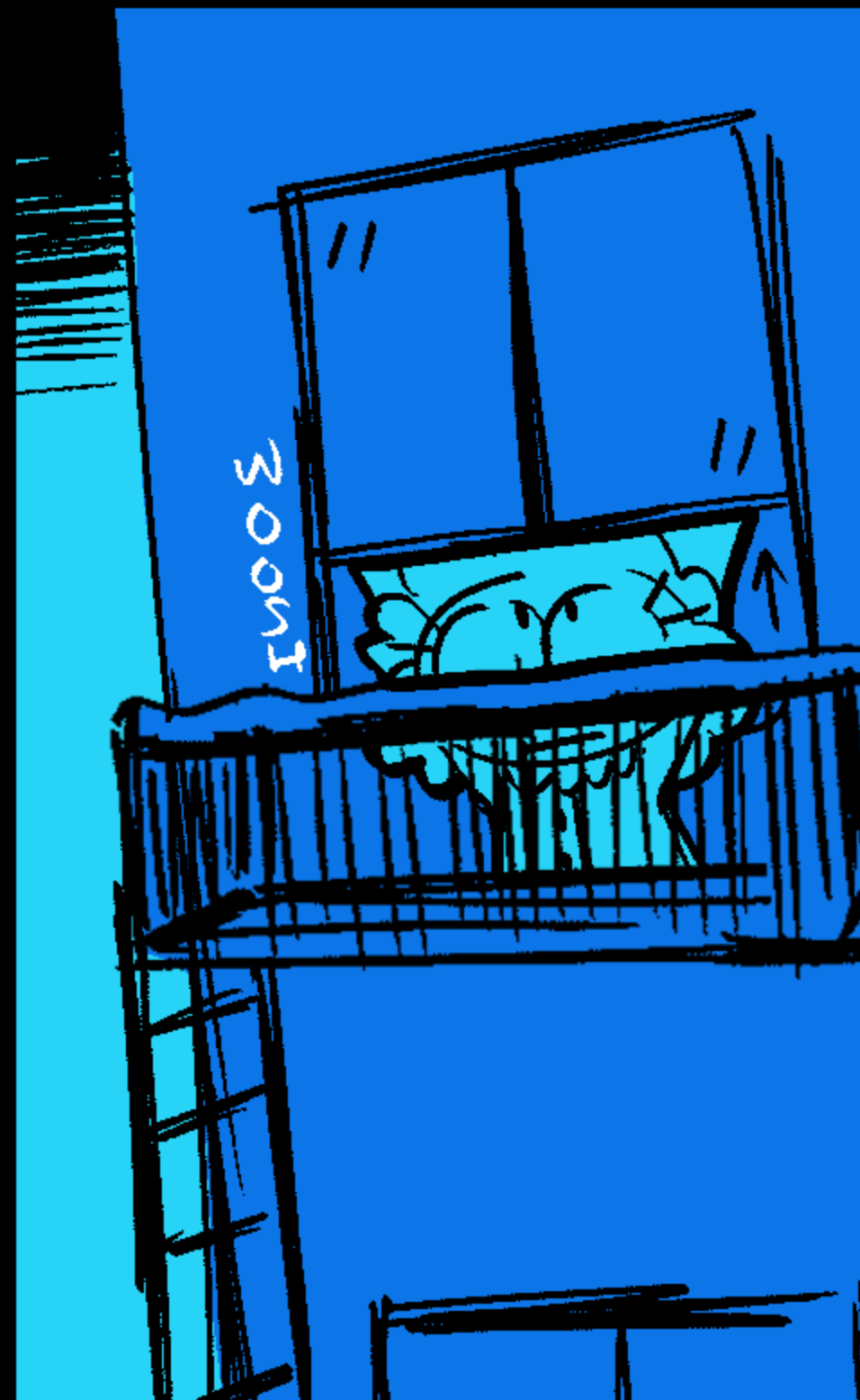
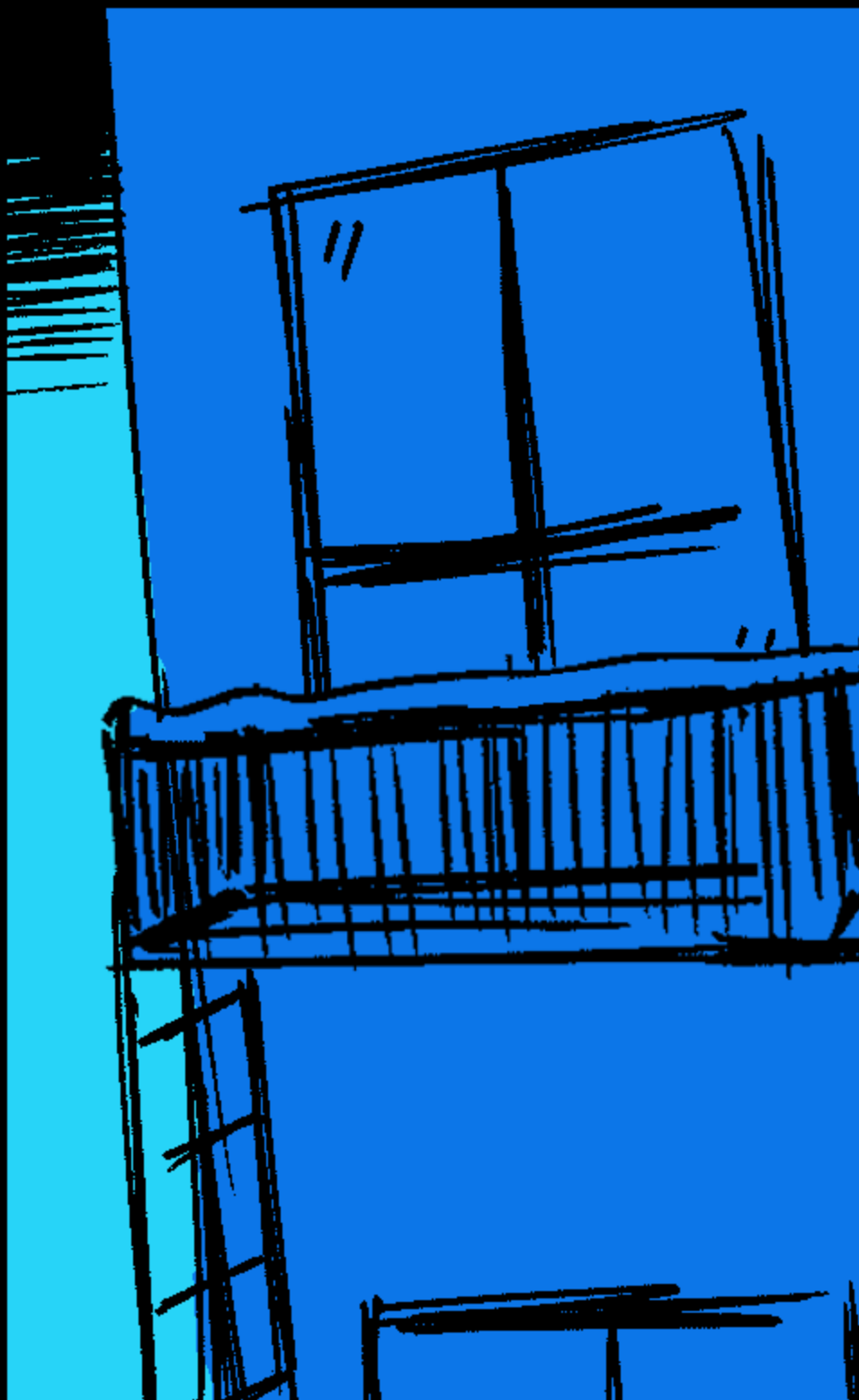
KYLE! MY MAN!
NICE HAIRCUT!

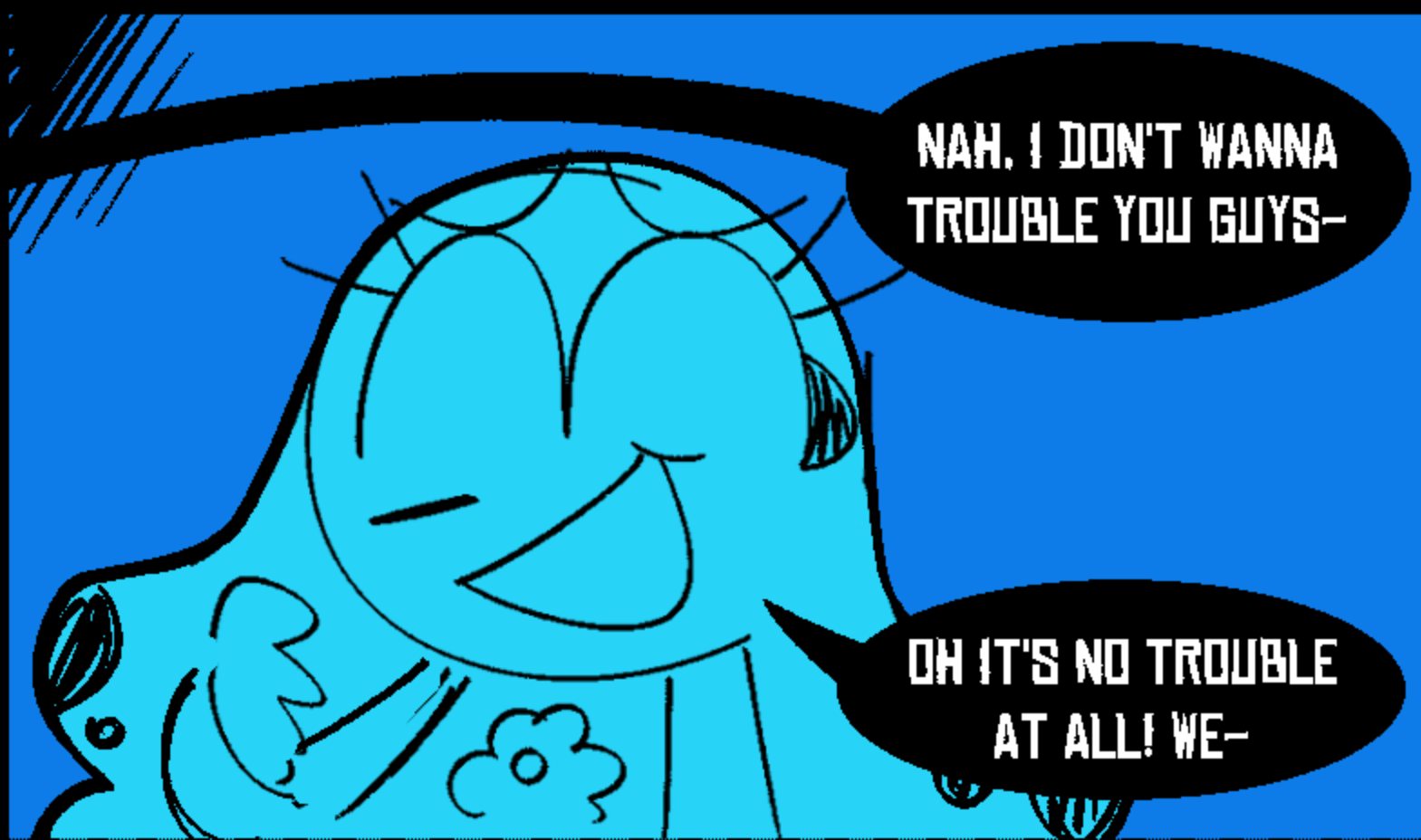
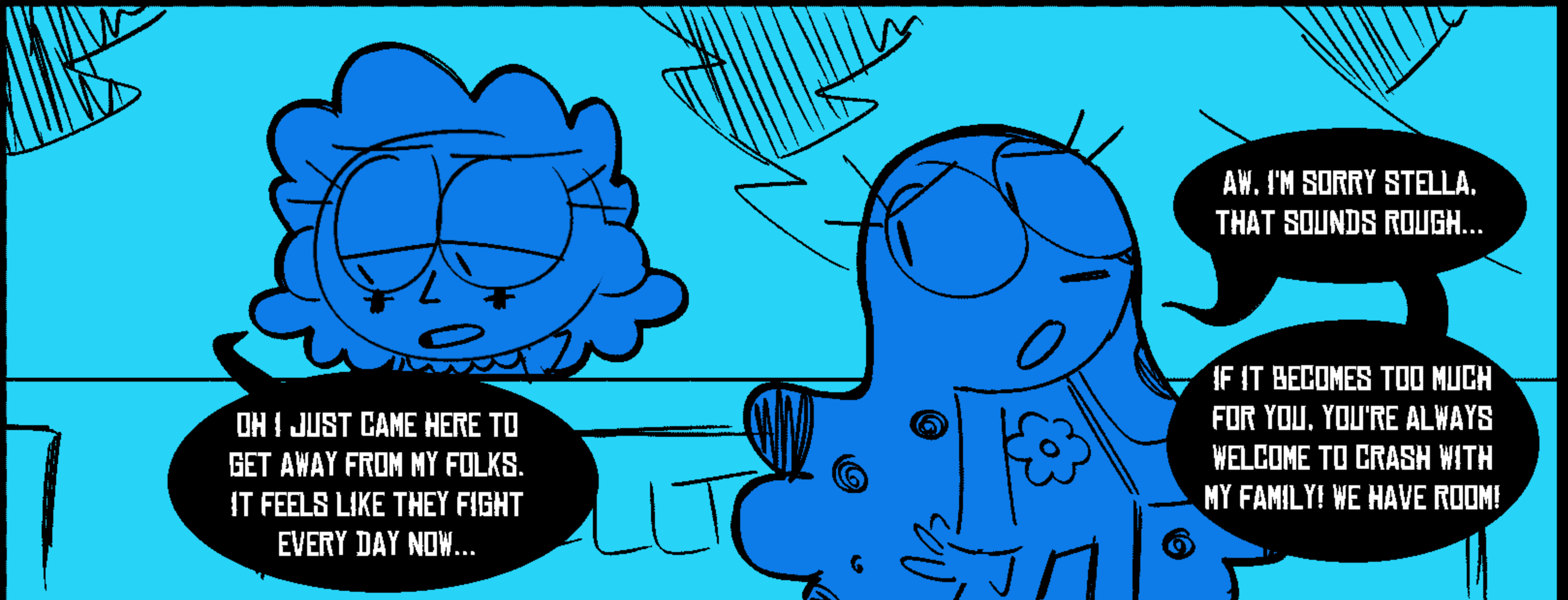
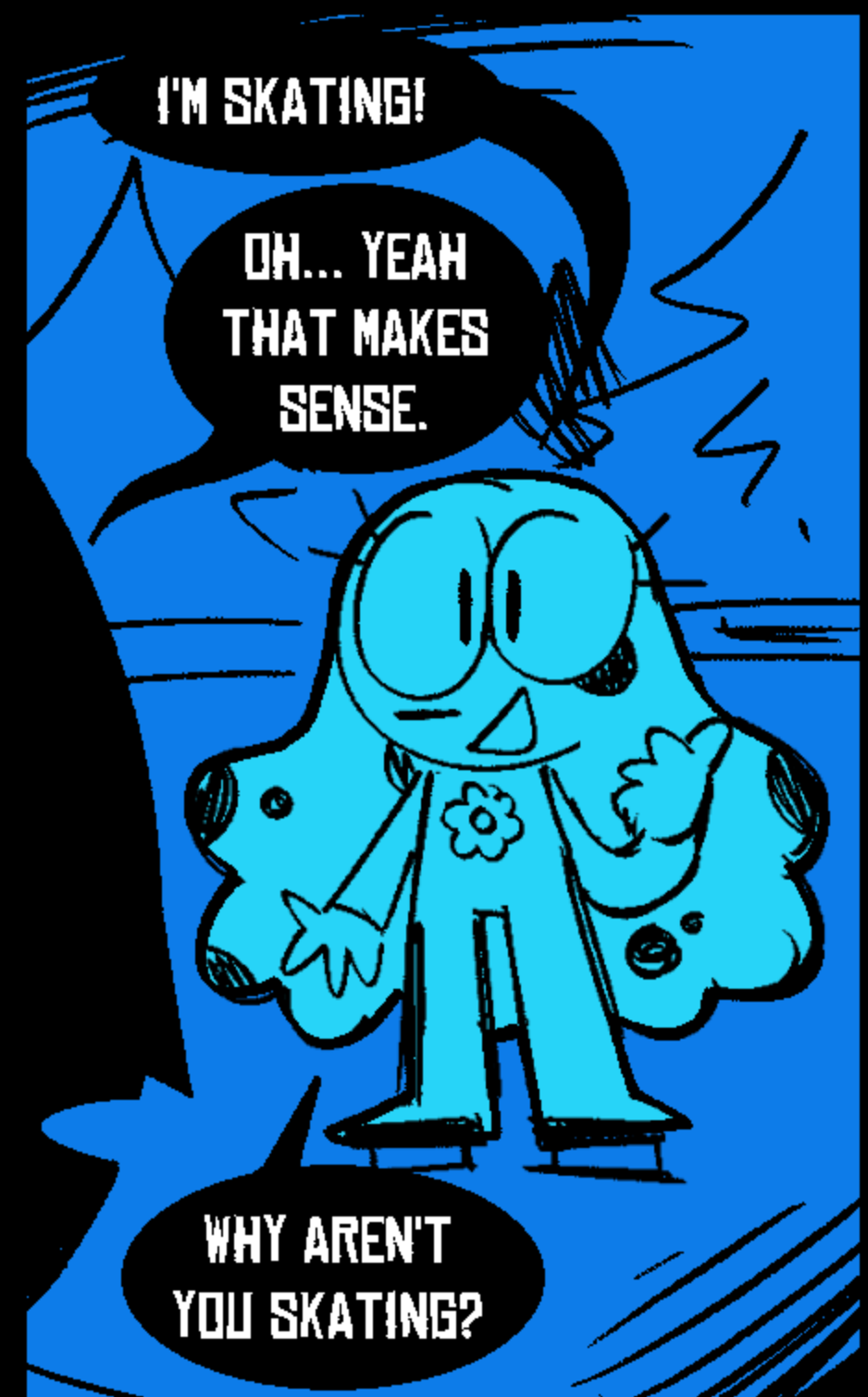
HEY HAVE YOU BY ANY
CHANCE SEEN MY STATE
QUARTER COLLECTION?

YEAH, I USED IT TO
BUY A COAT AT THE
THRIFT STORE.

W- WHAT?!

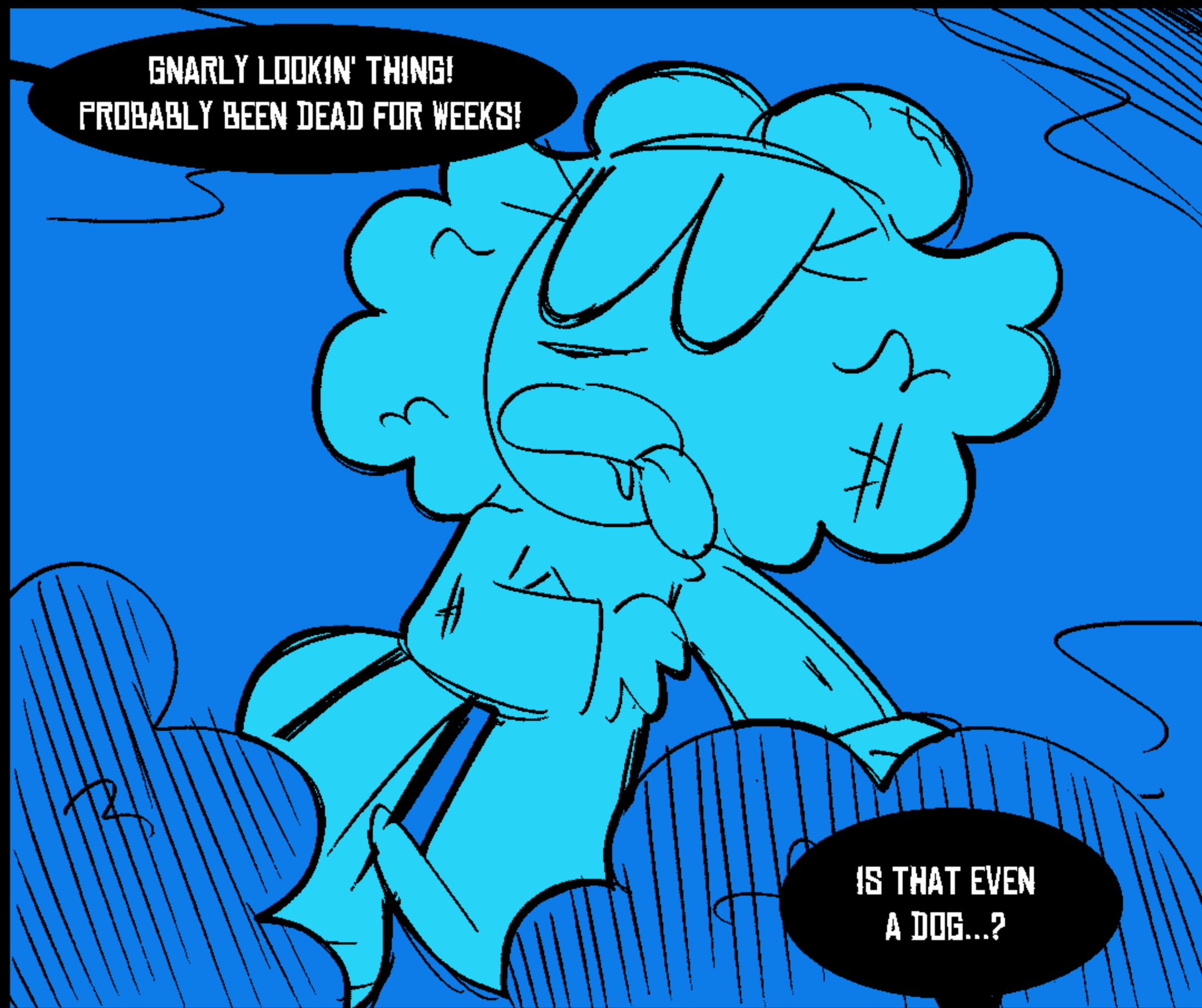
DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH
56 QUARTERS IS? THAT'S
LIKE \$10! AND YOU WERE
JUST HOARDING ALL THAT
TO YOURSELF! WE'RE ON
LOW FUNDS, POPS!





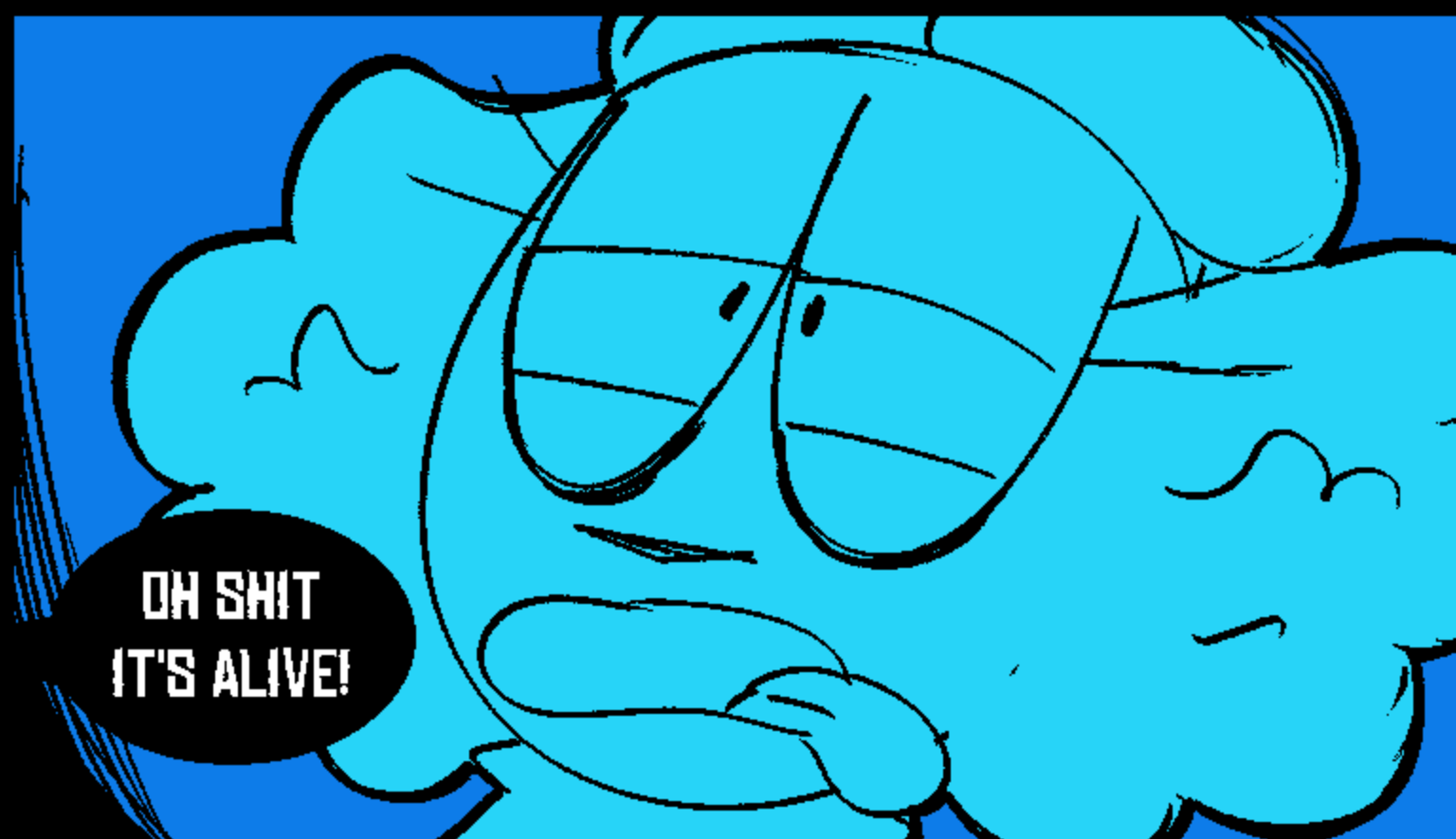


SEE LOOK, OUTSIDE
THE RINK.

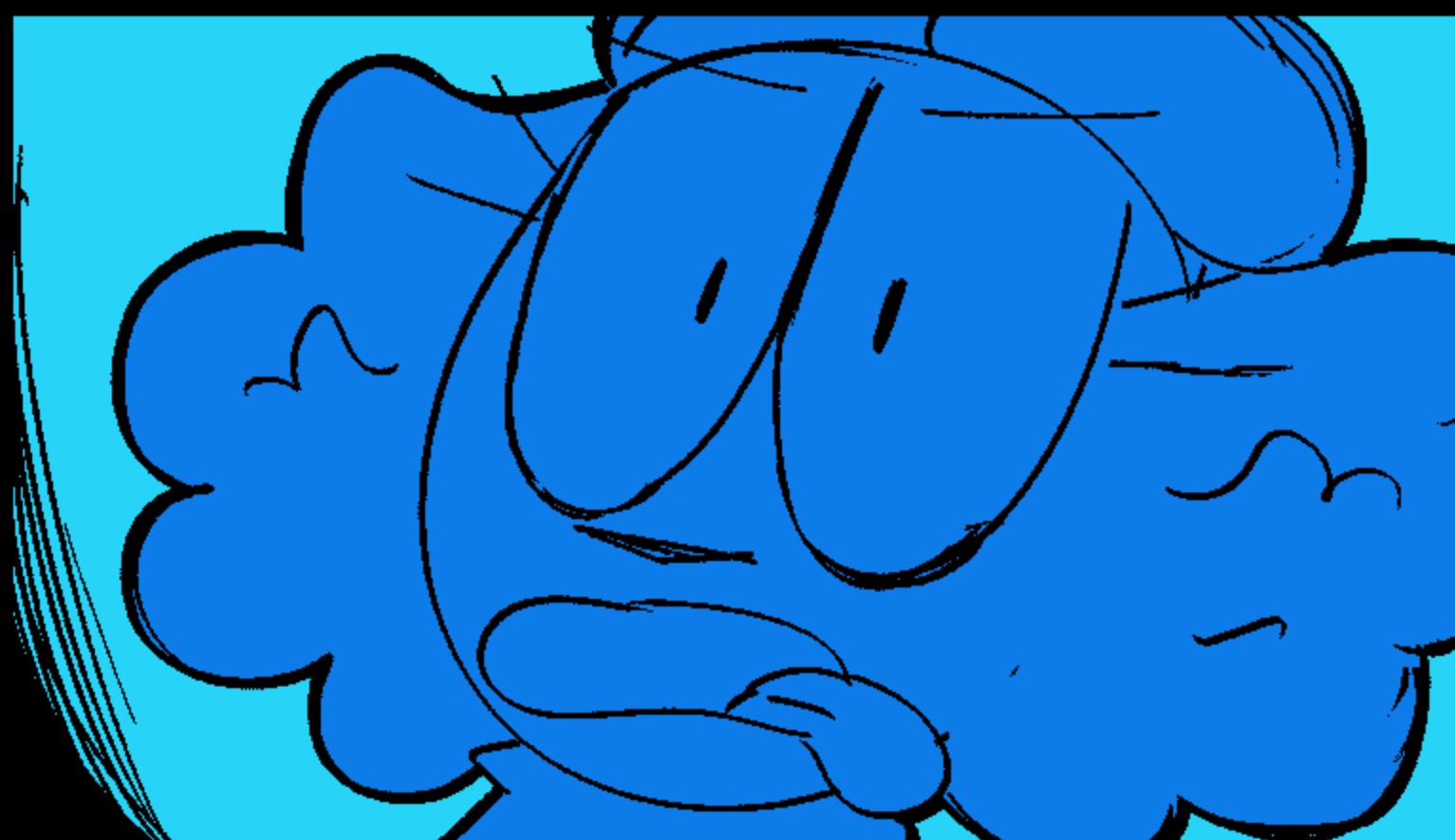


GNARLY LOOKIN' THING!
PROBABLY BEEN DEAD FOR WEEKS!

IS THAT EVEN
A DOG...?

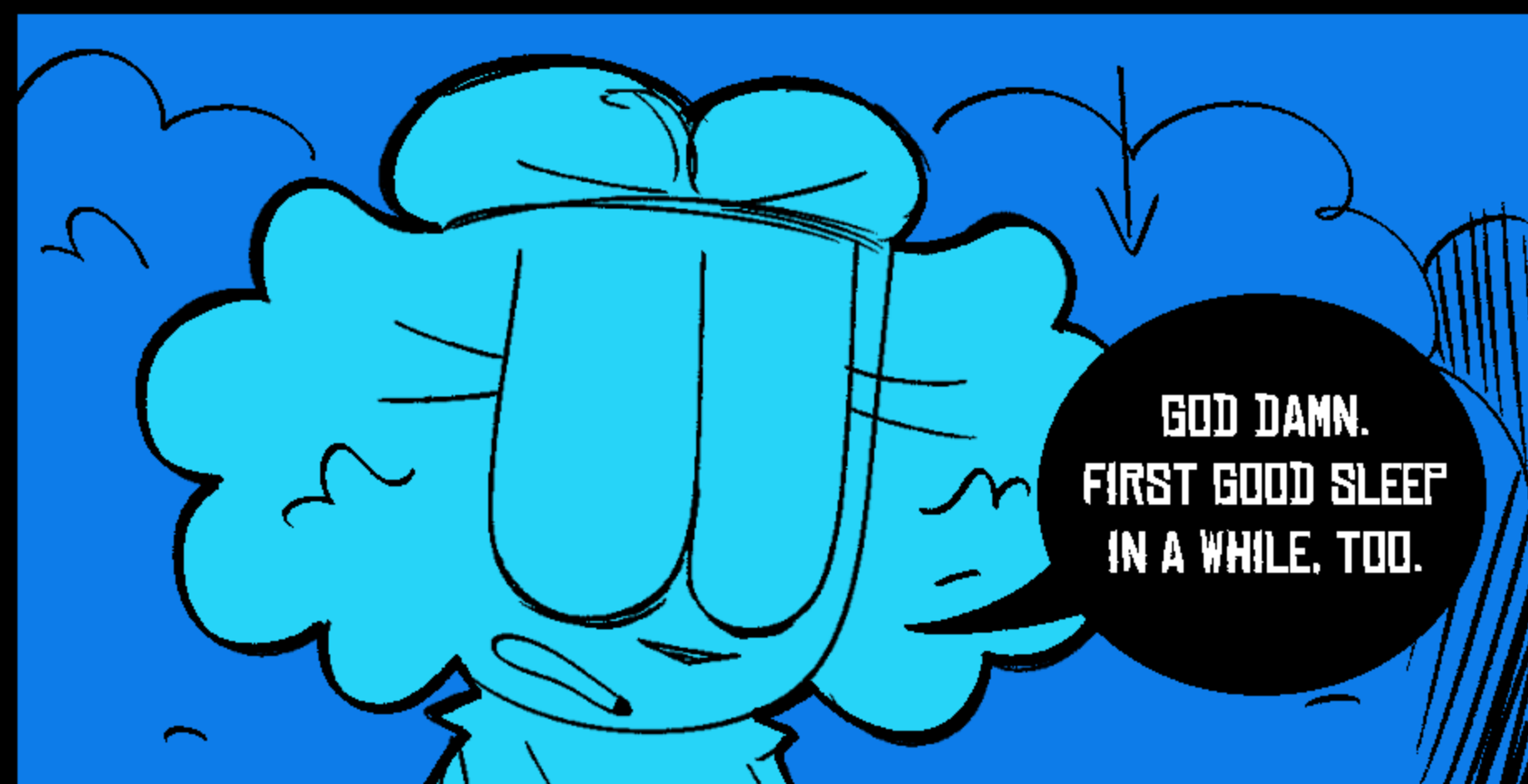


OH SHIT
IT'S ALIVE!



ZOMBIE!!!
EVERYONE RUN!!

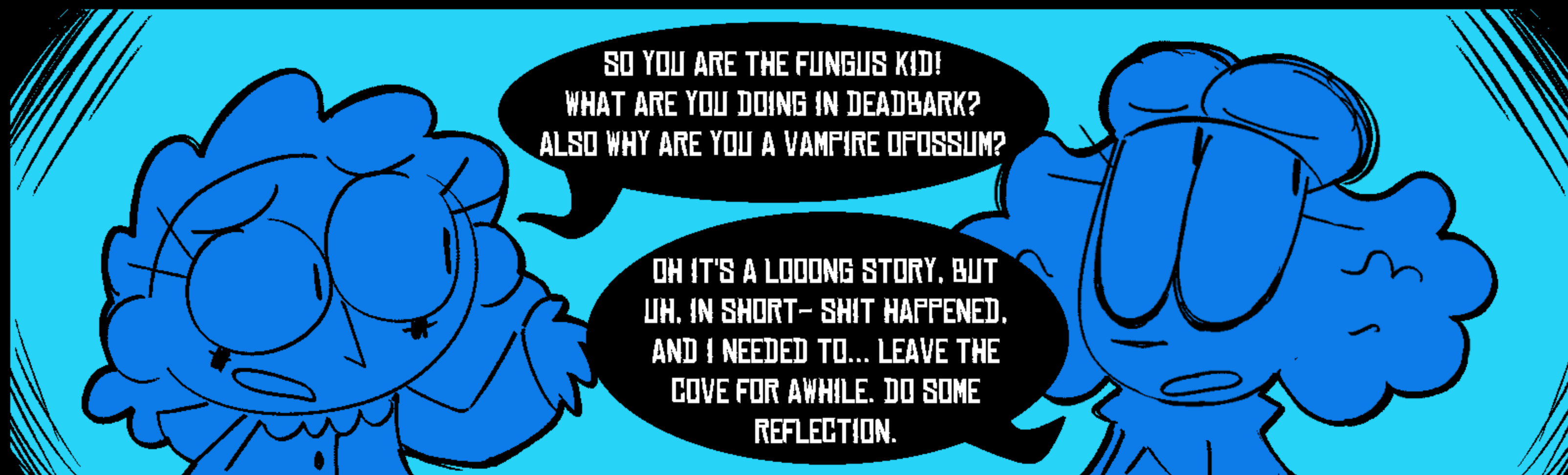
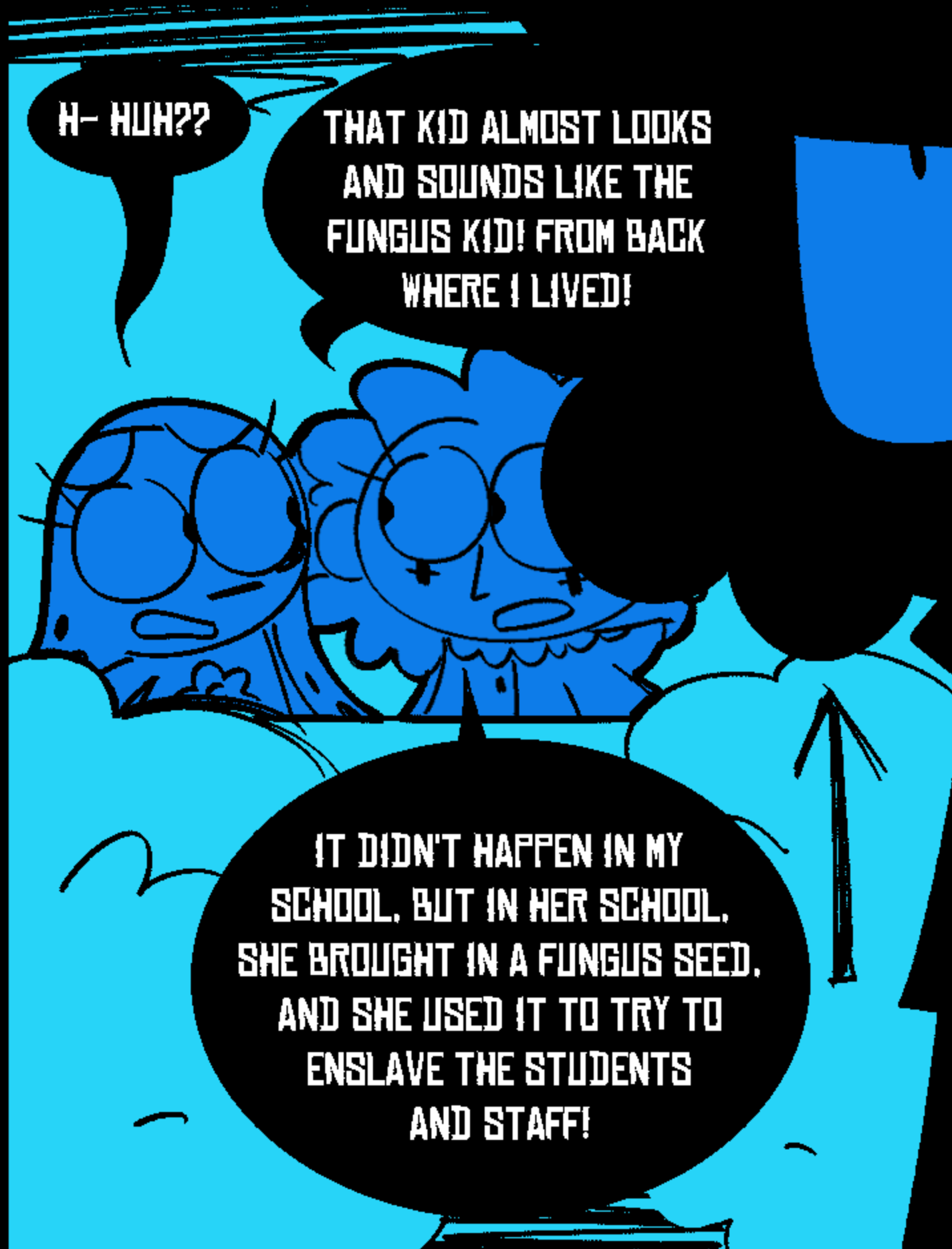
HEY GO AWAY! CAN'T
YOU SEE I WAS SLEEPING?!

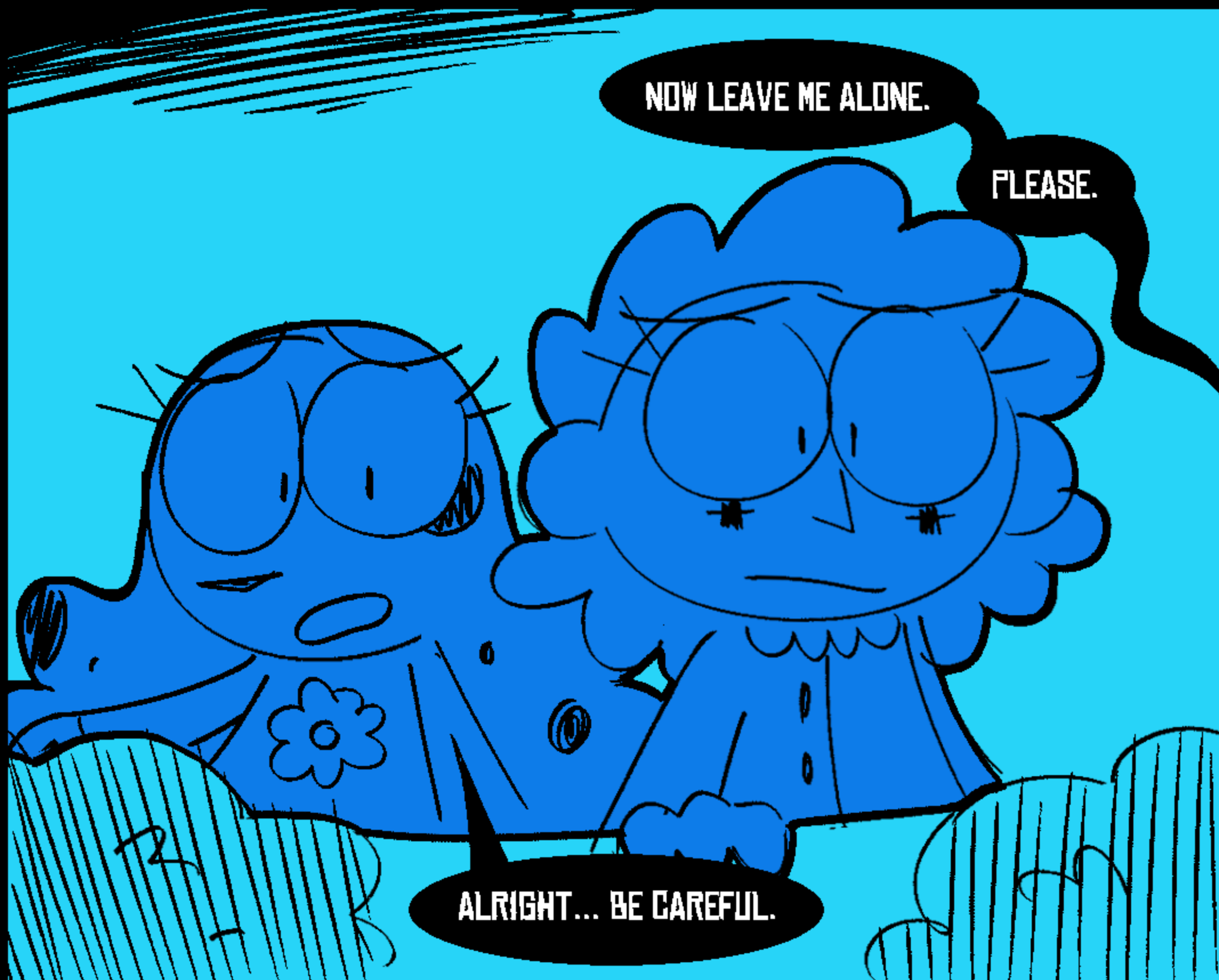


GOD DAMN.
FIRST GOOD SLEEP
IN A WHILE, TOO.



FUNGUS
KID?!





I DON'T FEEL LIKE FEEDING
A THIEF! IF YOU WANT FOOD
SO BADLY, GO MAKE IT YOURSELF!

OH YOU JACKASS!! YOU'RE
TRYING TO STARVE ME!!

ARE YOU THAT MUCH OF
A FAILURE THAT YOU DON'T
KNOW HOW TO FEED YOURSELF?!

MAYBE I WOULDN'T BE SUCH A HUGE
FAILURE IF YOU'D JUST LET ME FOLLOW
MY DREAMS AND BECOME A WRITER!!

THIS IS ALL
YOUR FAULT!

I WAS GIVING YOU A PURPOSE IN
LIFE!! MOST PEOPLE WOULD DIE TO
HAVE A PURPOSE! AND YET YOU
STILL MANAGED TO SCREW IT ALL UP!

THIS IS ALL
YOUR FAULT!

HHHHHHNNNGGG SHUT
THE FUCK UP!!!!

BLAH BLAH
BLAH BLAH
BLAH BLAH
BLAH

BLAH BLAH
BLAH BLAH
BLAH BLAH
BLAH

CAN YOU TWO GO
ONE DAY WITHOUT
FIGHTING?!

MAYBE THIS IS
BOTH OF YOUR
FAULTS!

SHUT UP,
STELLA!

YES, BE QUIET,
STELLA!



**BOTH OF YOU ARE TERRIBLE!!
I FUCKING HATE LIVING HERE!!**

**MY LIFE'S BEEN FUCKING RUINED
BECAUSE OF YOU TWO!!**

**WHY COULDN'T I HAVE BEEN BORN
INTO A FAMILY THAT WASN'T FILLED
WITH MURDEROUS AND VIOLENT
JACKASSES!!!**



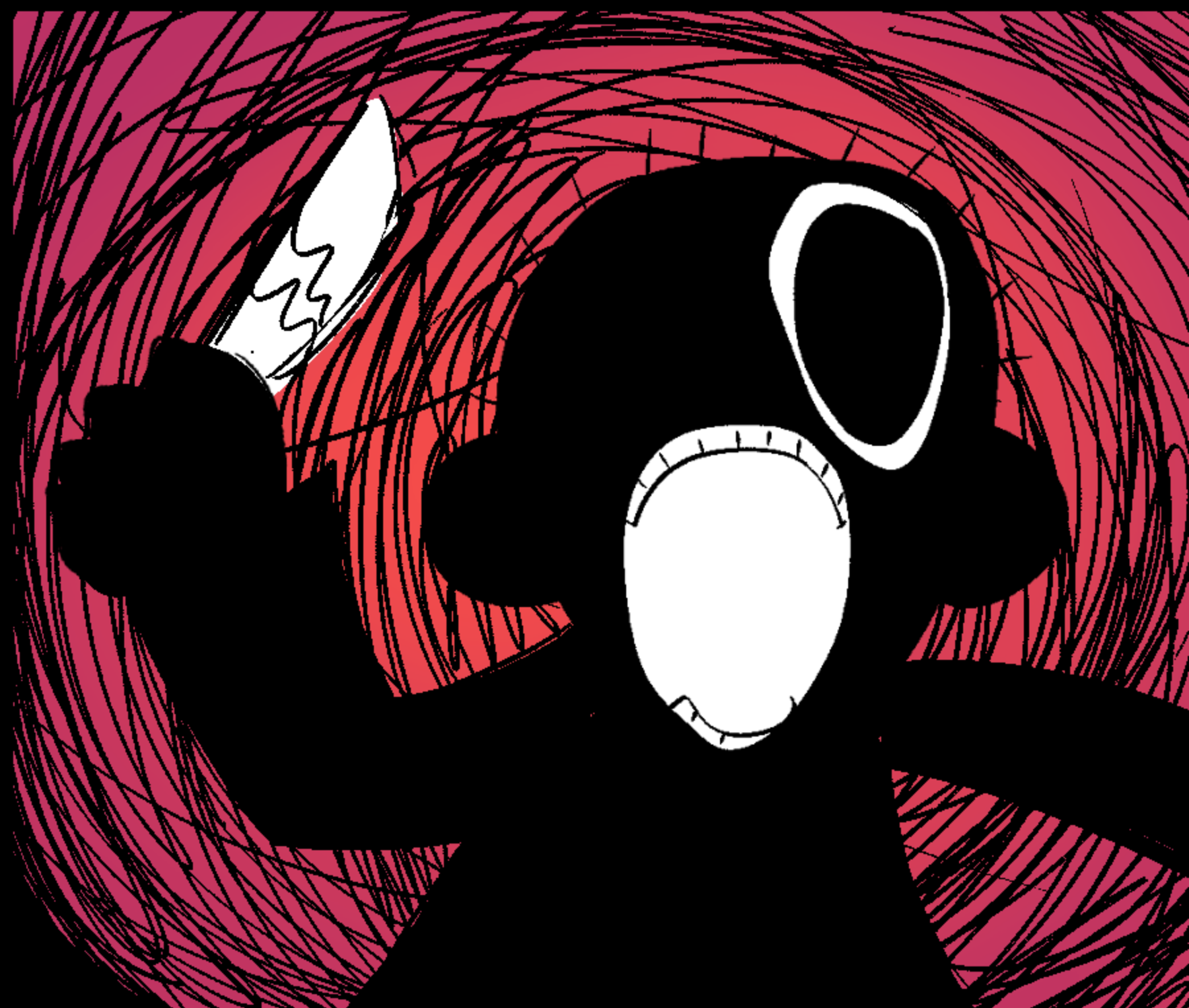
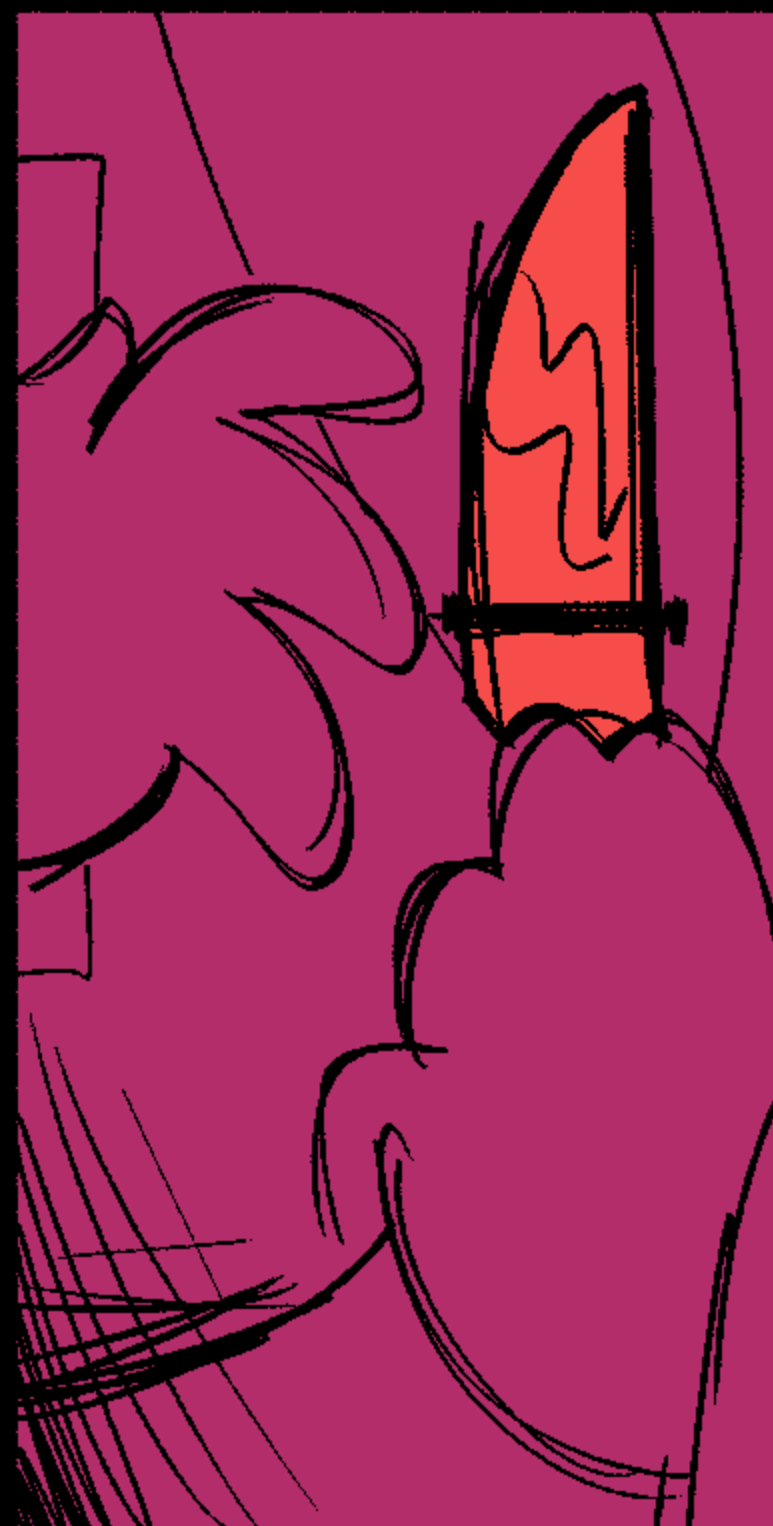
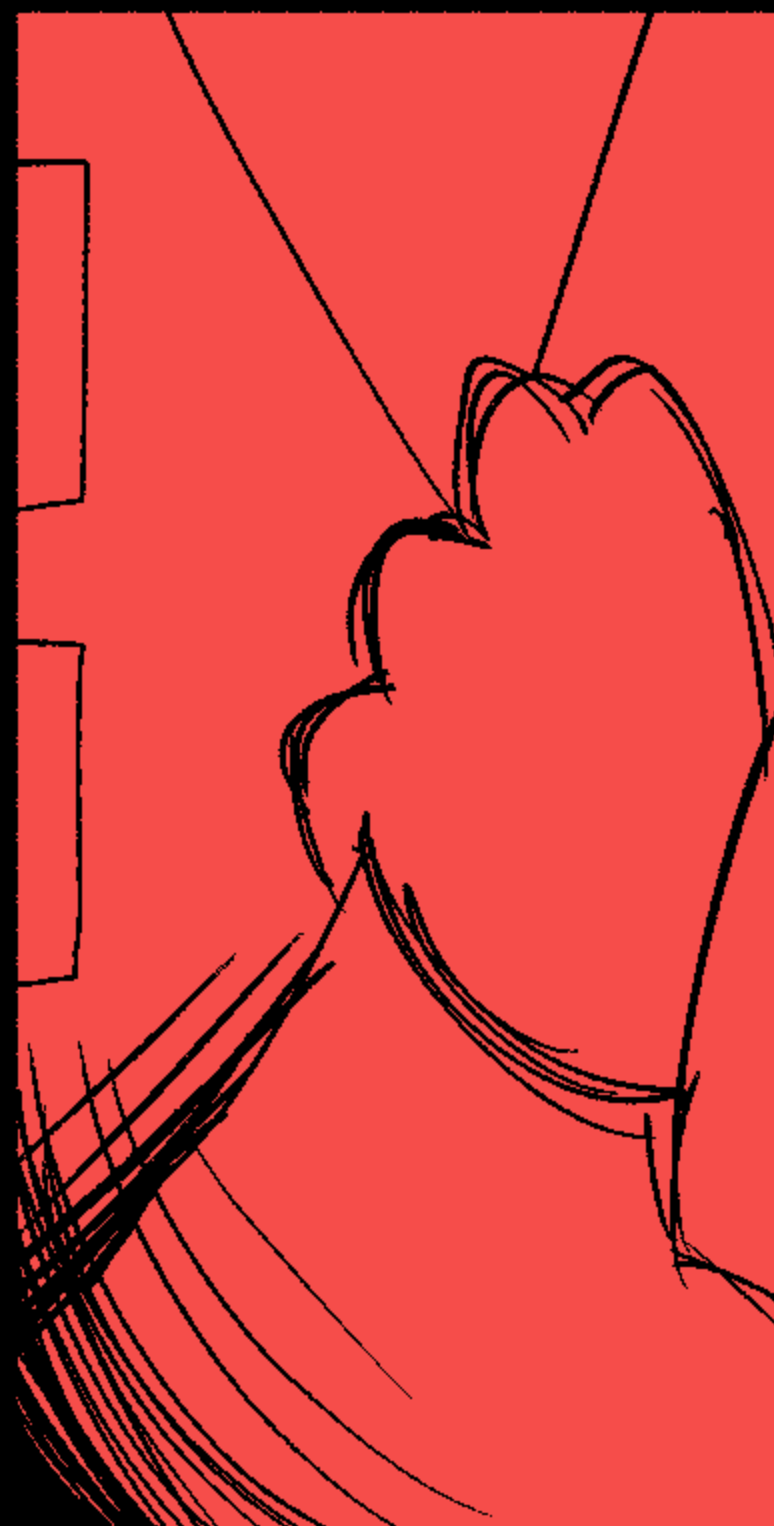
**HEY, I AM NOT MURDEROUS AND VIOLENT!!
JUST BECAUSE I STABBED ONE 12-YEAR OLD
IN THE EYE, THAT DOESN'T MEAN-**

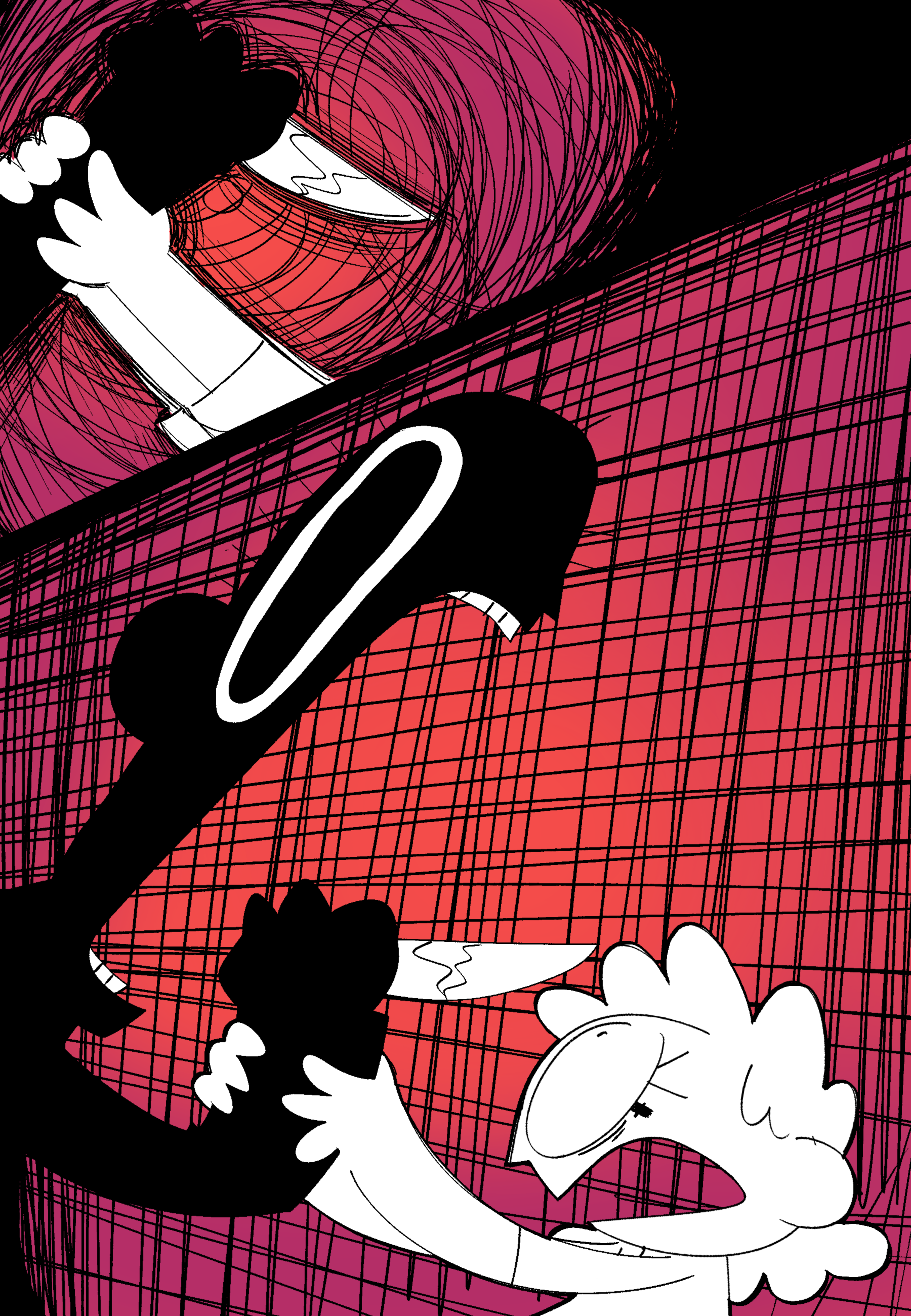
**I WANT NOTHING TO DO WITH
THIS FAMILY ANYMORE!!**

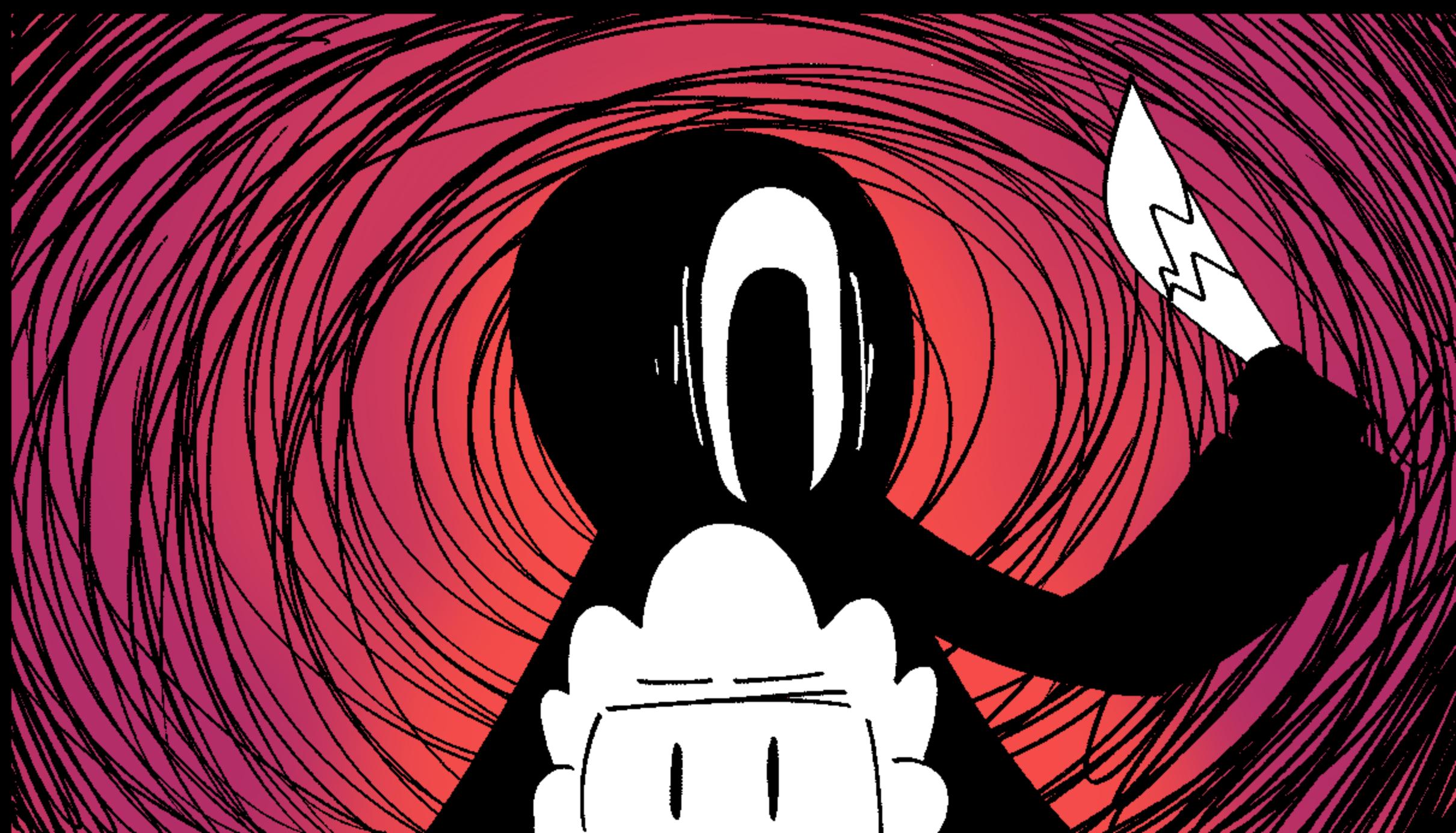
YOU ARE NOT MY BROTHER!!!

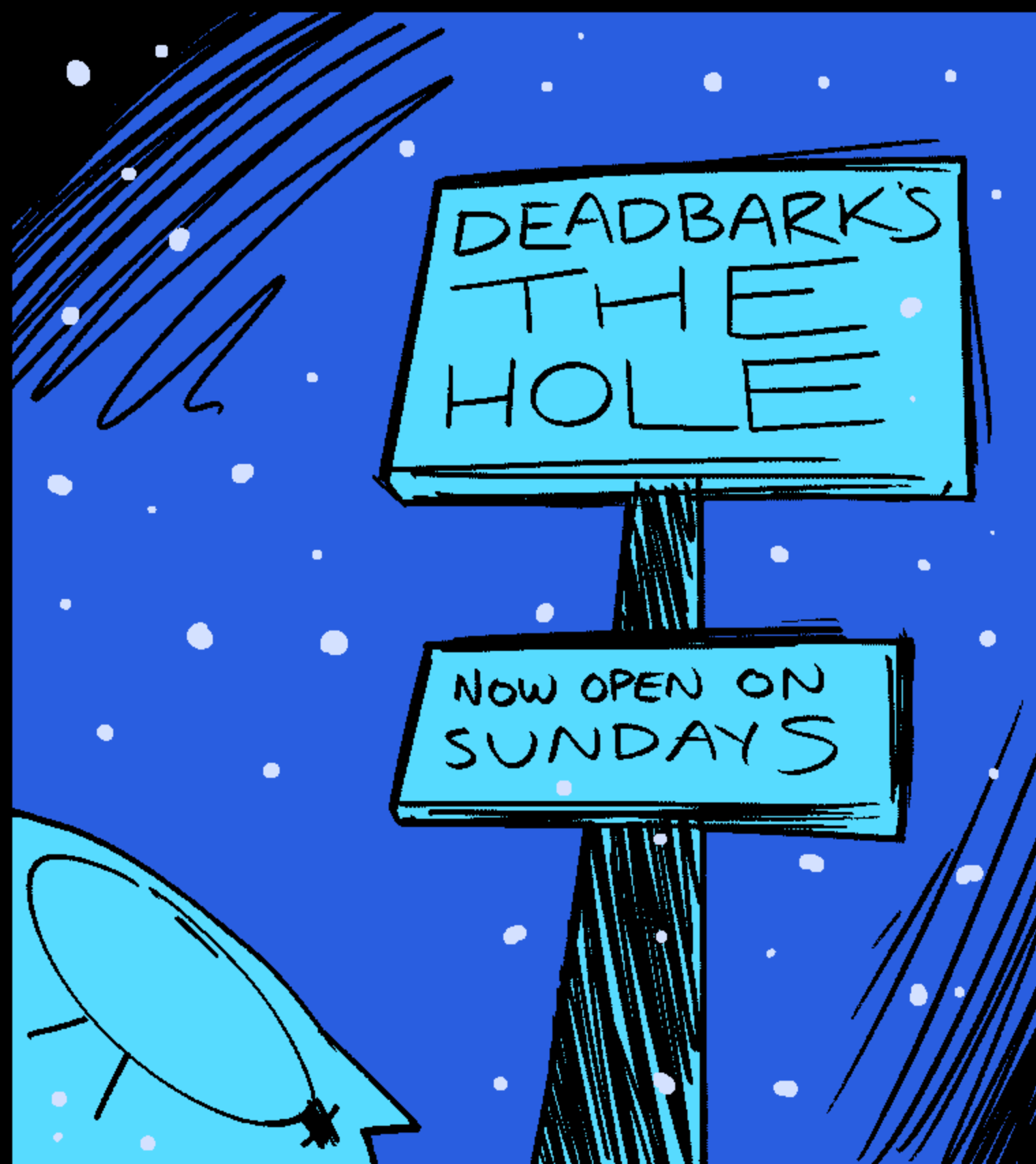
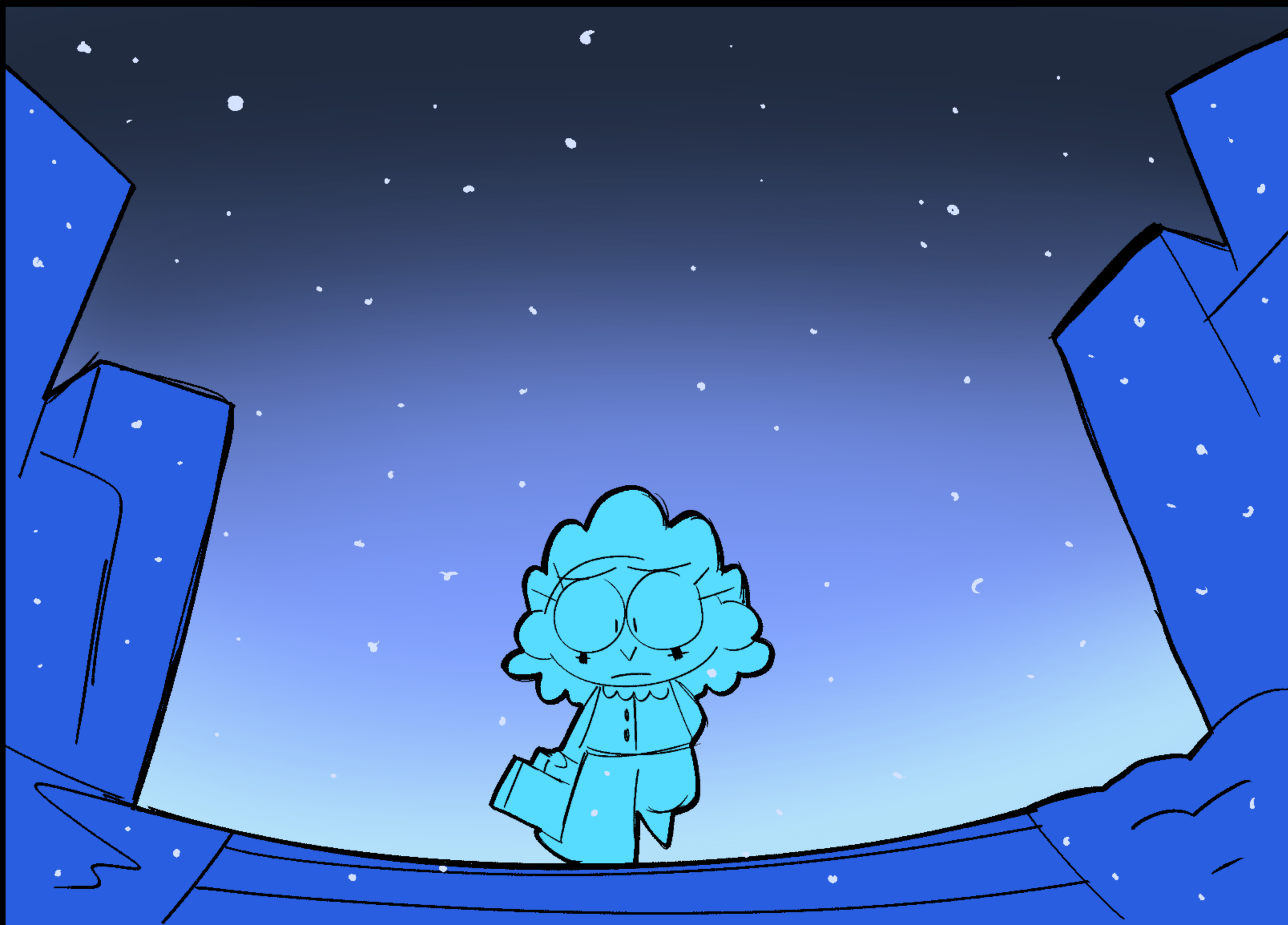
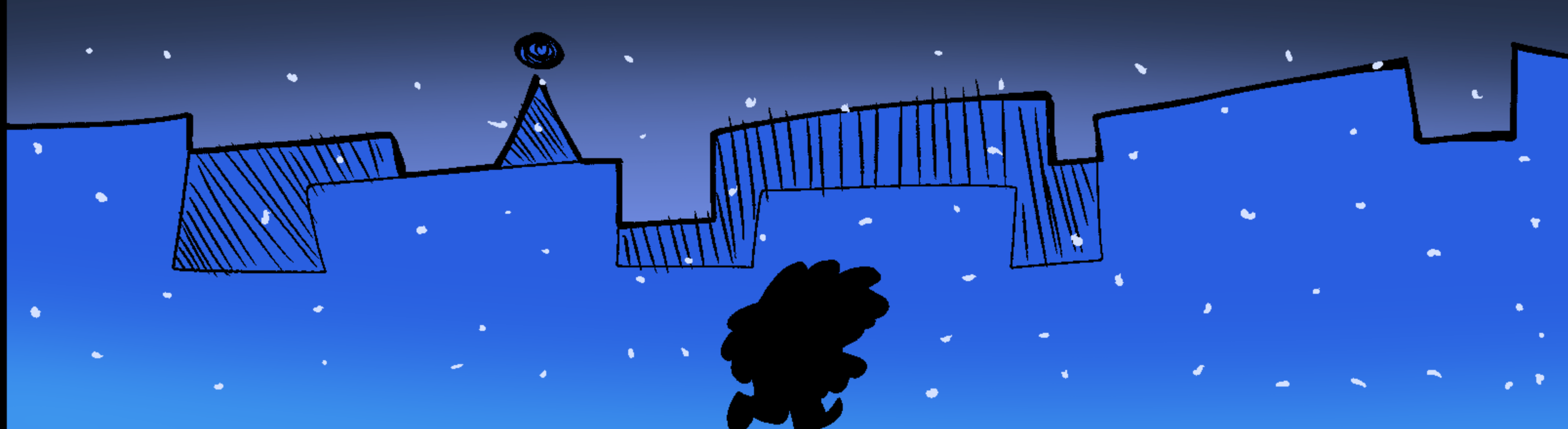


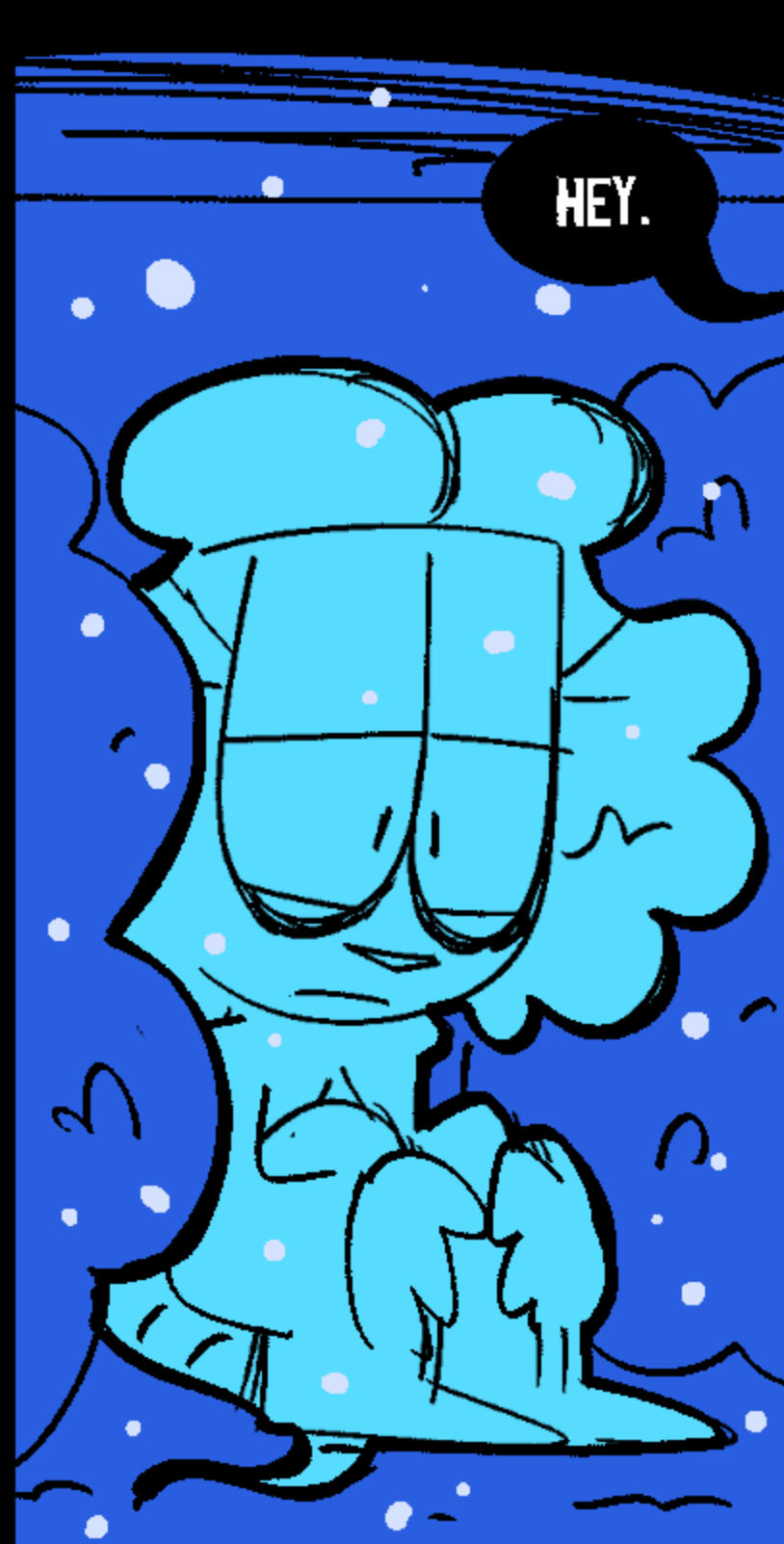
I HOPE YOU DIE!!

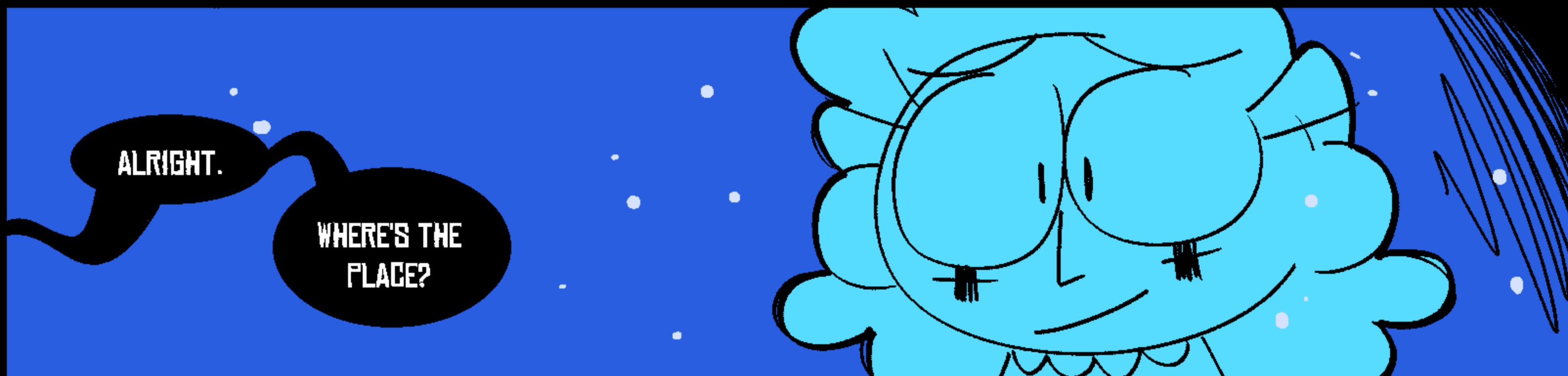
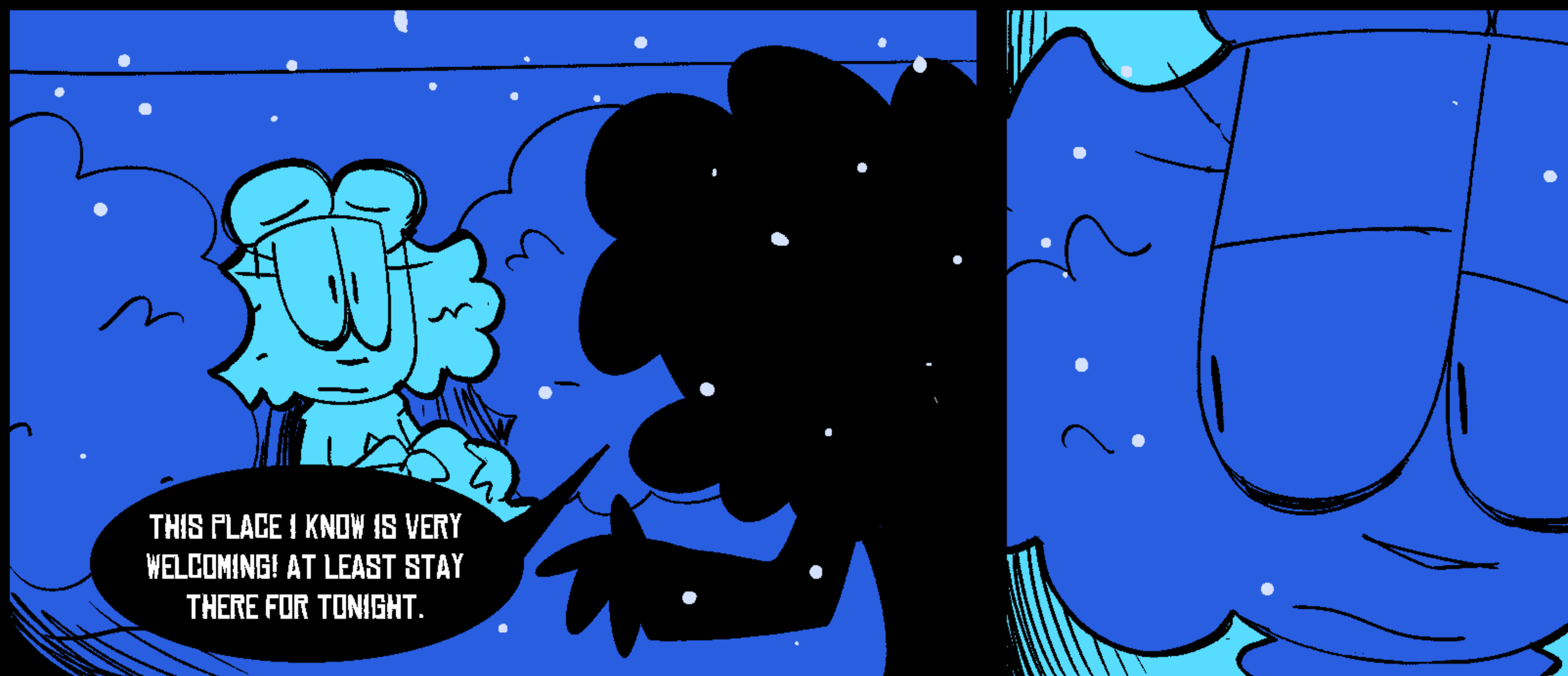


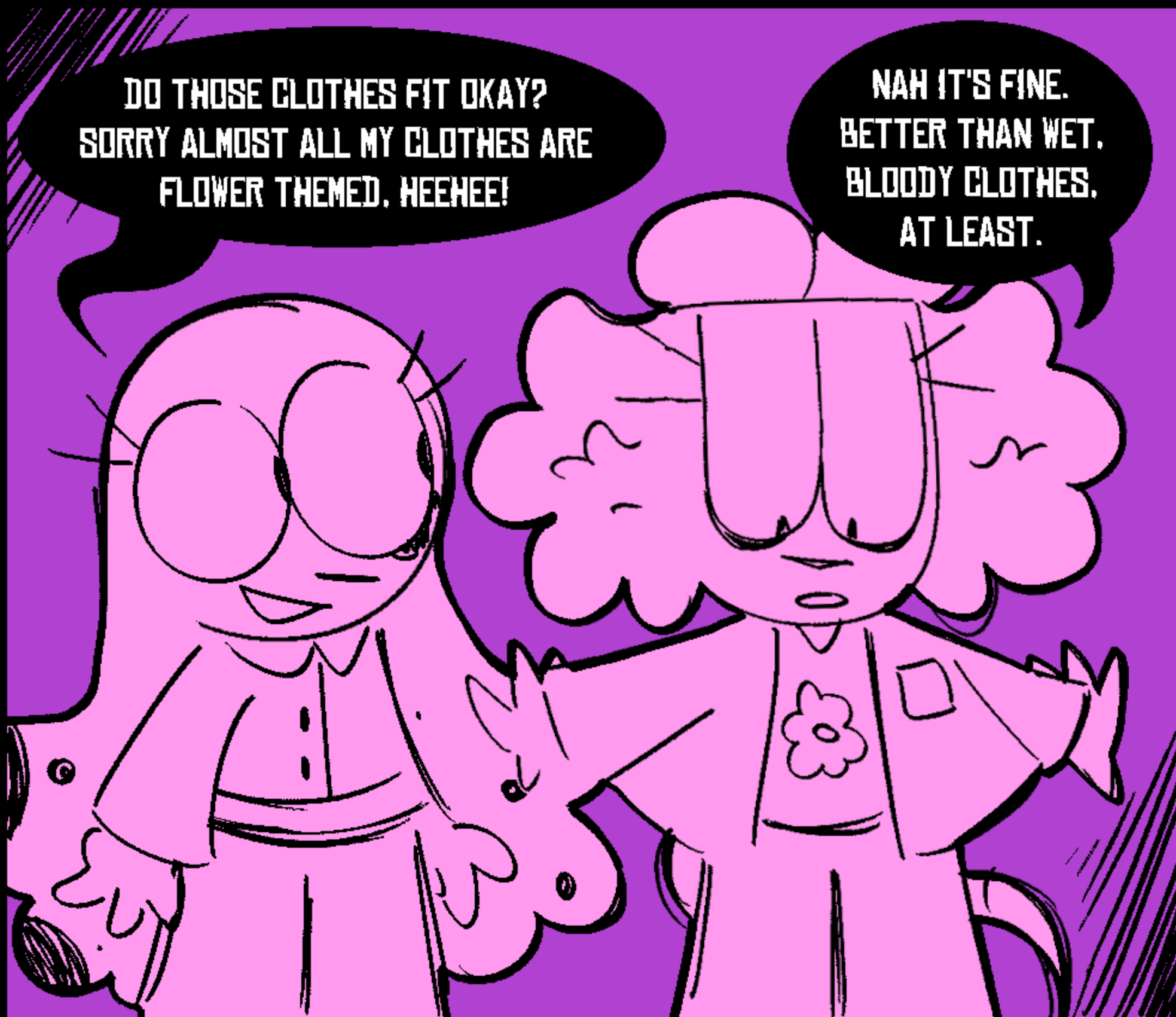












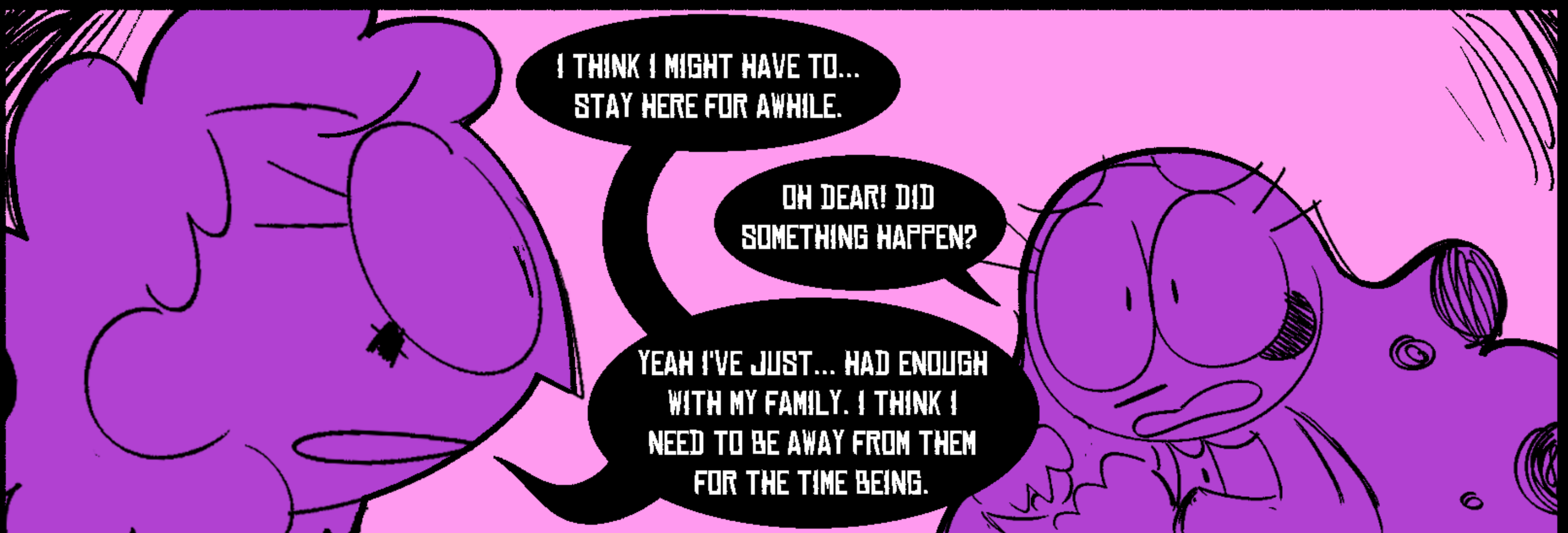
DO THOSE CLOTHES FIT OKAY?
SORRY ALMOST ALL MY CLOTHES ARE
FLOWER THEMED. HEEHEE!

NAH IT'S FINE.
BETTER THAN WET,
BLOODY CLOTHES.
AT LEAST.



YOU MIGHT WANNA GET COMFORTABLE
HERE, STELLA! THIS BLIZZARD'S GONNA
LAST ALL NIGHT!

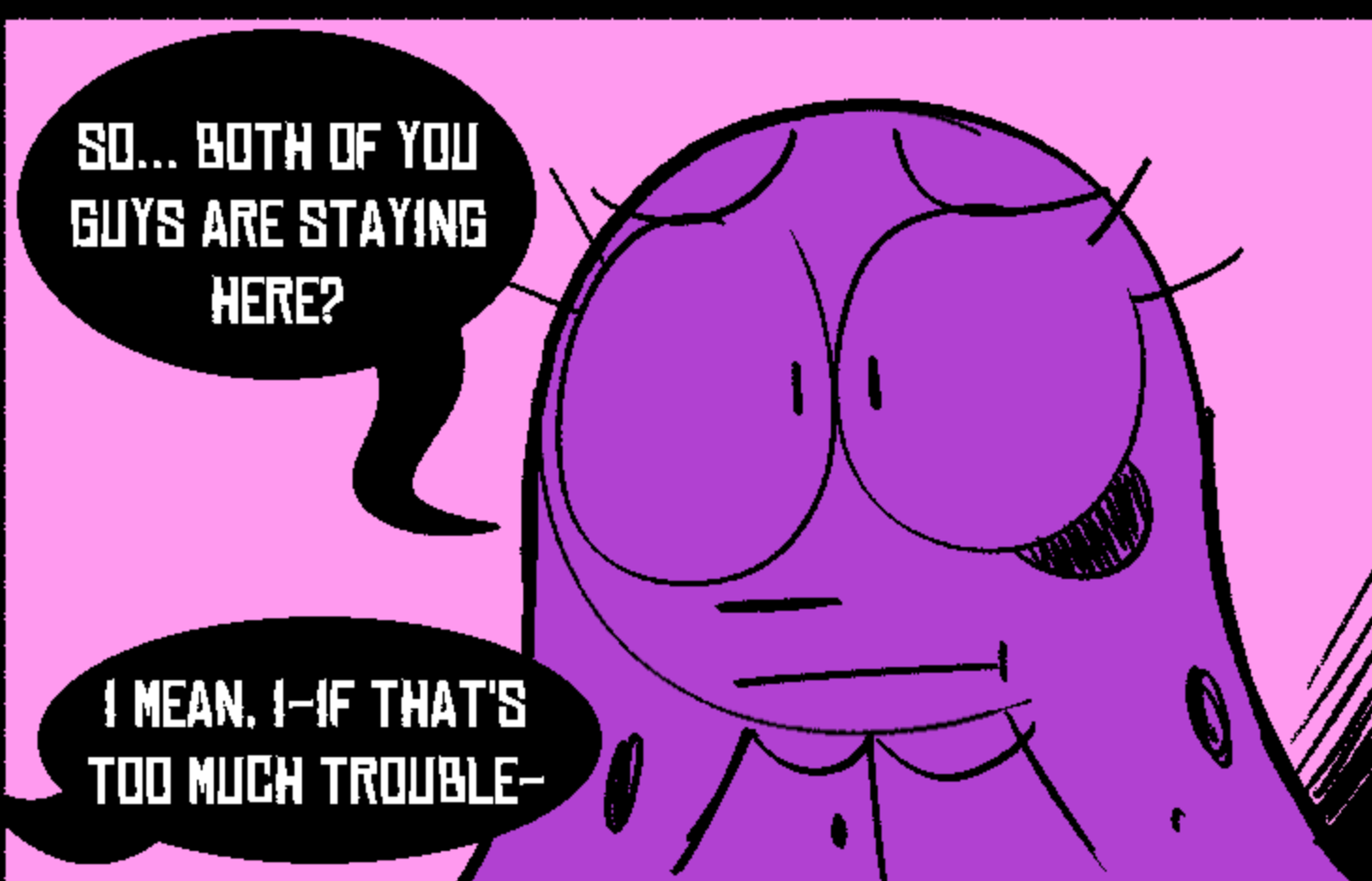
OH...
ABOUT THAT...



I THINK I MIGHT HAVE TO...
STAY HERE FOR AWHILE.

OH DEAR! DID
SOMETHING HAPPEN?

YEAH I'VE JUST... HAD ENOUGH
WITH MY FAMILY. I THINK I
NEED TO BE AWAY FROM THEM
FOR THE TIME BEING.



SO... BOTH OF YOU
GUYS ARE STAYING
HERE?

I MEAN, I-IF THAT'S
TOO MUCH TROUBLE-



NO NO, IT'S FINE!
I'LL JUST HAVE TO
TALK TO MY MOM
ABOUT TWO GUESTS
BEING OVER INSTEAD
OF JUST ONE!



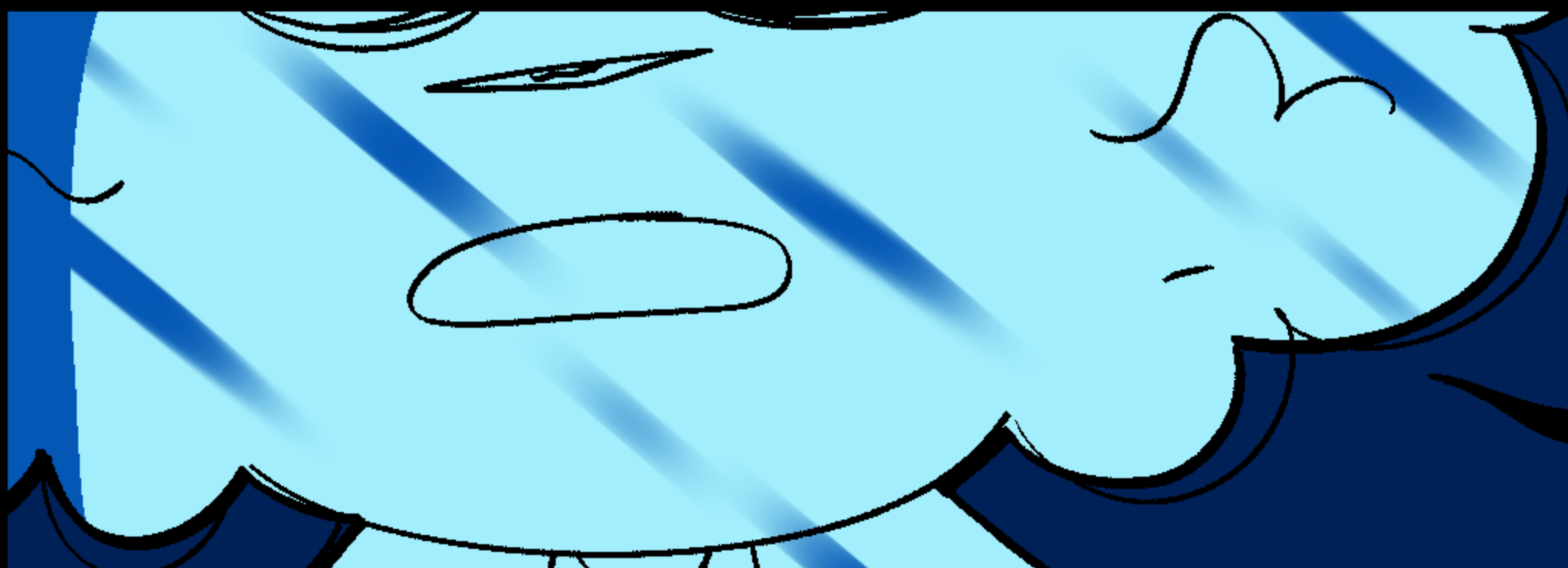
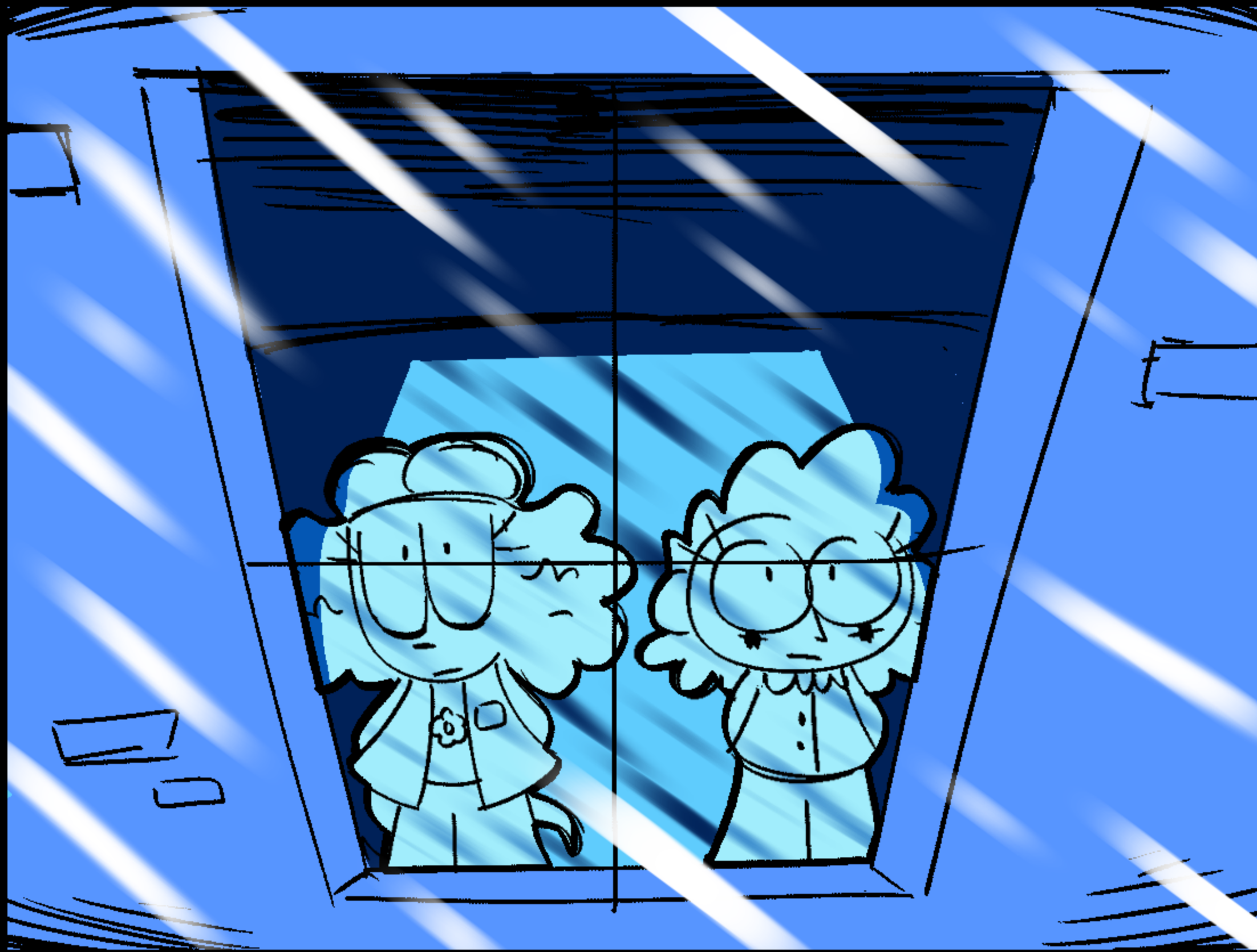
IT'S ALL GOOD!

LEMME KNOW IF YOU
SWEETIES NEED
ANYTHING, OKAY!

SURE THING,
ELI.



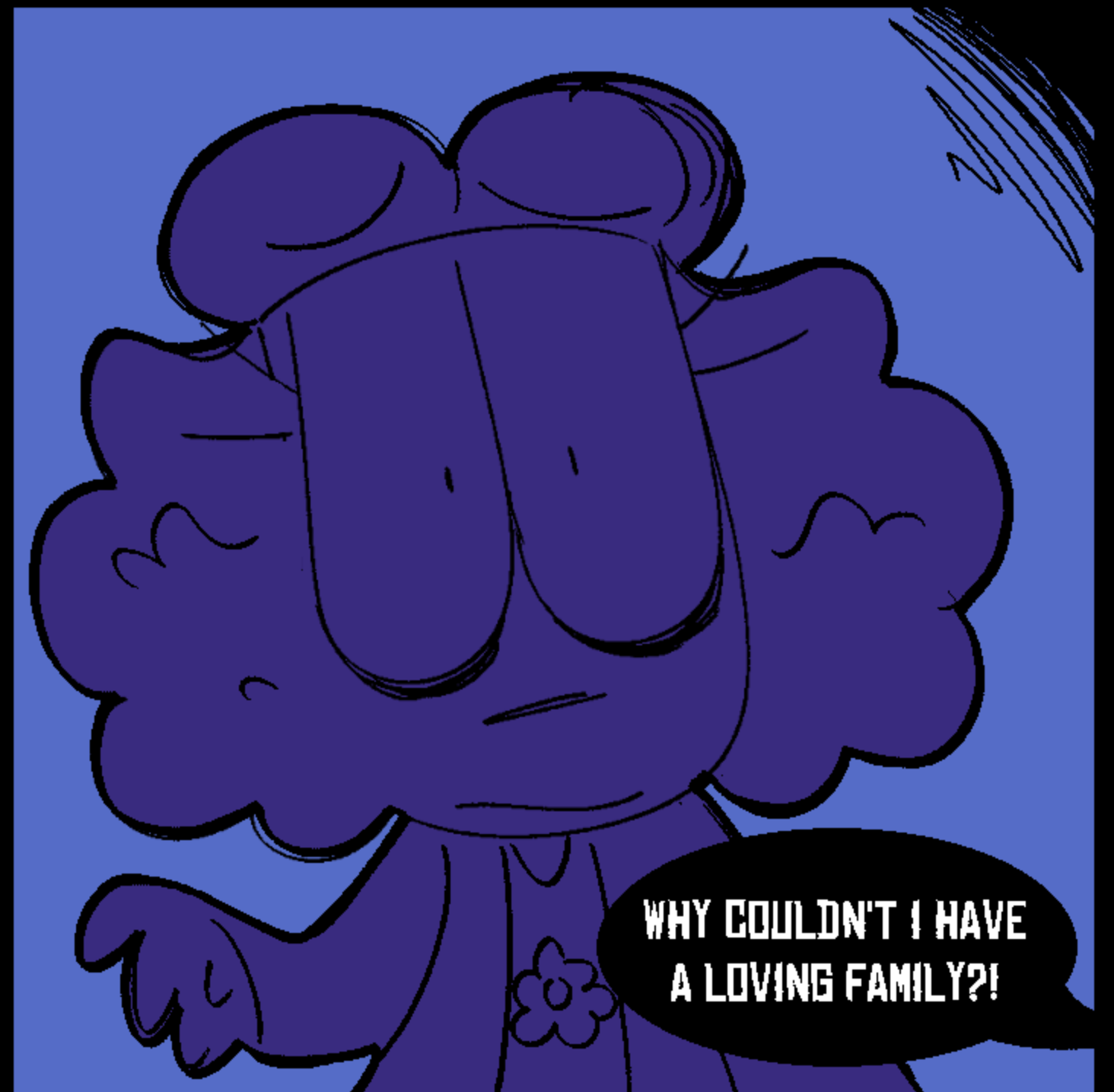
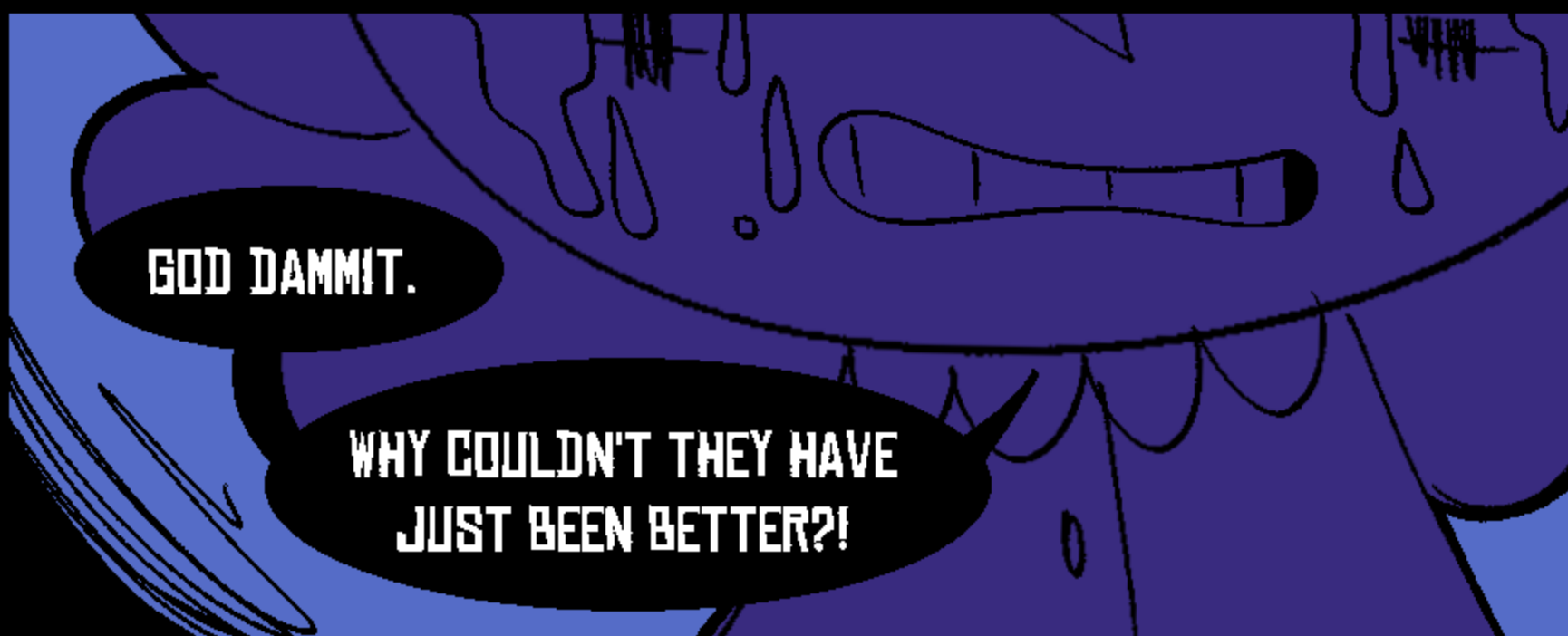
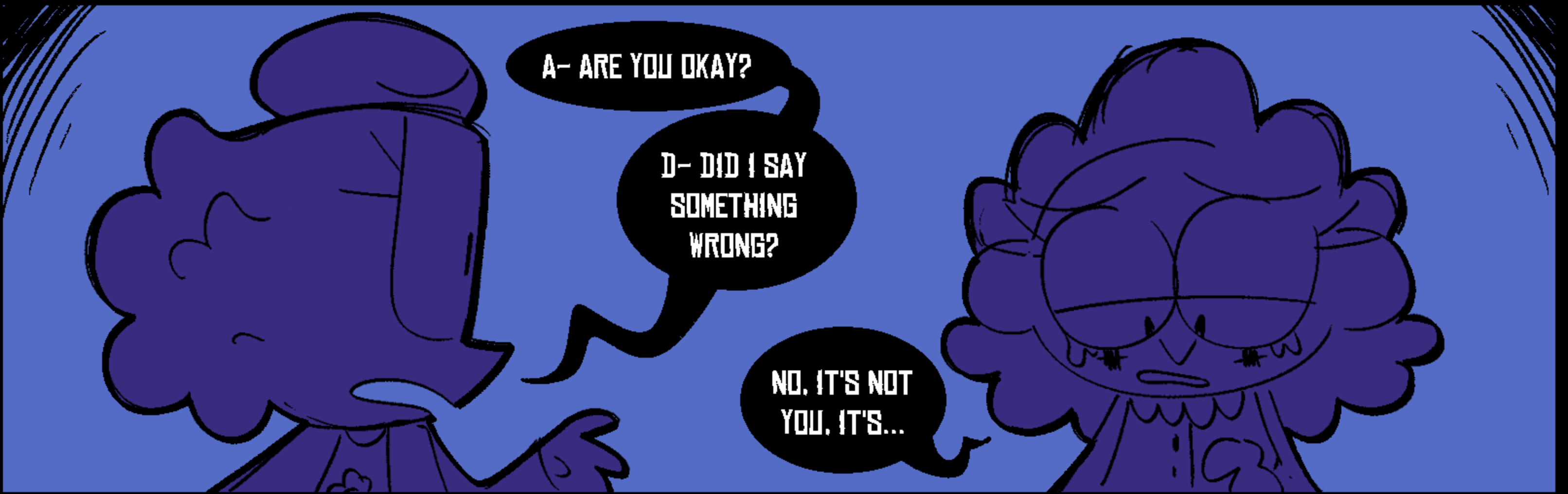
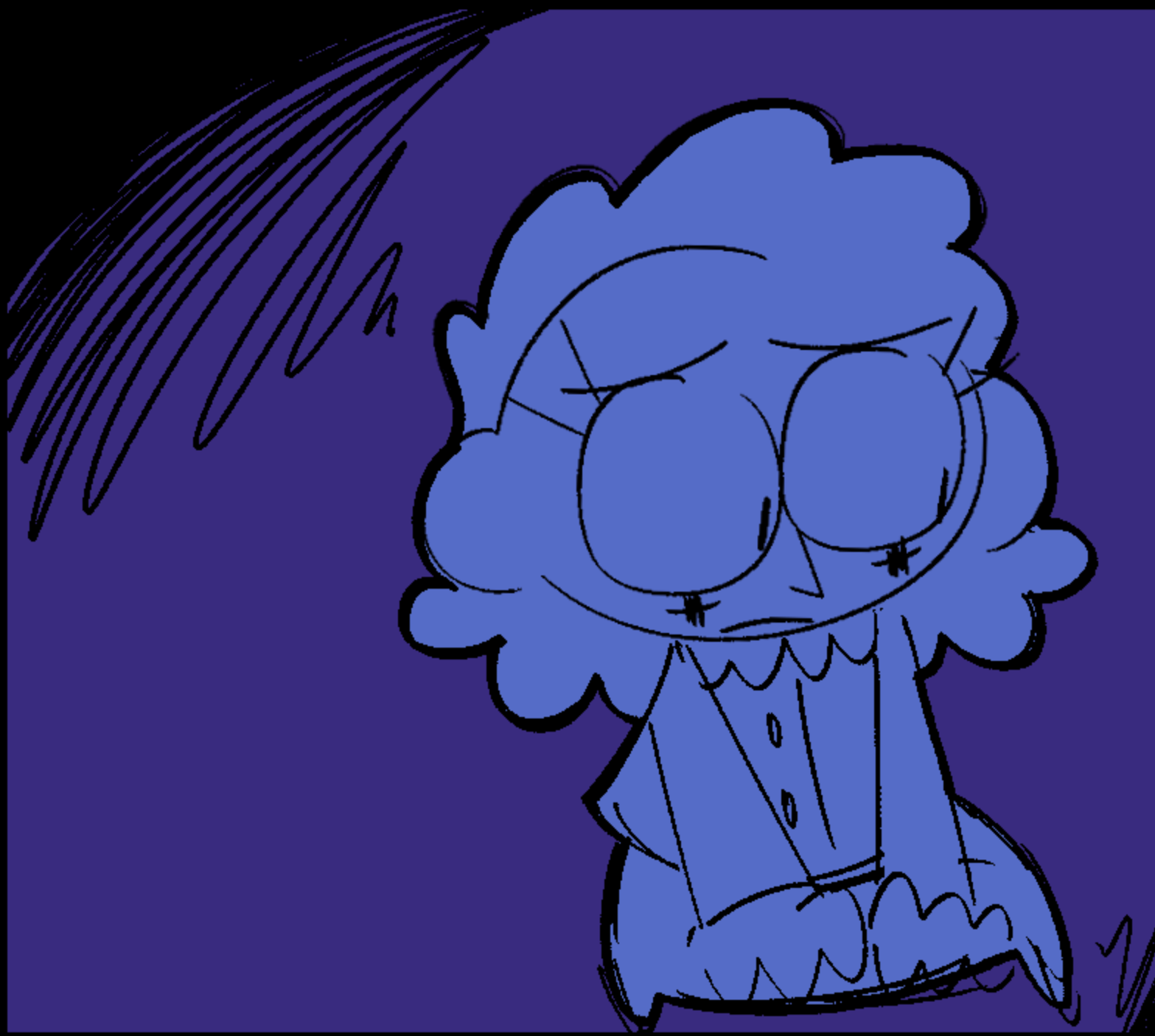
MAN... LOOK AT THAT SNOW...

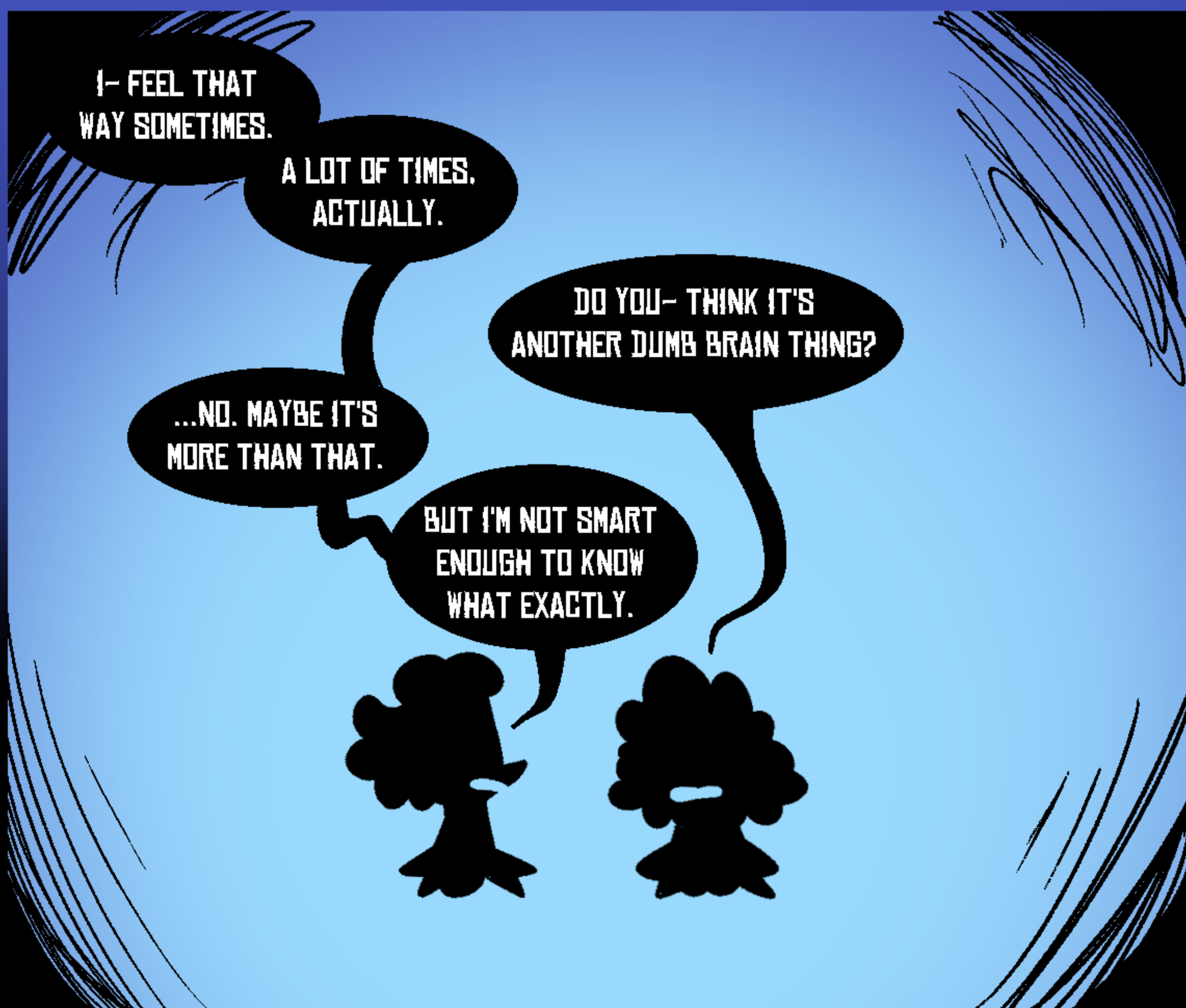
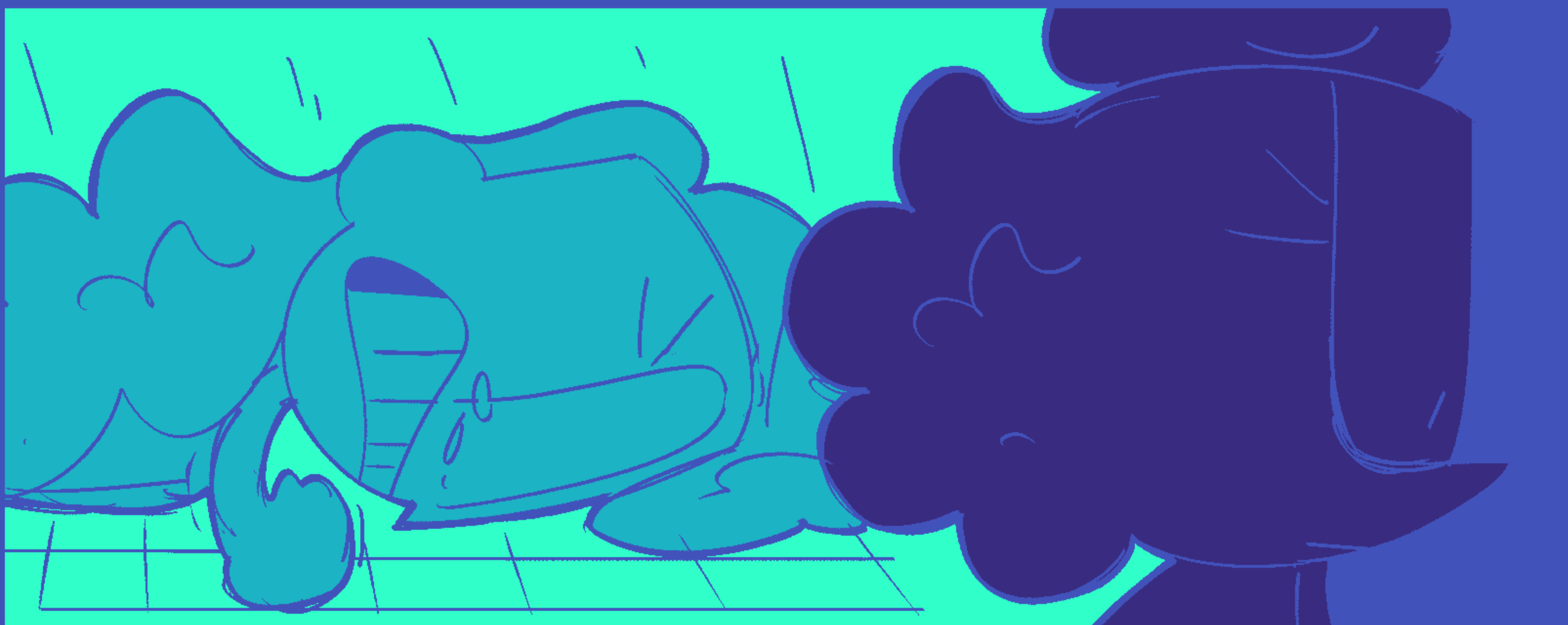


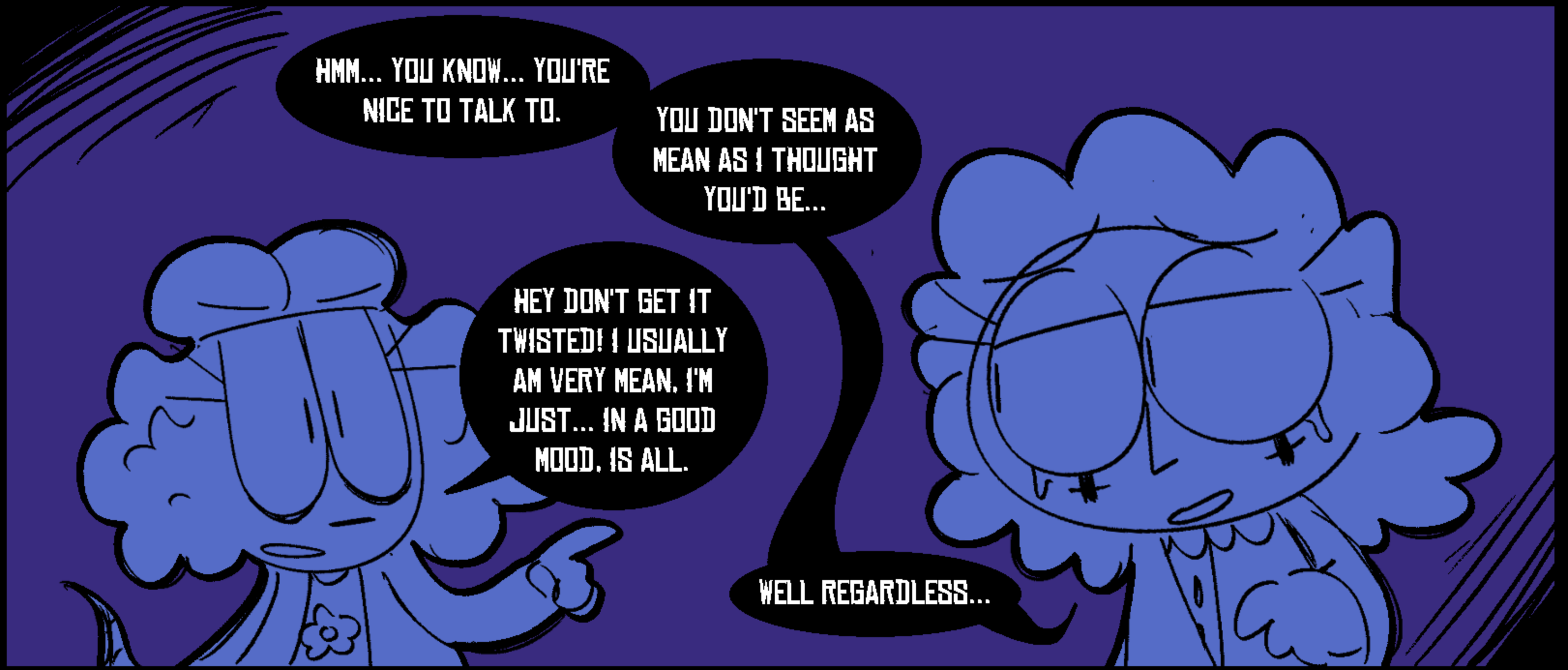
MY NAME'S UH, SYNTH.
BTW. JUST SO YOU DON'T
HAVE TO KEEP CALLING
ME "FUNGUS KID."

HM. NICE NAME!









HMM... YOU KNOW... YOU'RE
NICE TO TALK TO.

YOU DON'T SEEM AS
MEAN AS I THOUGHT
YOU'D BE...

HEY DON'T GET IT
TWISTED! I USUALLY
AM VERY MEAN. I'M
JUST... IN A GOOD
MOOD. IS ALL.

WELL REGARDLESS...



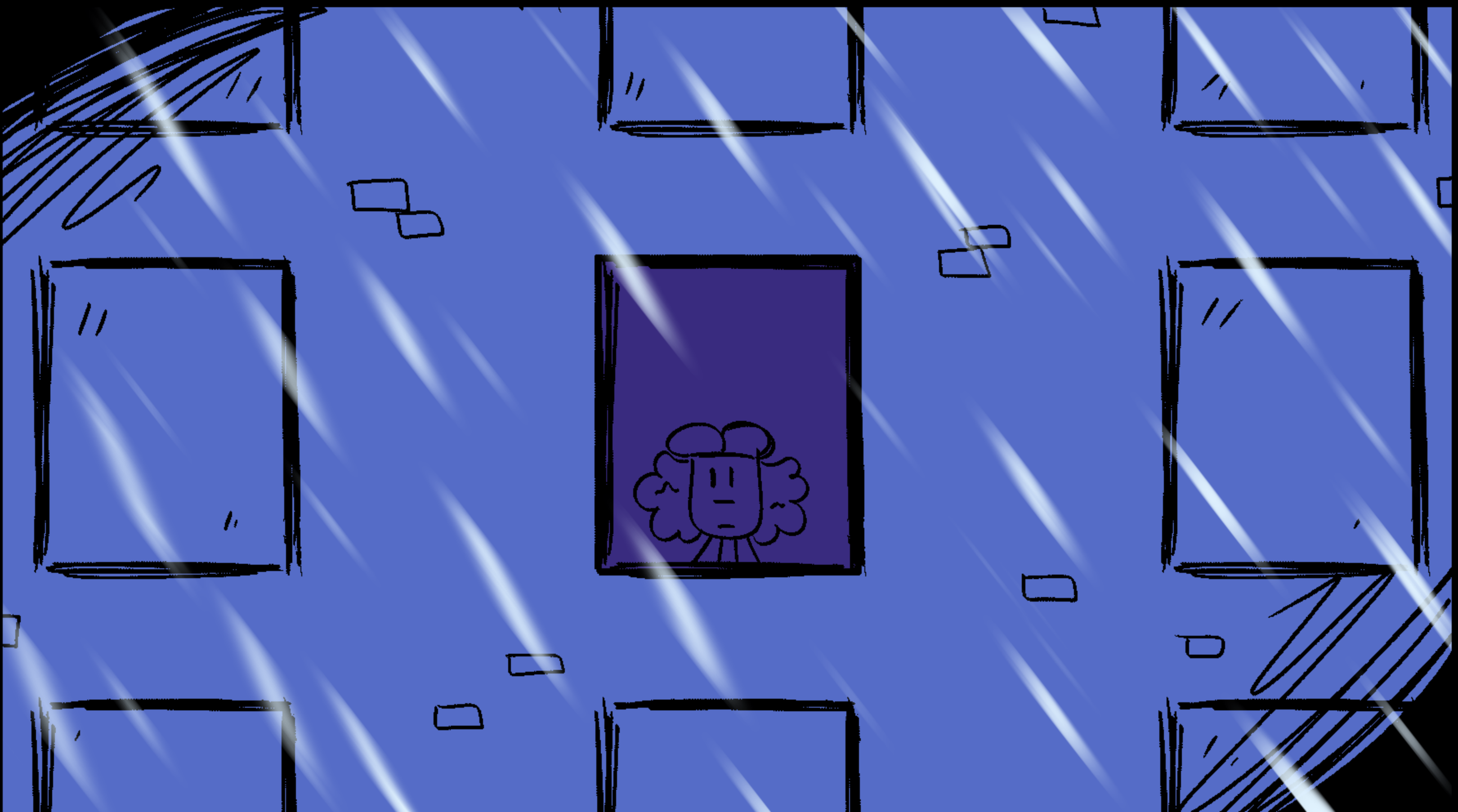
THIS WAS A NICE
CHAT! I'M GONNA
START GETTING
READY FOR BED.

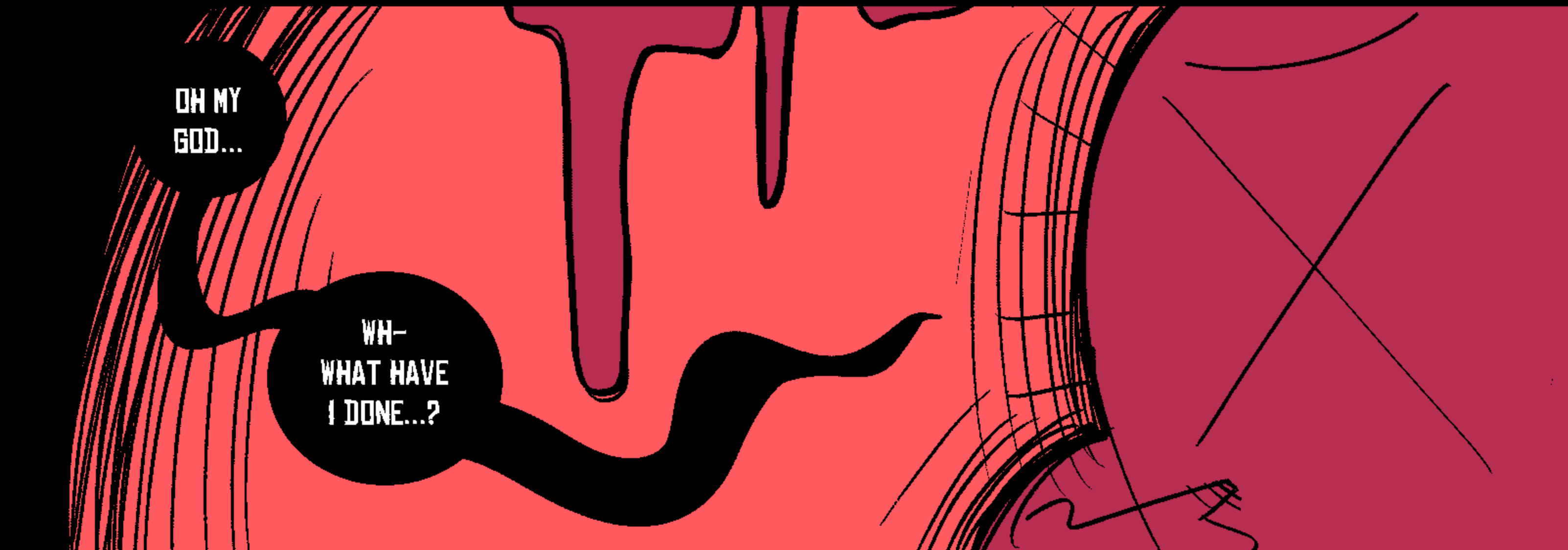
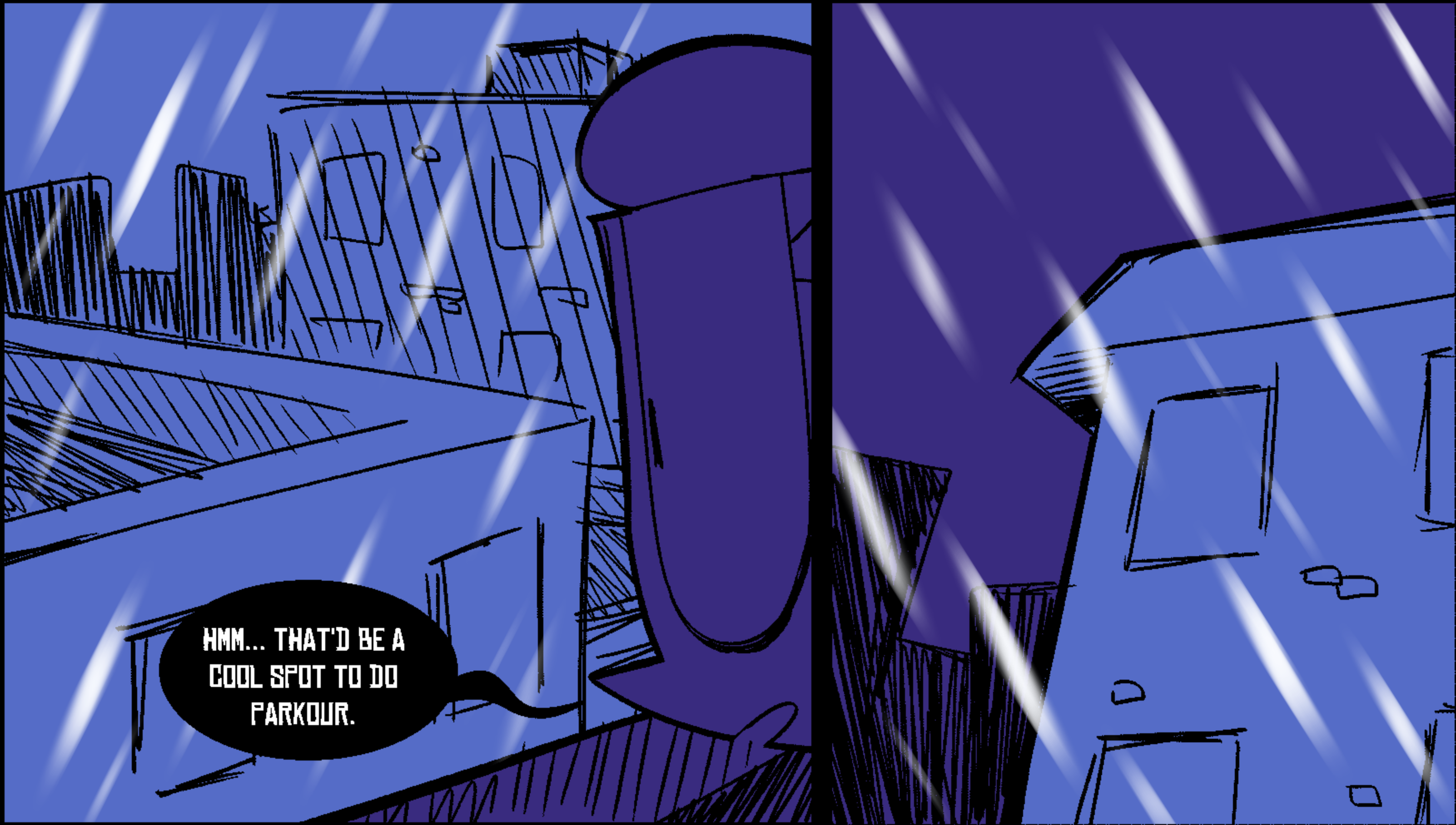


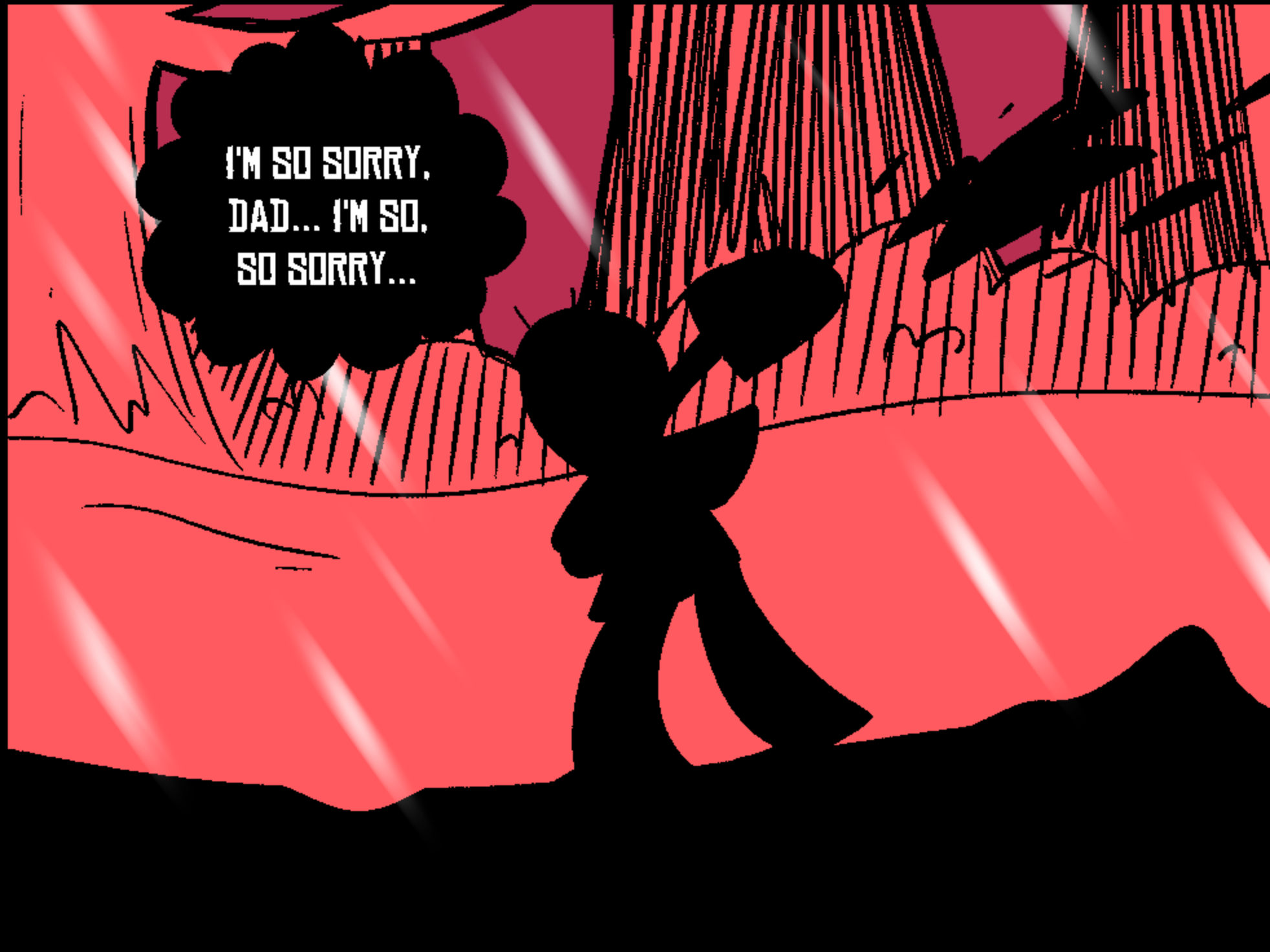
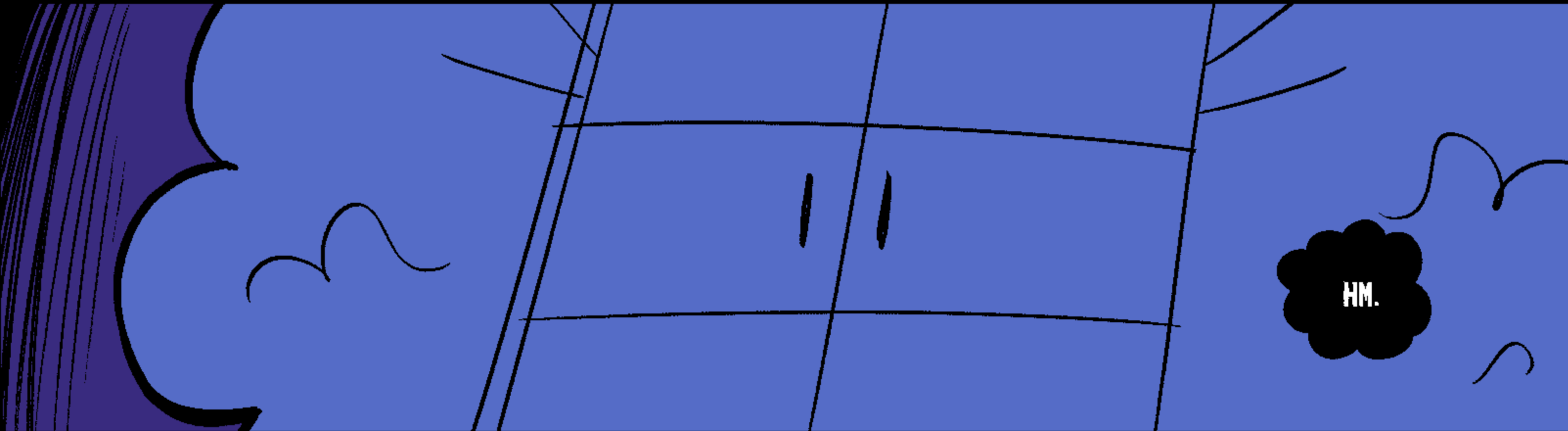
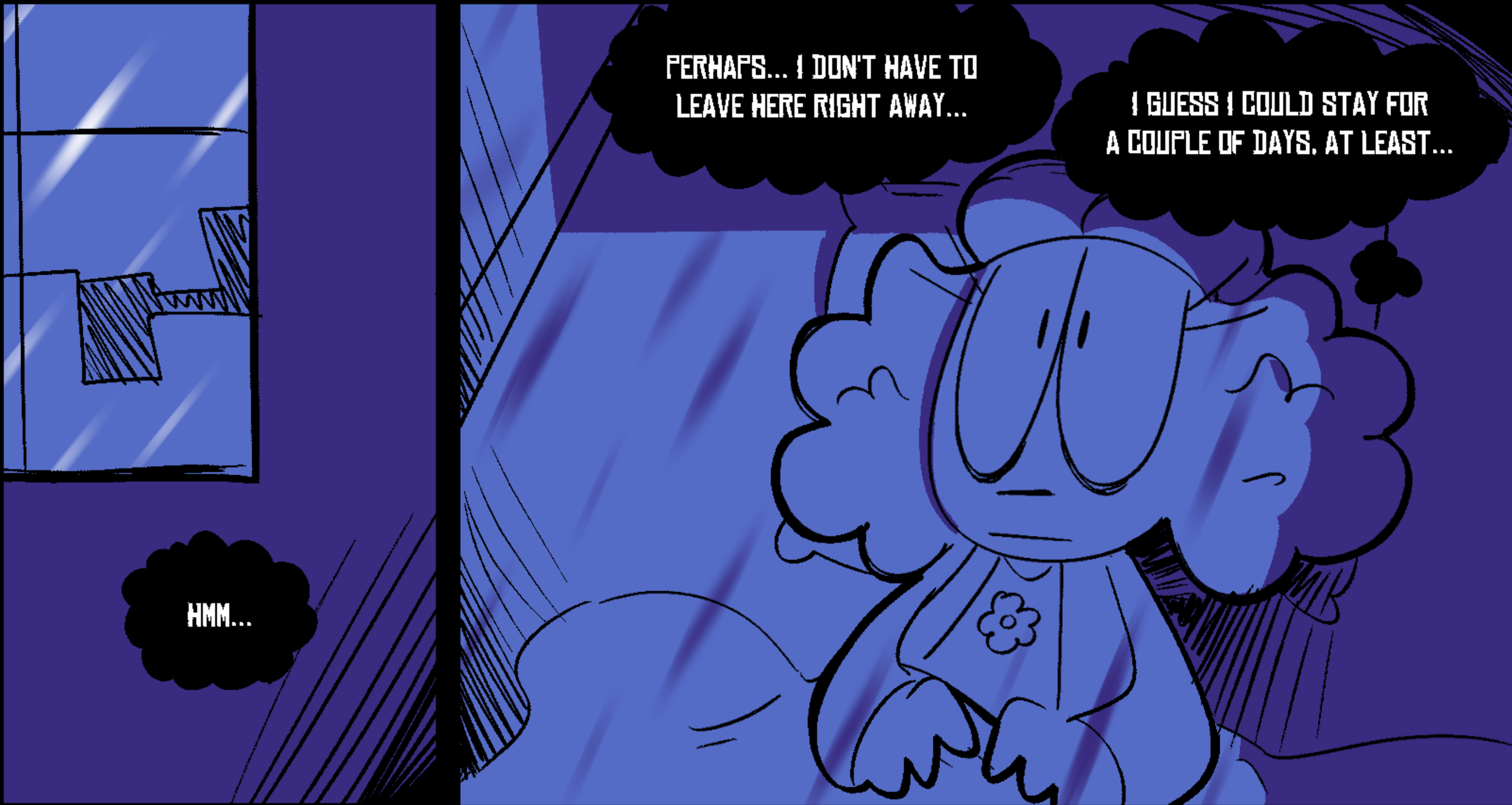
AND UH... IF YOU END UP
LEAVING BEFORE I WAKE
UP... I JUST WANT YOU
TO KNOW IT WAS NICE
TALKING TO YOU.

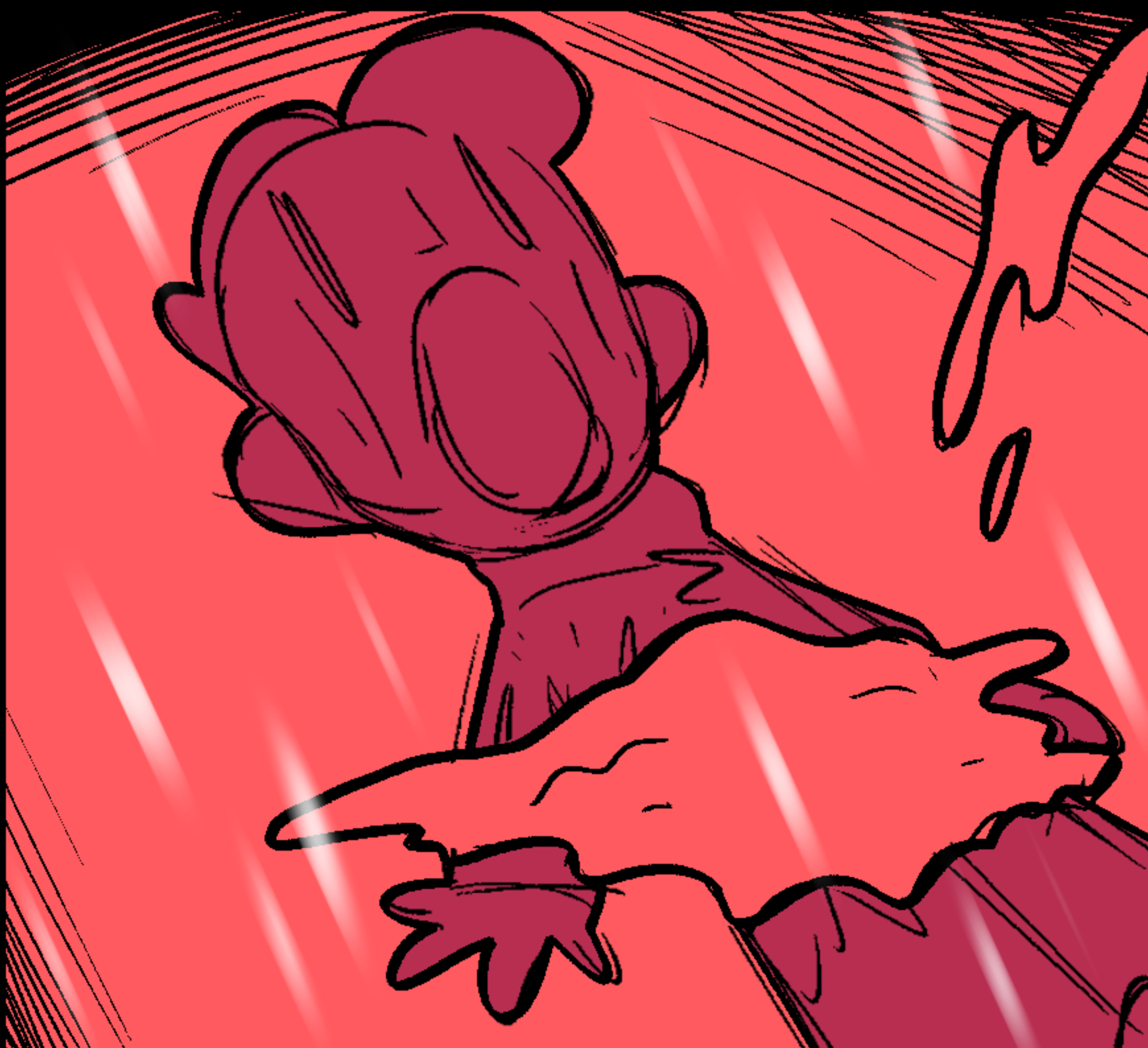
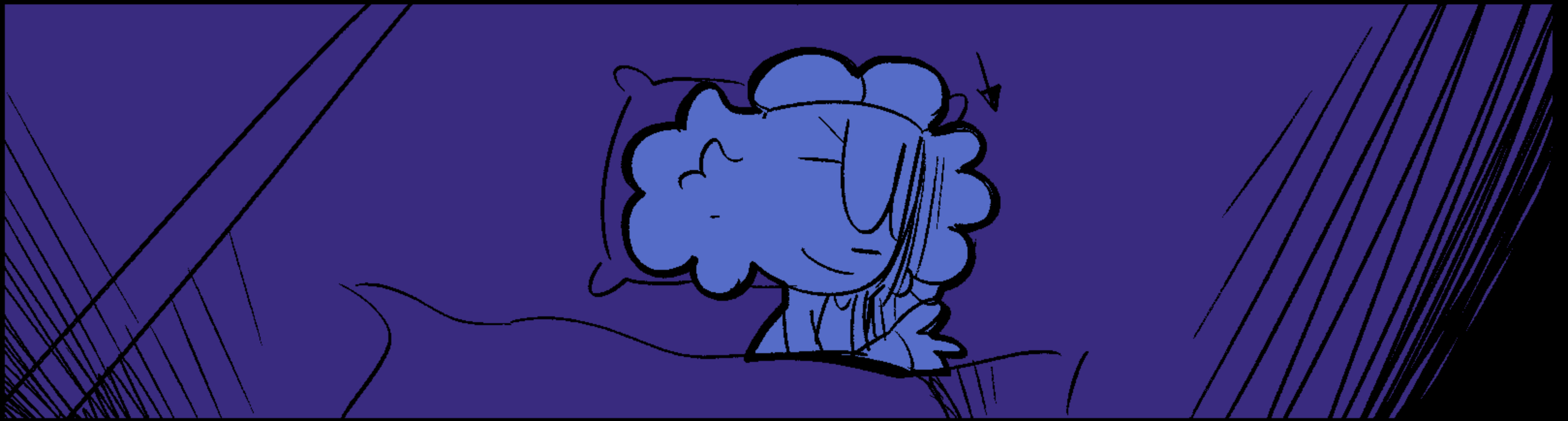
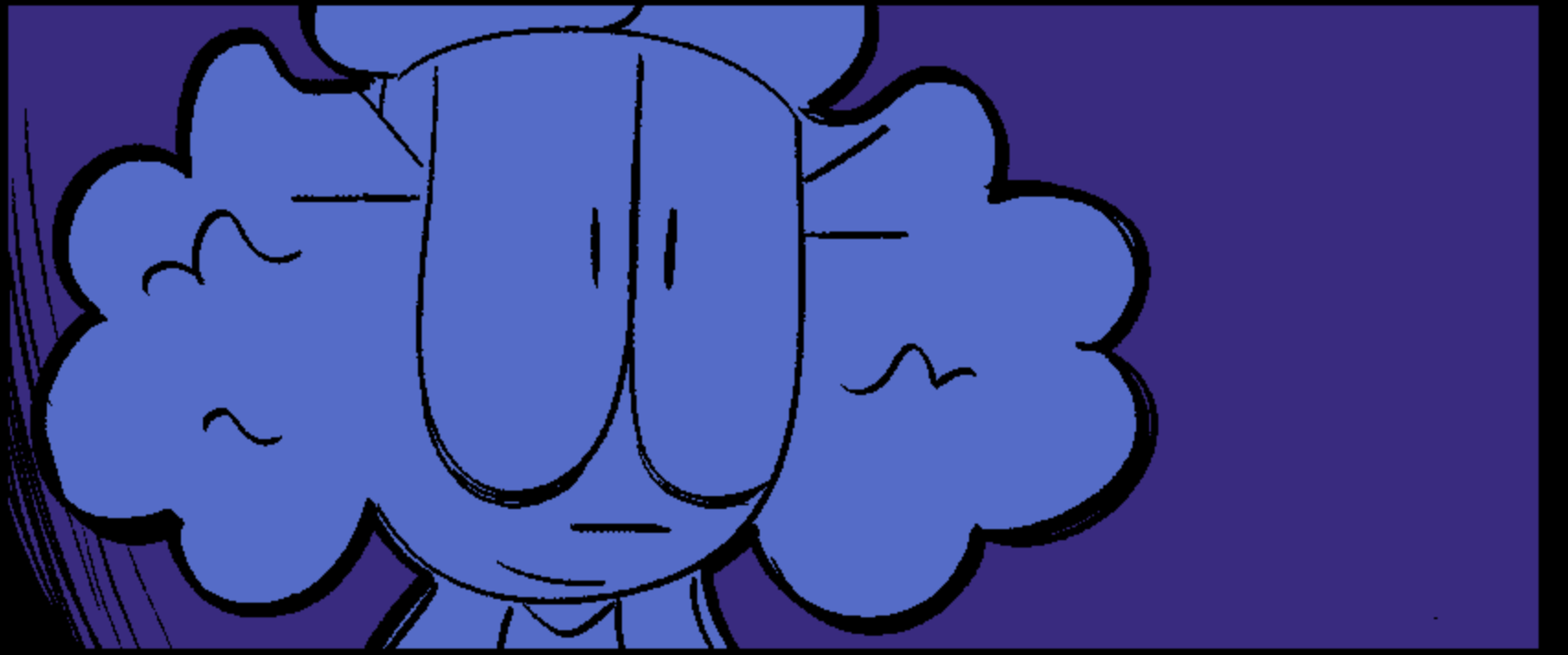
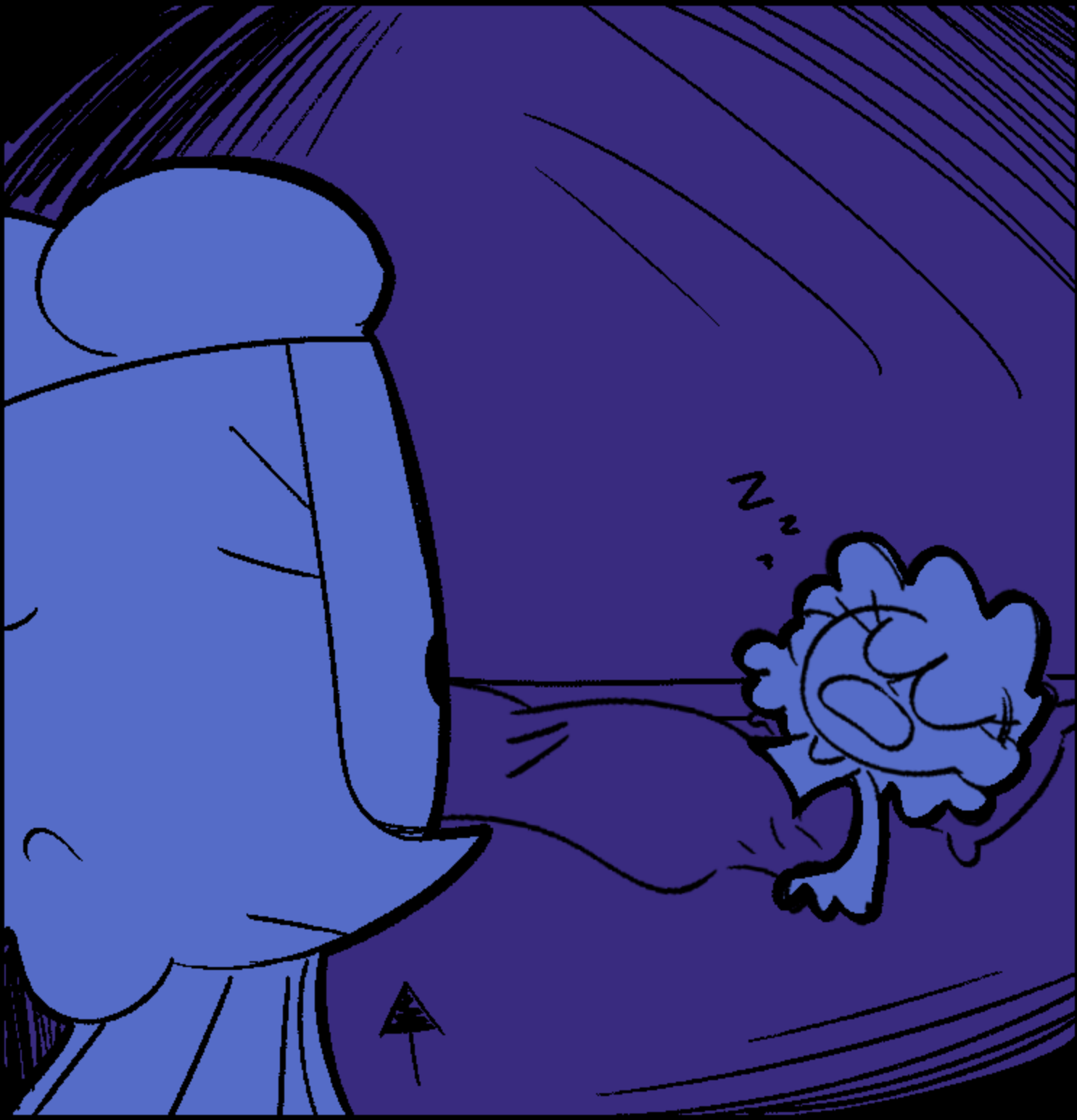
I HOPE YOU CAN
FIND A GOOD HOME
SOMEDAY.

...TH- THANKS...
...Y- YOU TOO.



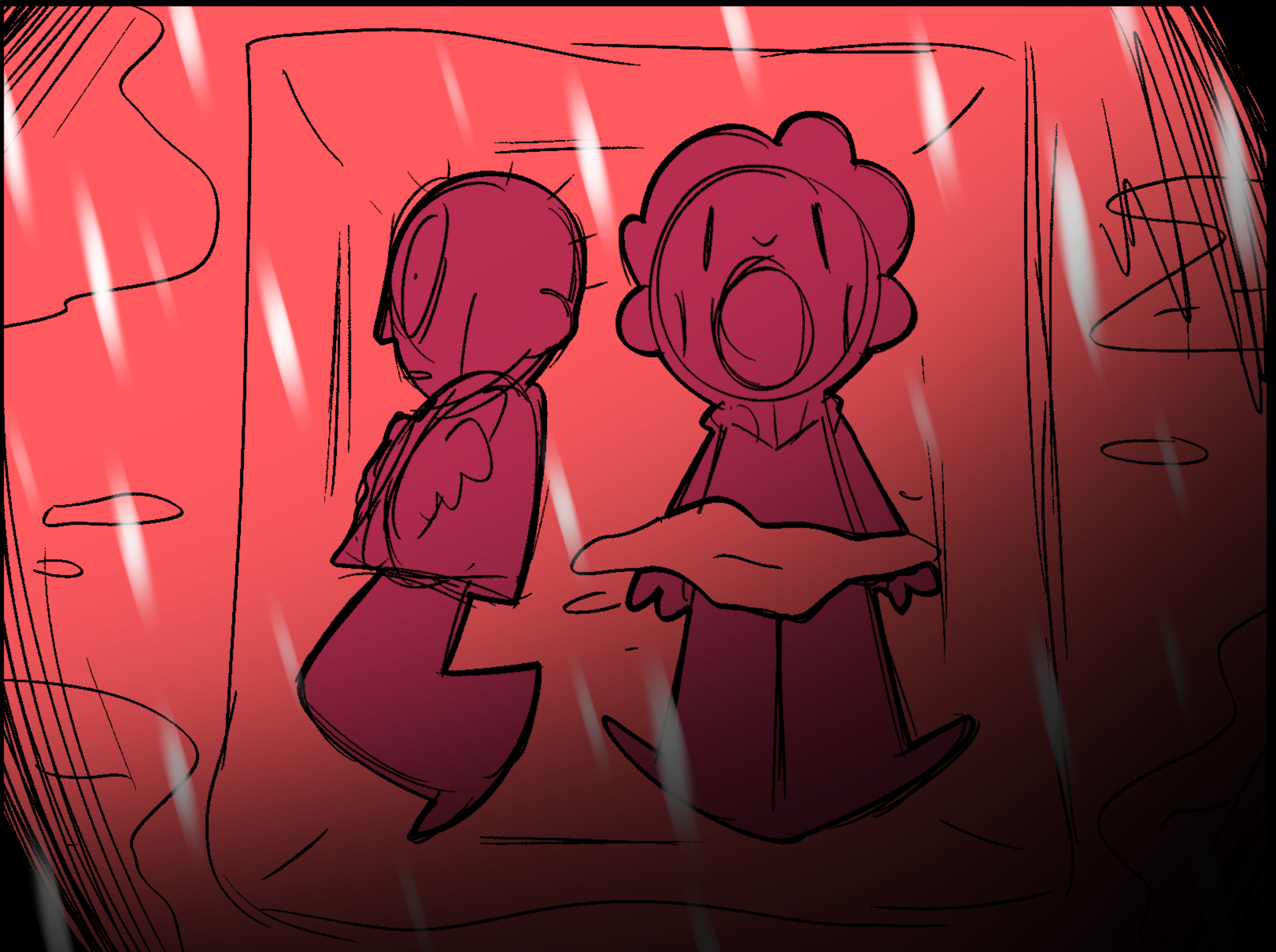
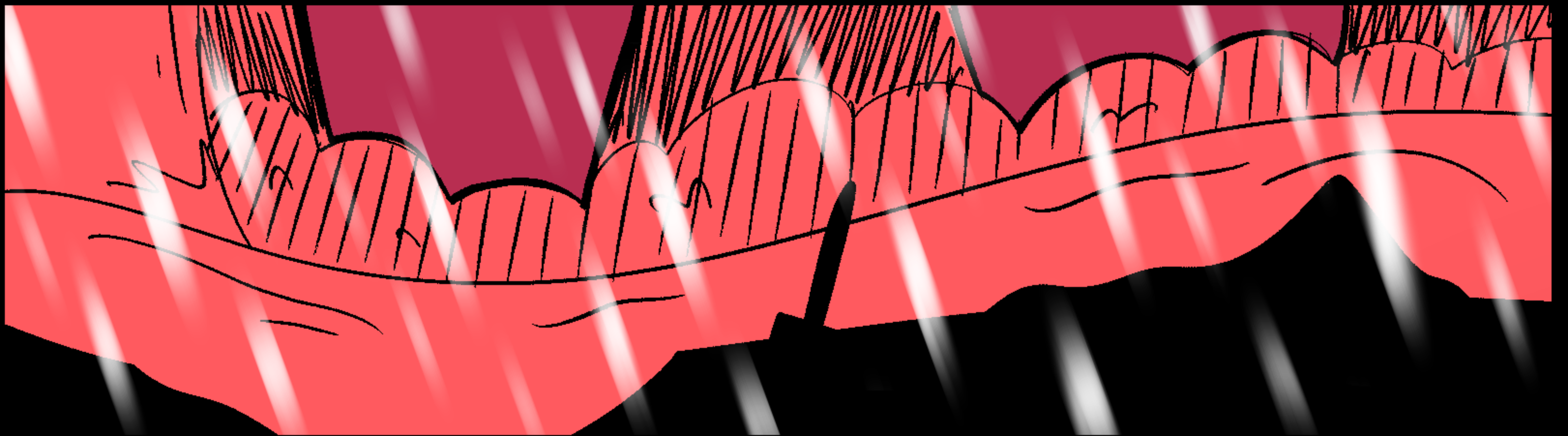
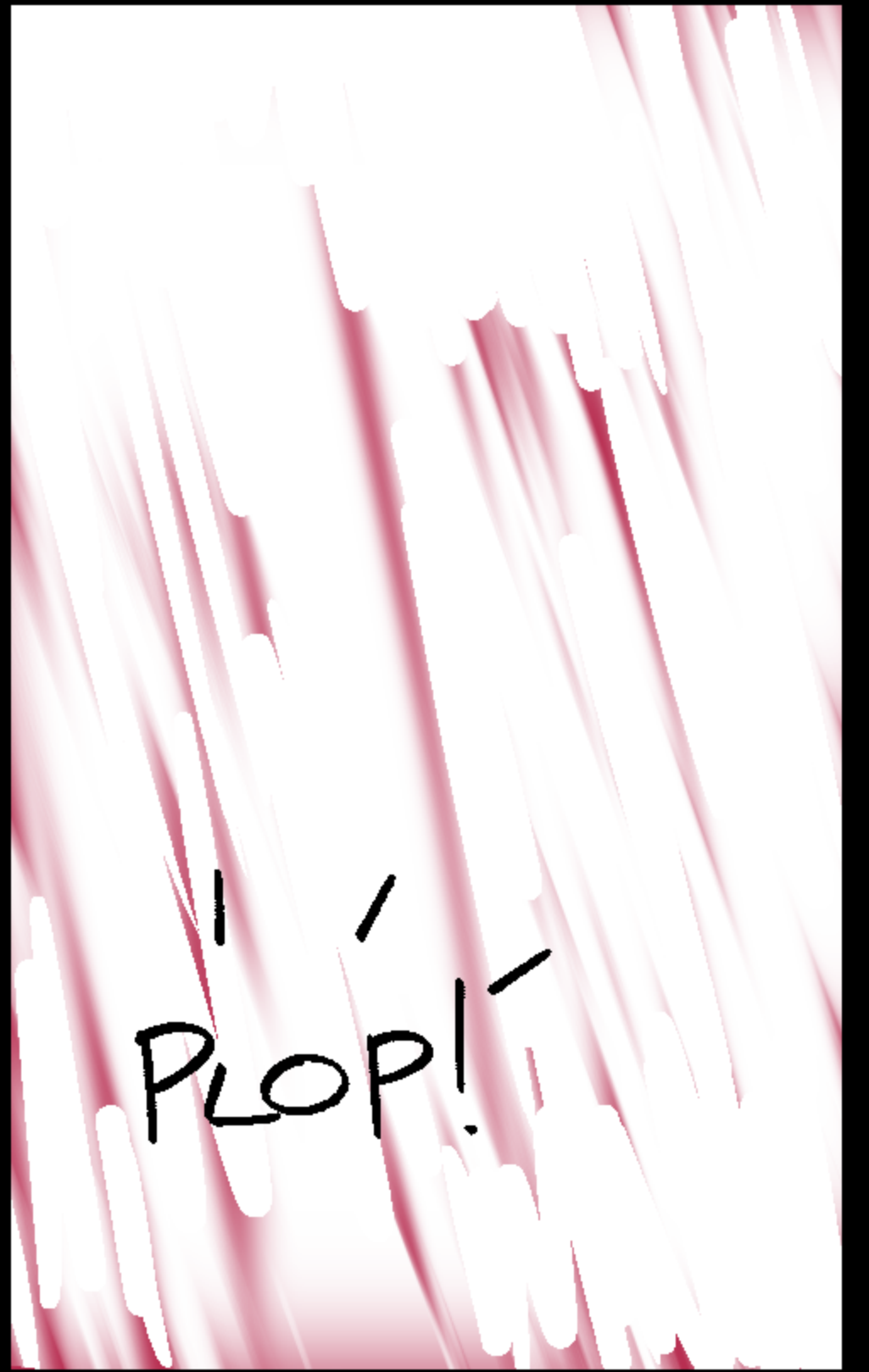
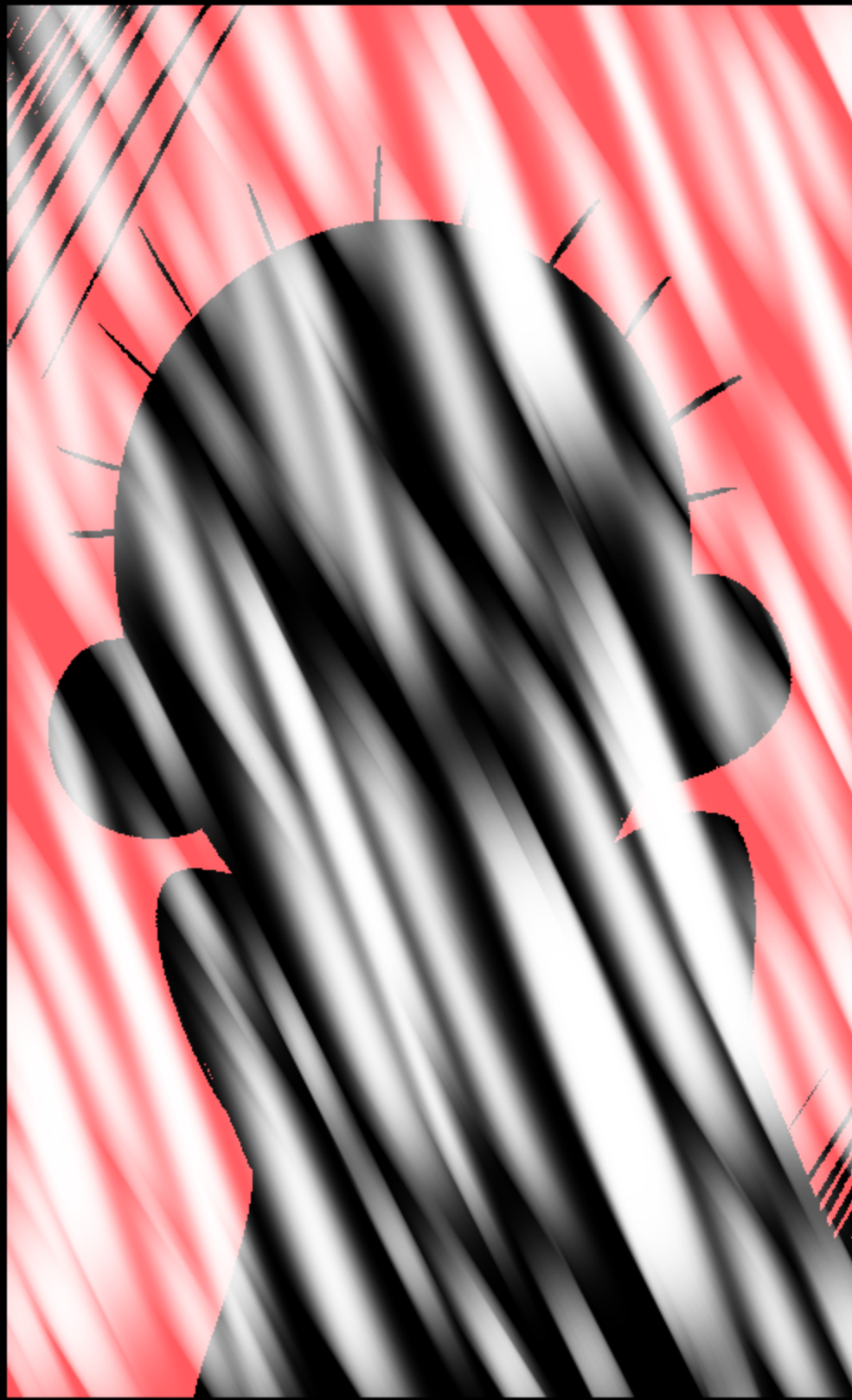
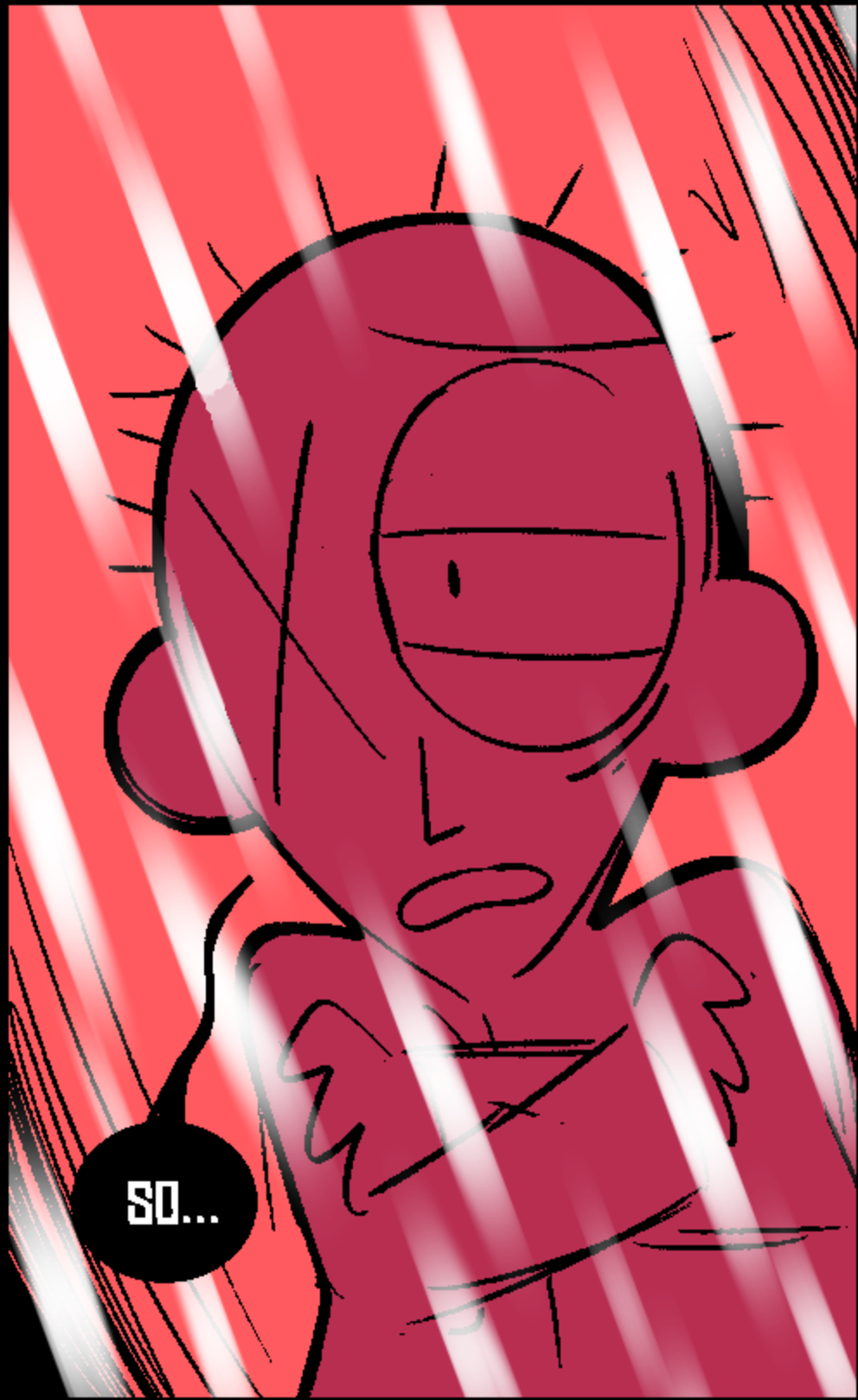






~NOOSH~

BRR... SO...
COLD...





#18

CHILI

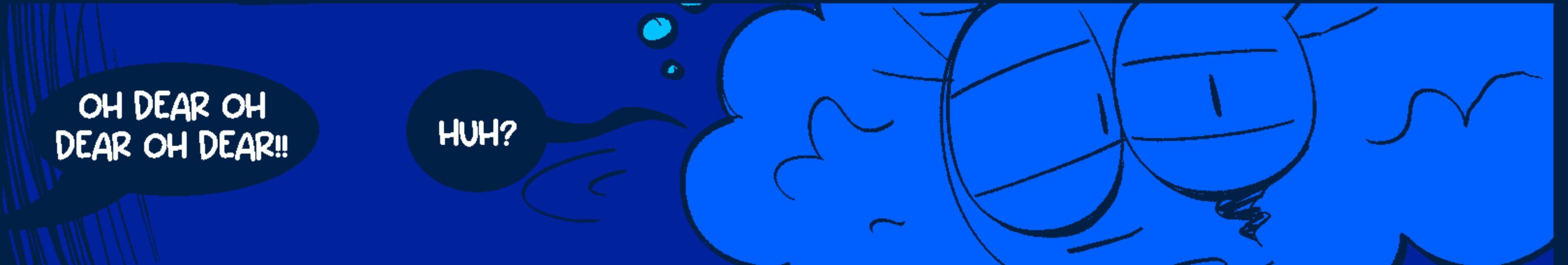
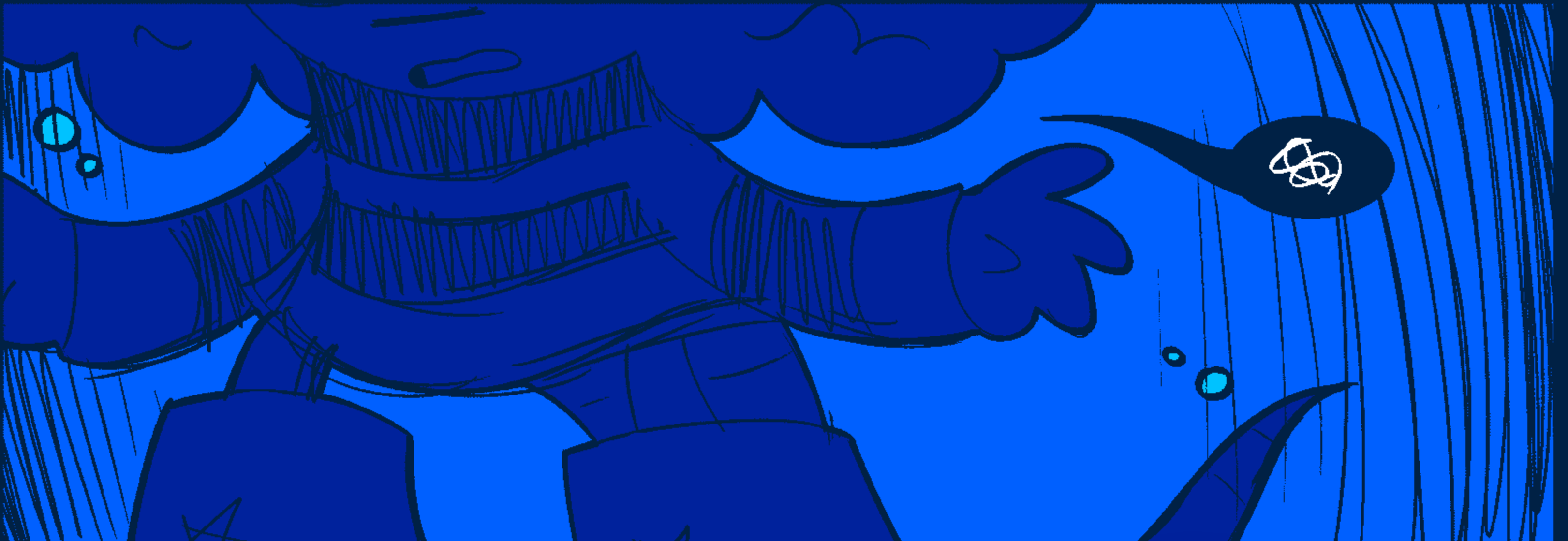
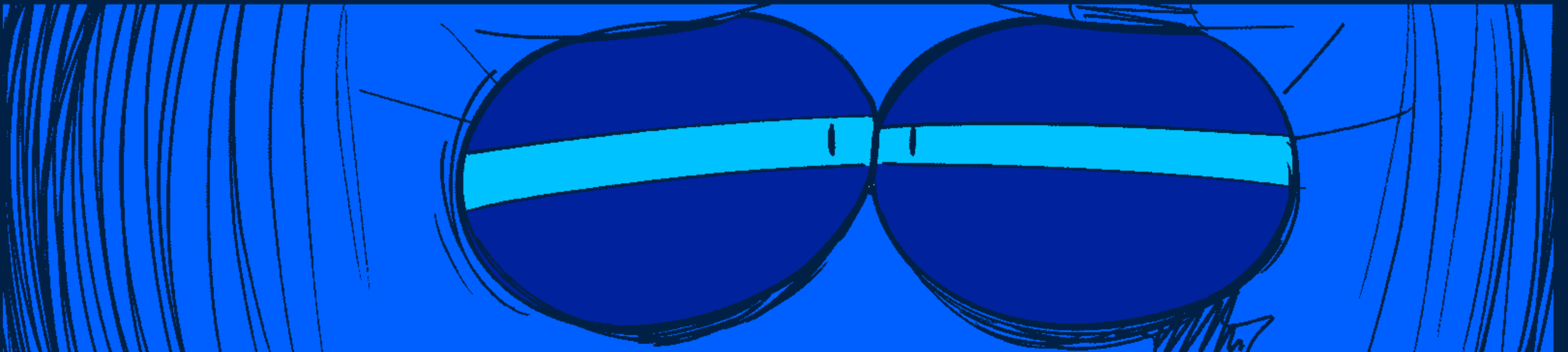
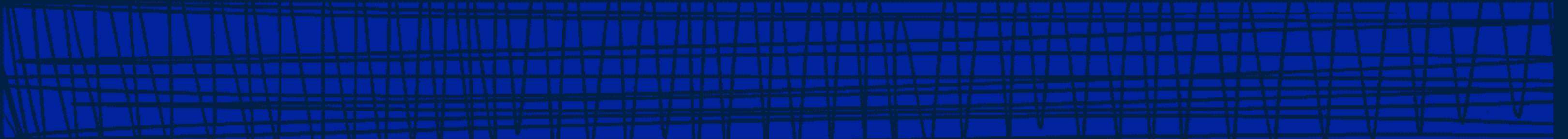
THE VAMPIRE OPOSSUM



"WITCHES AND WEAPONS"
PART ONE

tw:

blood
bright colors
child abuse
death
drowning
drug references
fighting
food
kidnapping
ptsd
trauma



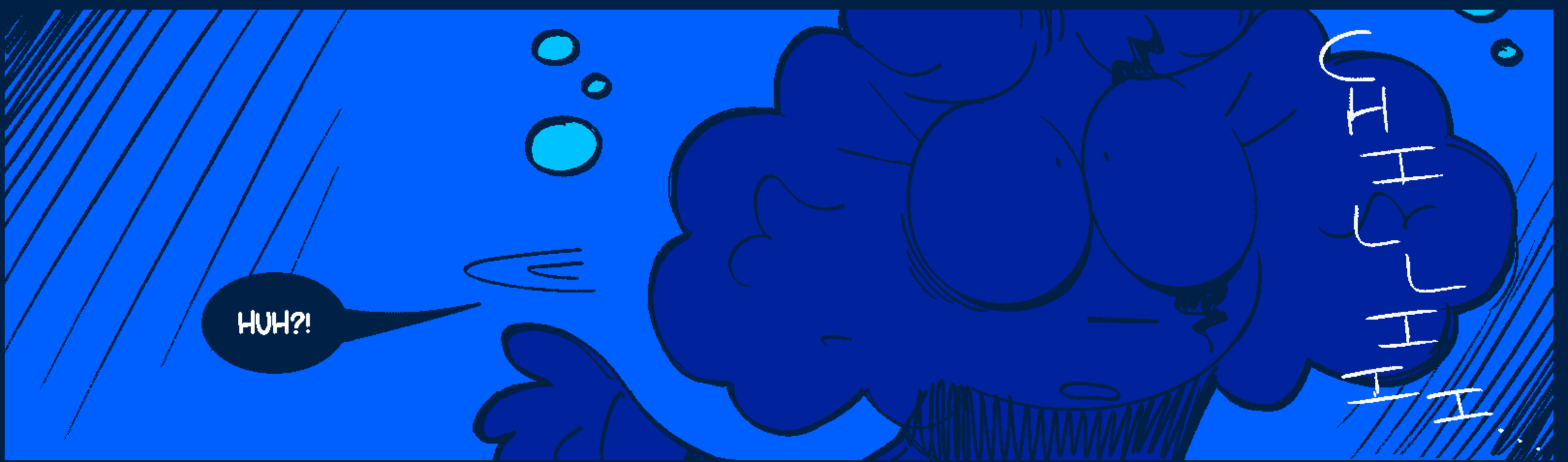


OH, HEY CHERRY.
WHAT'S GOING O-



WOAH WHAT?!
THAT'S A LARGE
CRACK!

WH- WHAT COULD'VE
CAUSED THIS...?!

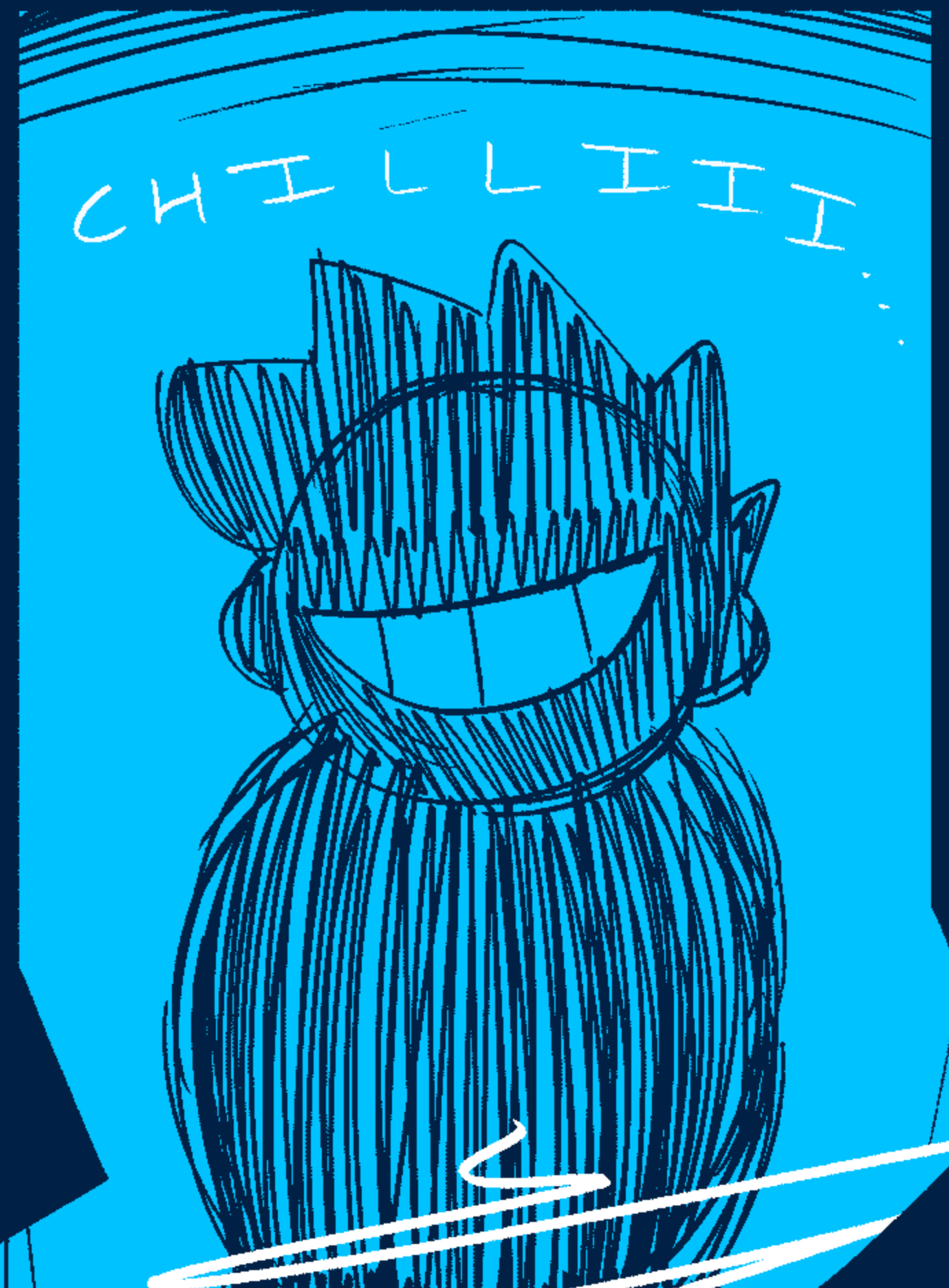


HUH?!

CHILLIIII



CHILLIIII



CHILLIIII



CHILL!!!! WAKE UP!!!!

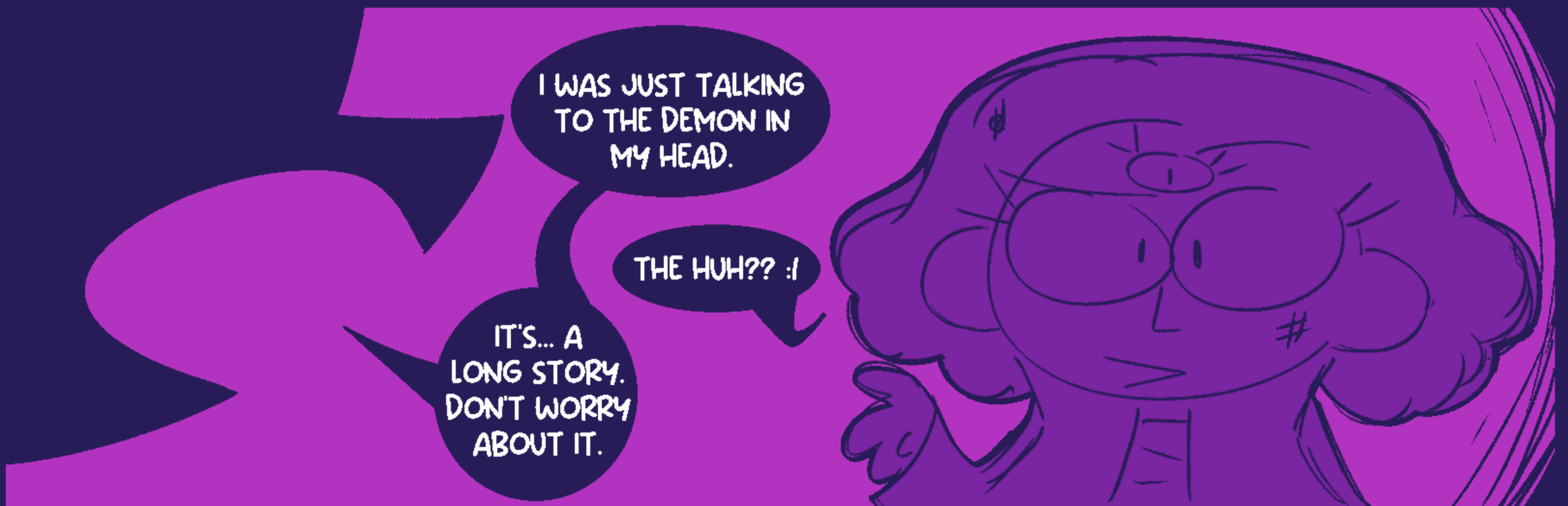


OW... WHY'D YOU SLAP ME...?



YOU SAID SOMETHING ABOUT 'LARGE CRACK' AND I WAS AFRAID YOU WERE HAVING A NIGHTMARE ABOUT DOING DRUGS!! D:

WH- OH, NO I WASN'T-



I WAS JUST TALKING TO THE DEMON IN MY HEAD.

THE HUH?? :|

IT'S... A LONG STORY. DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.



ANYWAY, IS EVERYONE OKAY? HOW BADLY IS THE HOUSE DAMAGED?

OH CHILLI, WE'RE NOT-

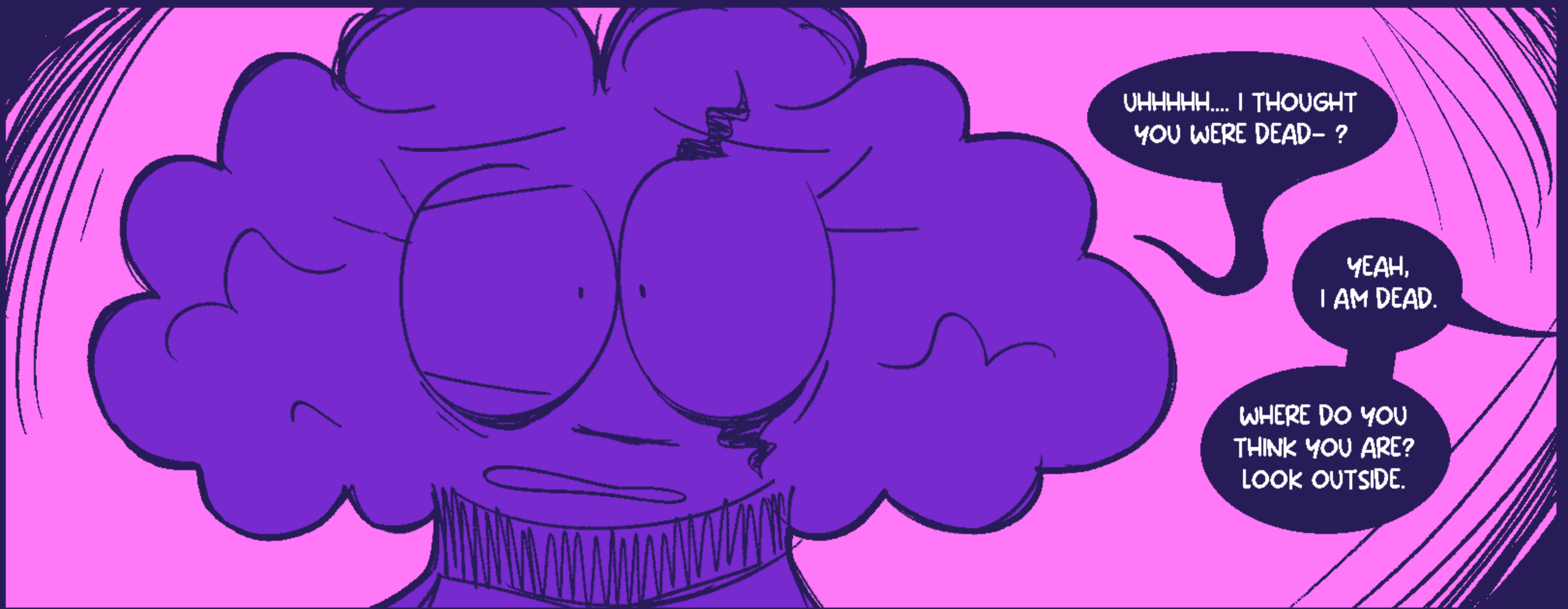


FINALLY, YOU'RE AWAKE.



YOU ALL TOOK A PRETTY HARD HIT COMING DOWN.

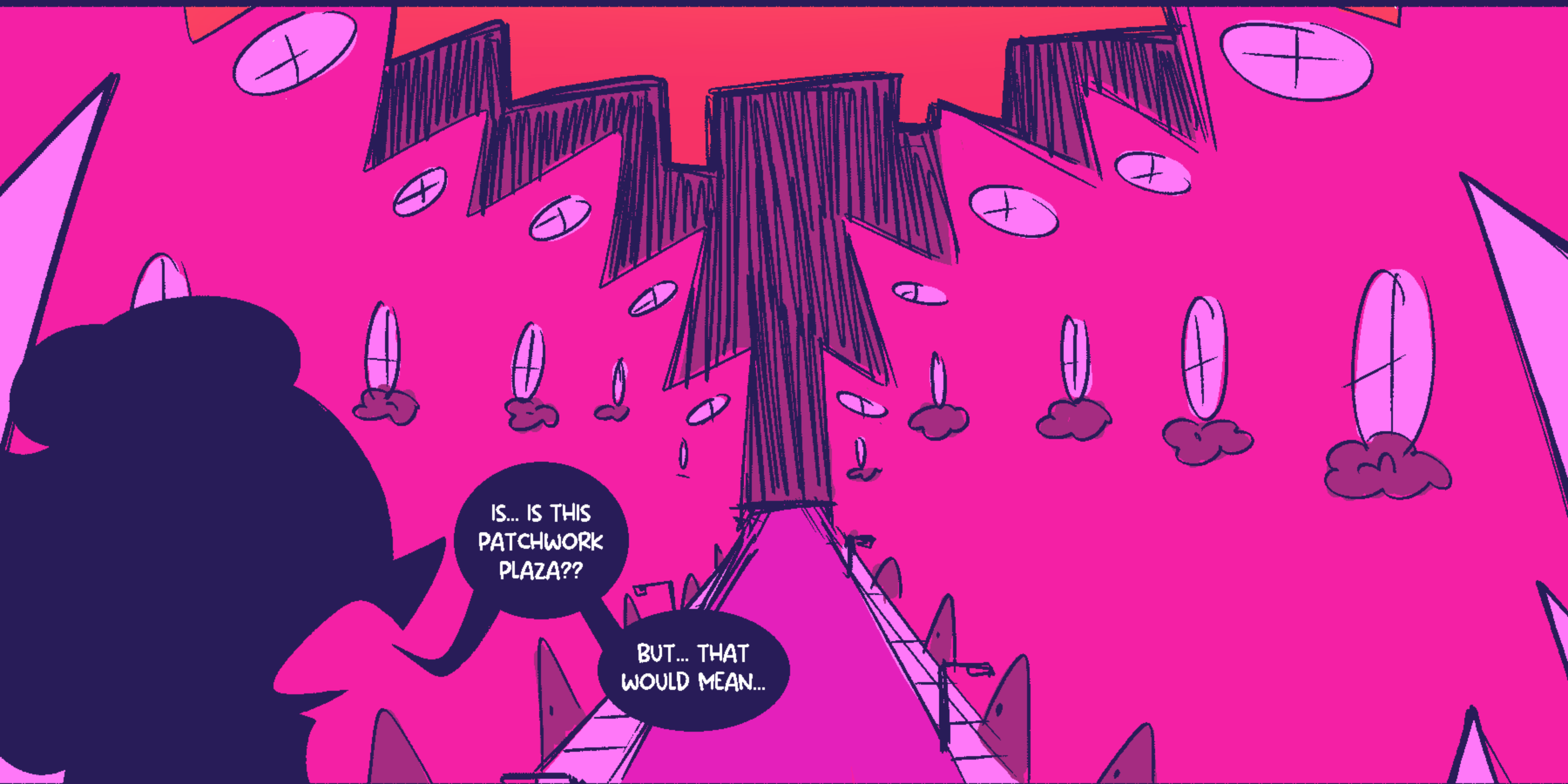
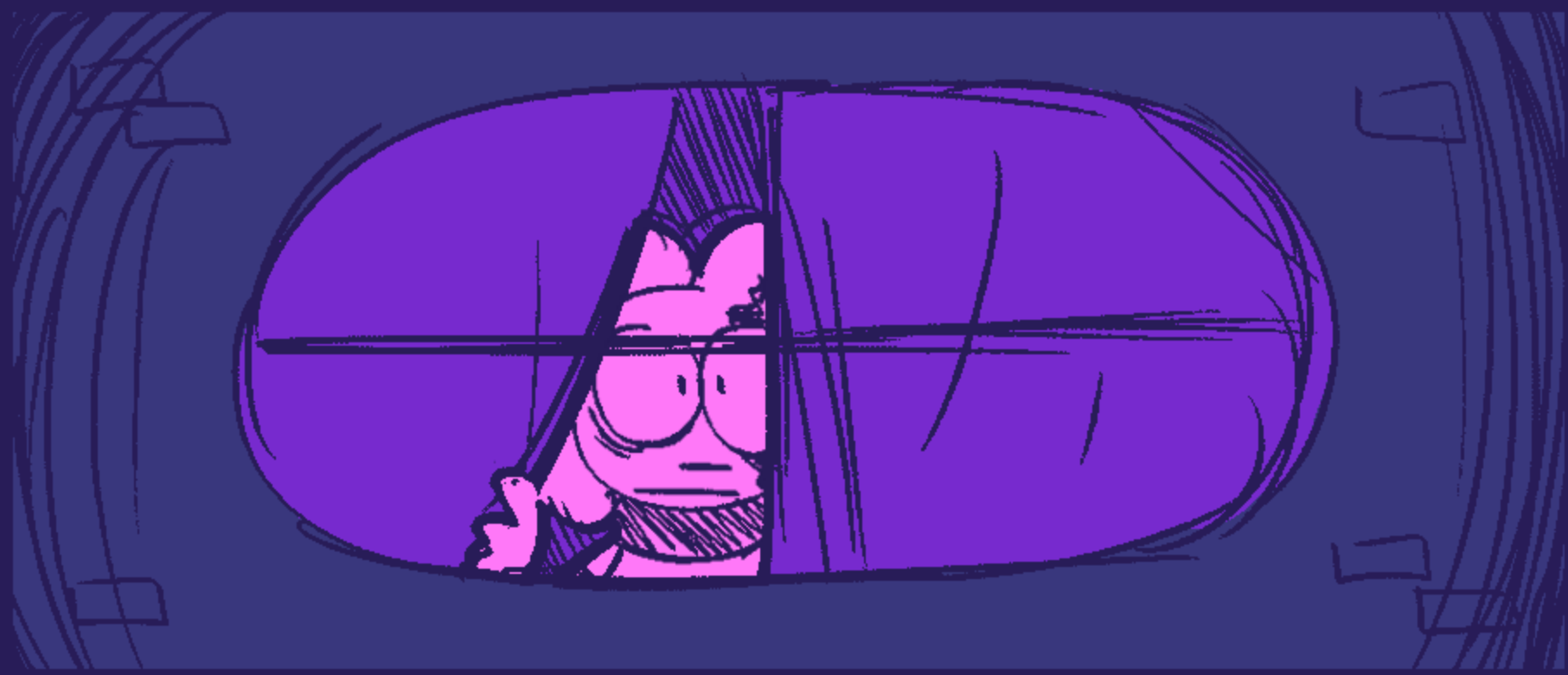
.....??????!!!!



UHHHHH.... I THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD- ?

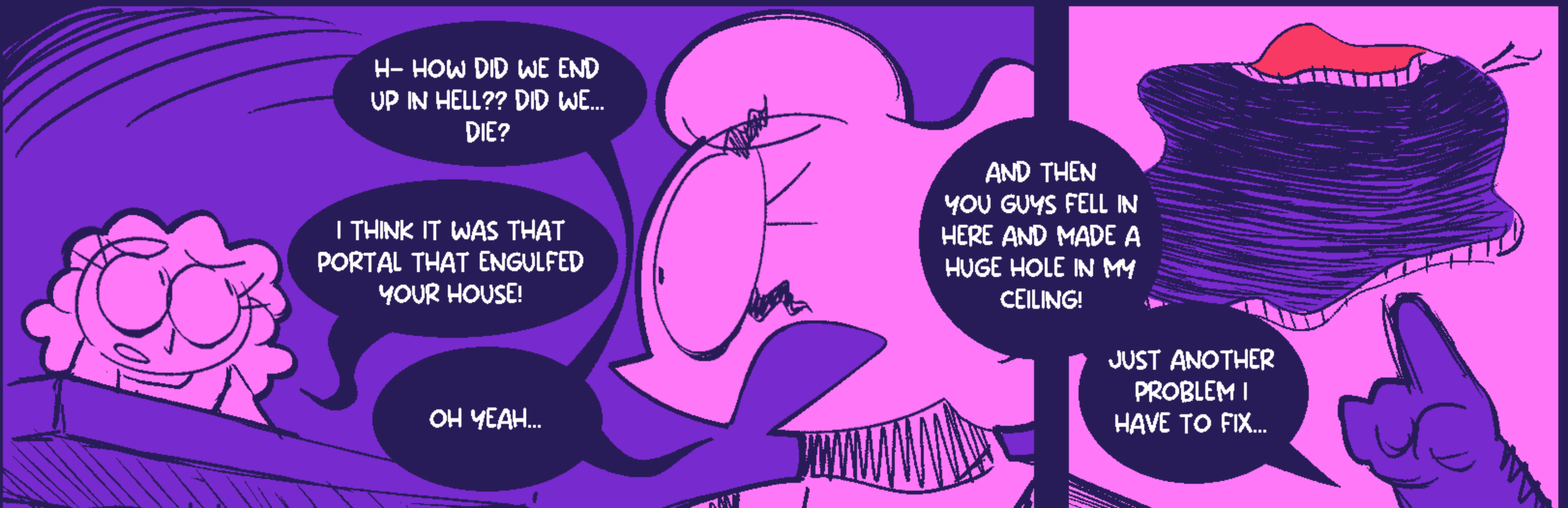
YEAH, I AM DEAD.

WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU ARE? LOOK OUTSIDE.



IS... IS THIS PATCHWORK PLAZA??

BUT... THAT WOULD MEAN...



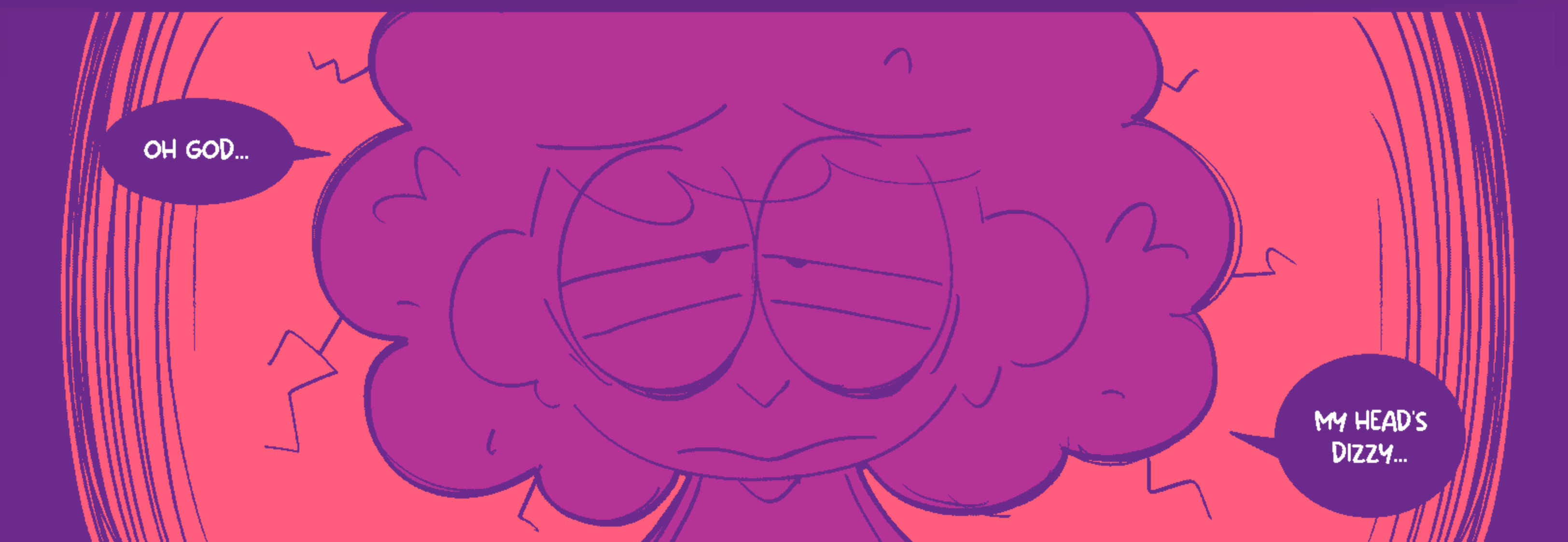
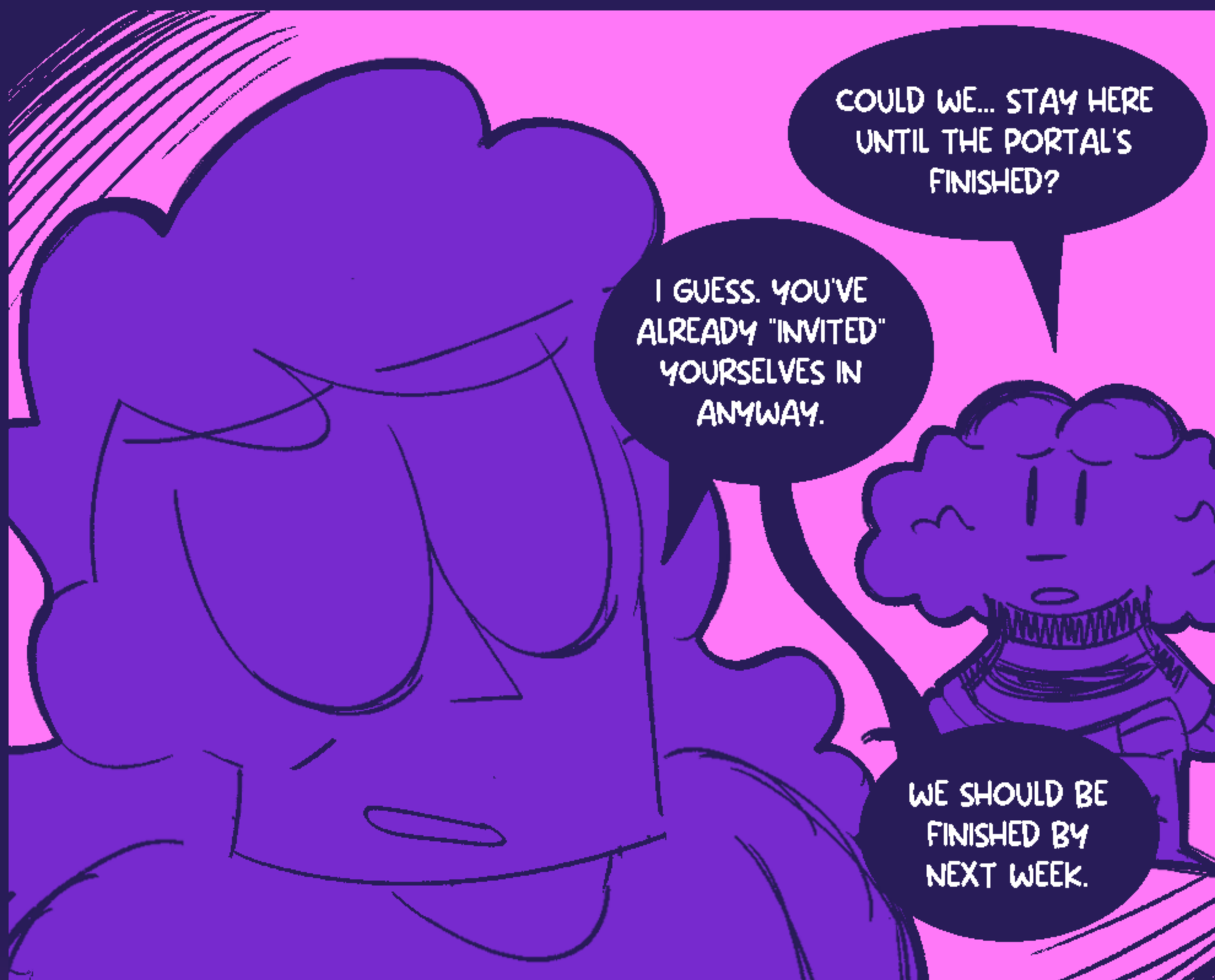
H- HOW DID WE END UP IN HELL?? DID WE... DIE?

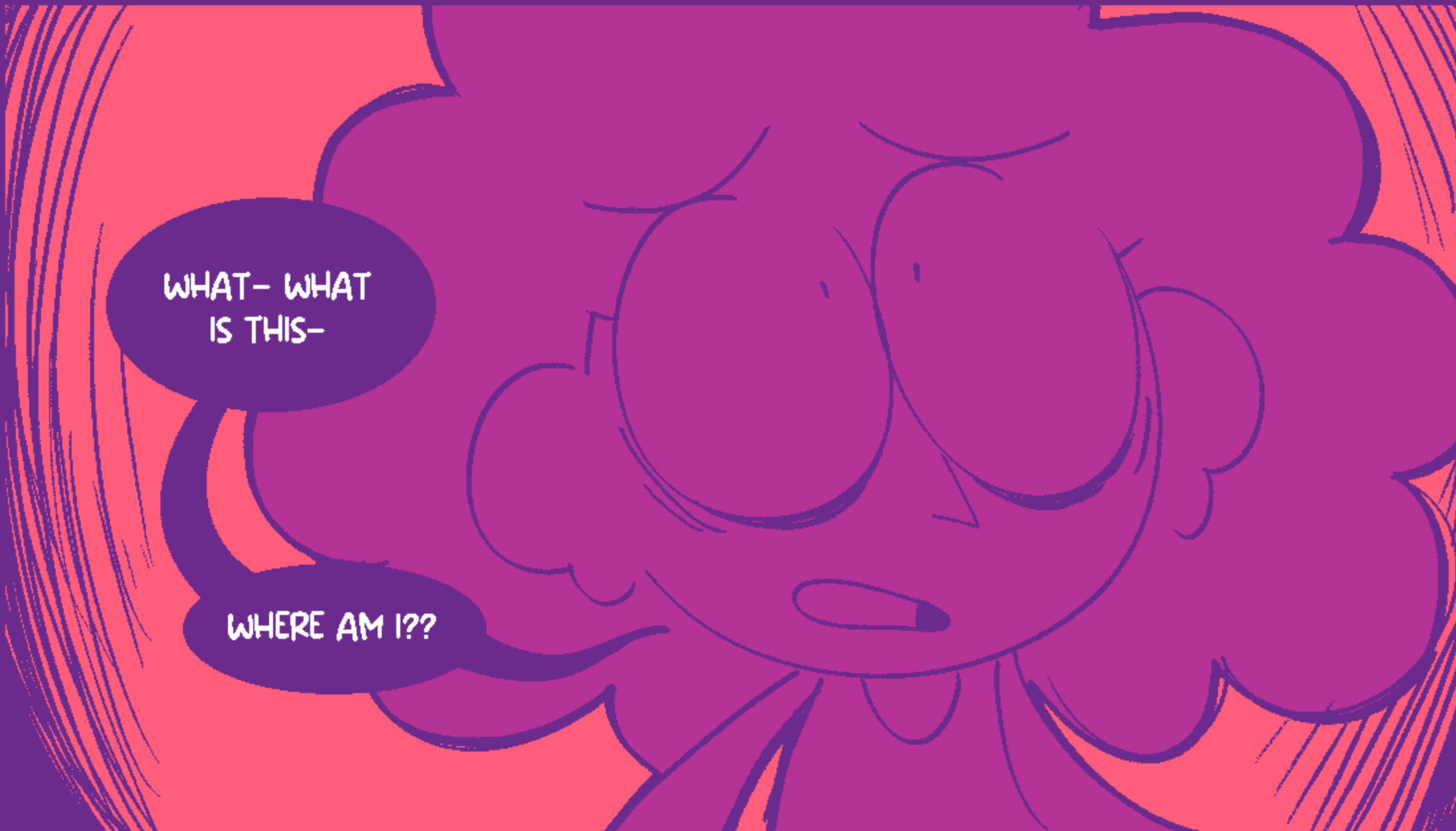
I THINK IT WAS THAT PORTAL THAT ENGULFED YOUR HOUSE!

OH YEAH...

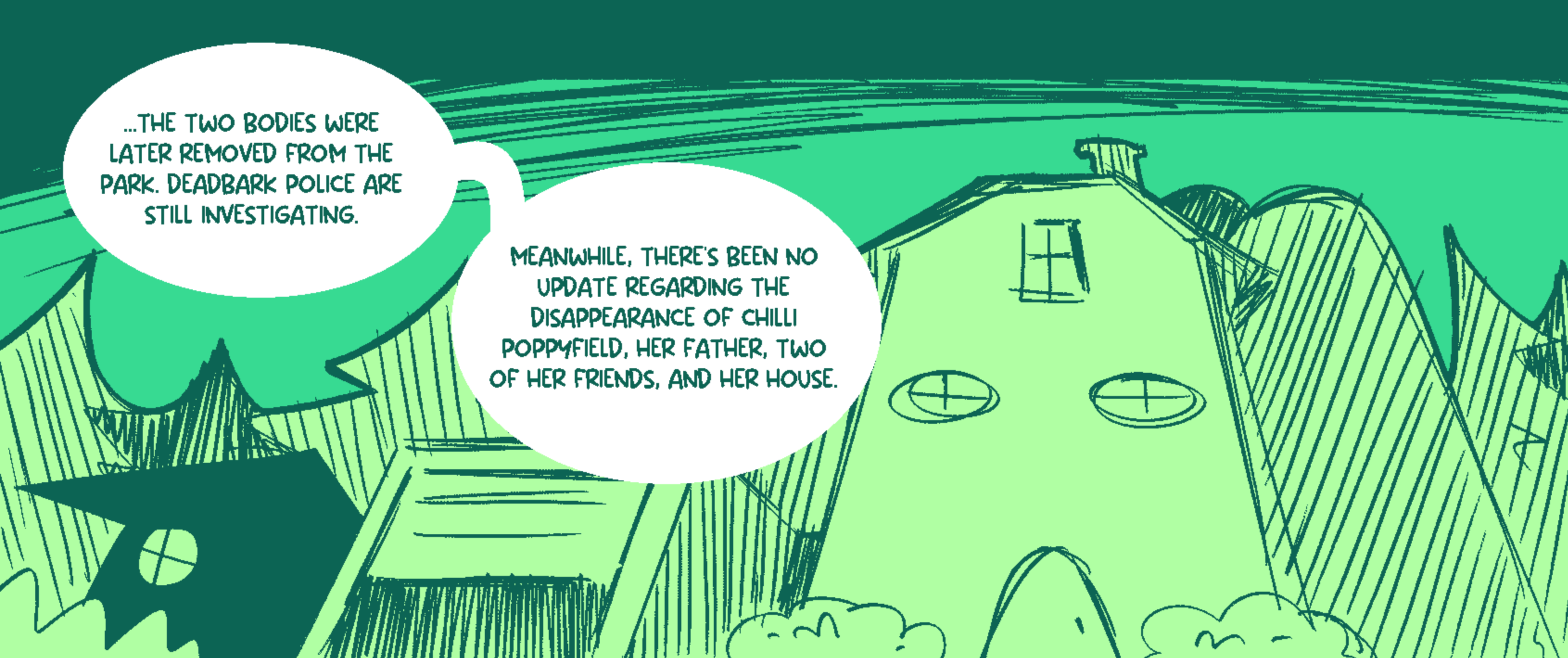
AND THEN YOU GUYS FELL IN HERE AND MADE A HUGE HOLE IN MY CEILING!

JUST ANOTHER PROBLEM I HAVE TO FIX...









...THE TWO BODIES WERE LATER REMOVED FROM THE PARK. DEADBARK POLICE ARE STILL INVESTIGATING.

MEANWHILE, THERE'S BEEN NO UPDATE REGARDING THE DISAPPEARANCE OF CHILLI POPPYFIELD, HER FATHER, TWO OF HER FRIENDS, AND HER HOUSE.



ACCORDING TO WITNESSES, THE HOUSE WAS ENGULFED IN A GIANT GLOW YESTERDAY EVENING, AND THEN IT SUDDENLY VANISHED.

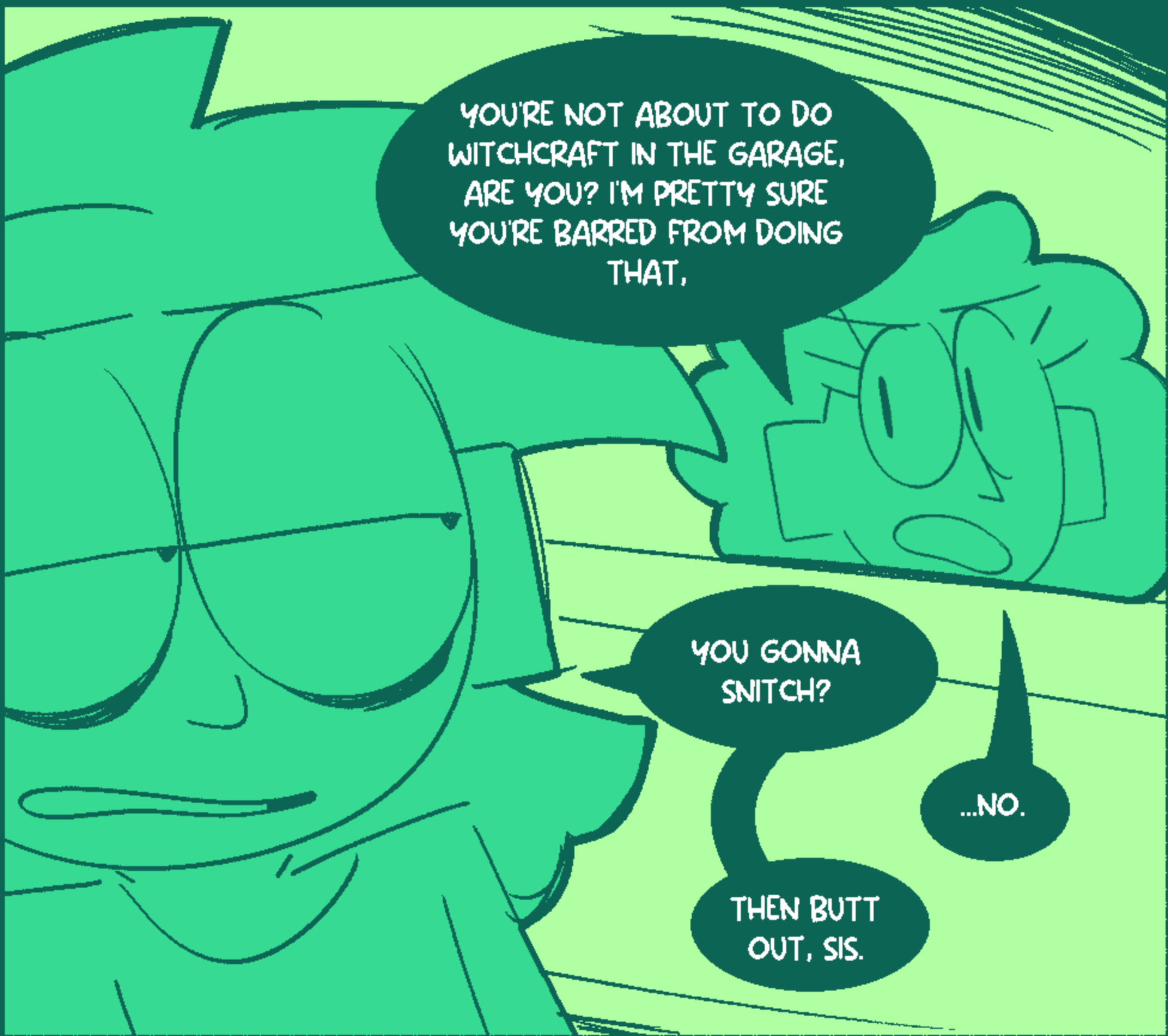
AN INVESTIGATION IS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY.



HEY YOU SHOULD PROBABLY GET MOVING SOON, YOUR WITCH TROOP MEETING'S IN AN HOUR.

I'M AWARE, JACOB. I'M JUST WORRIED ABOUT MY FRIENDS.

WELL YOU'RE NOT GONNA FIND THEM JUST SITTING ON THAT COUCH ALL DAY.

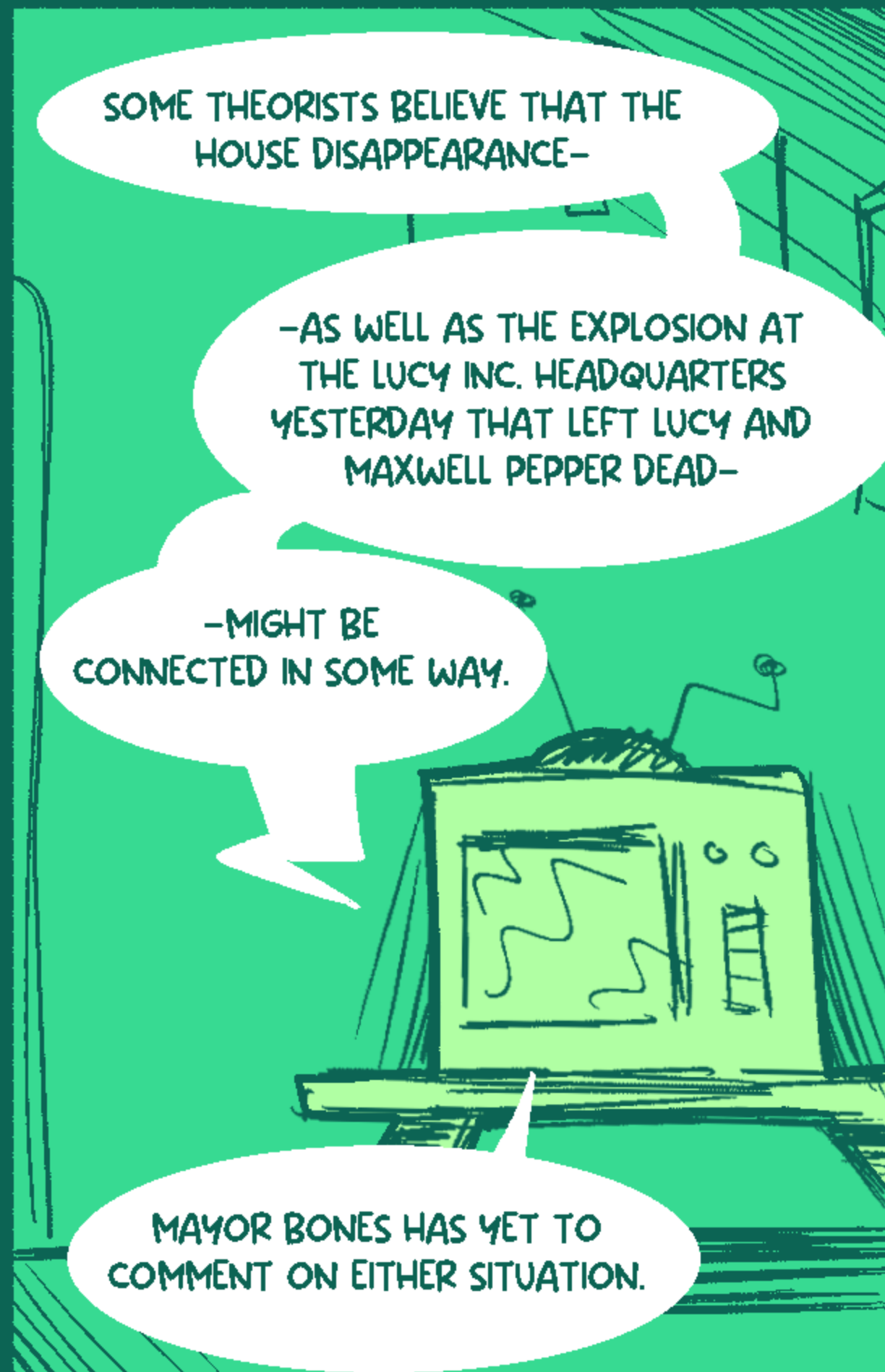


YOU'RE NOT ABOUT TO DO WITCHCRAFT IN THE GARAGE, ARE YOU? I'M PRETTY SURE YOU'RE BARRED FROM DOING THAT,

YOU GONNA SNITCH?

...NO.

THEN BUTT OUT, SIS.



SOME THEORISTS BELIEVE THAT THE HOUSE DISAPPEARANCE-

-AS WELL AS THE EXPLOSION AT THE LUCY INC. HEADQUARTERS YESTERDAY THAT LEFT LUCY AND MAXWELL PEPPER DEAD-

-MIGHT BE CONNECTED IN SOME WAY.

MAYOR BONES HAS YET TO COMMENT ON EITHER SITUATION.

WHAT THE FUCK DID YOU DO?!

YOU SAID YOU WIPED THEIR
MEMORIES!! YOU SAID EVERYTHING
WENT FINE!!

WHY ARE THEY AND THEIR
HOUSE MISSING?? WHAT
THE HELL HAPPENED?!

I DIDN'T SAY EVERYTHING WENT
FINE. I TOLD YOU CHILLI'S DAD
WAS AN ASS. HE PUNCHED ME SO
HARD HE MADE ME FALL AND
BREAK MY BROOM.

THEN THE BROOM ZAPPED
THE WHOLE HOUSE AND
SENT IT TO WHO KNOWS WHERE.

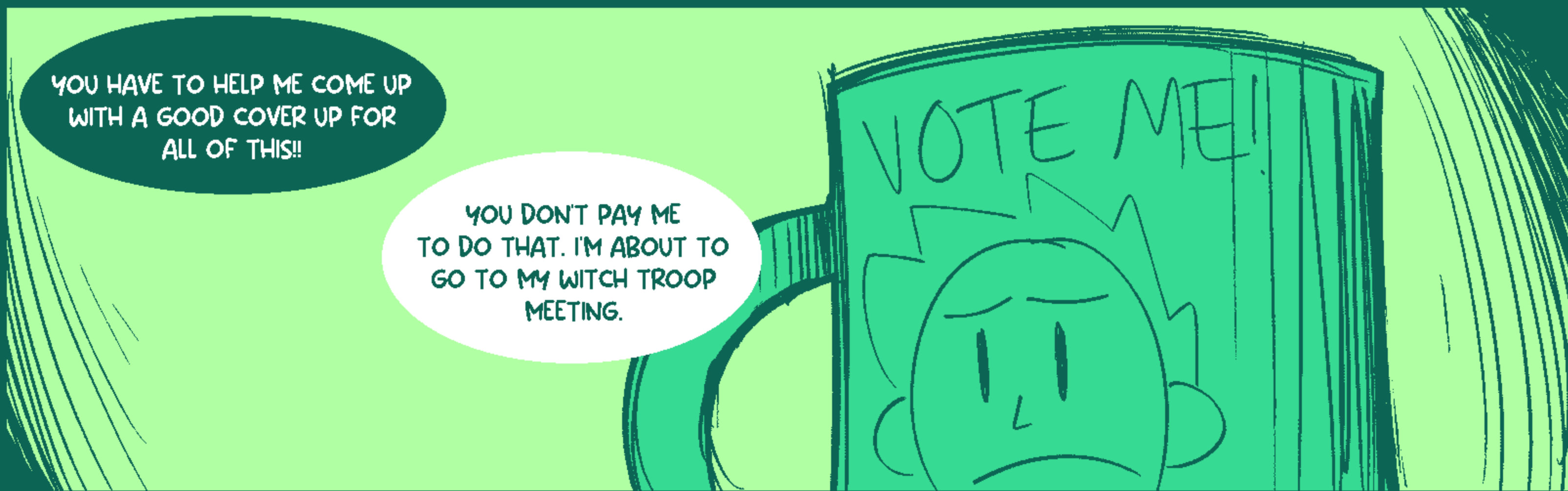
SO... SO YOU DON'T EVEN
KNOW WHERE THEY ARE?

N- NO...

JESUS CHRIST... WHAT THE
HELL AM I GONNA DO? IF
THE PRESS FOUND OUT I
WAS INVOLVED IN ALL OF
THIS I'D BE RUINED!

WELL THAT'S YOUR OWN FAULT.
I TOLD YOU THIS PLAN WAS
SLOPPY. YOU'RE LUCKY TO EVEN
BE ALIVE RIGHT NOW.

SHUT IT!



YOU HAVE TO HELP ME COME UP WITH A GOOD COVER UP FOR ALL OF THIS!!

YOU DONT PAY ME TO DO THAT. I'M ABOUT TO GO TO MY WITCH TROOP MEETING.



YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN.

W-WHAT THE HELL AM I SUPPOSED TO--



BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP



JACKASS!!



THAT'S IT! I'M GONNA DO IT!!

I'M GONNA KILL EVERYONE!

I'M GONNA KILL EVERYONE AND THEN KILL MYSELF!

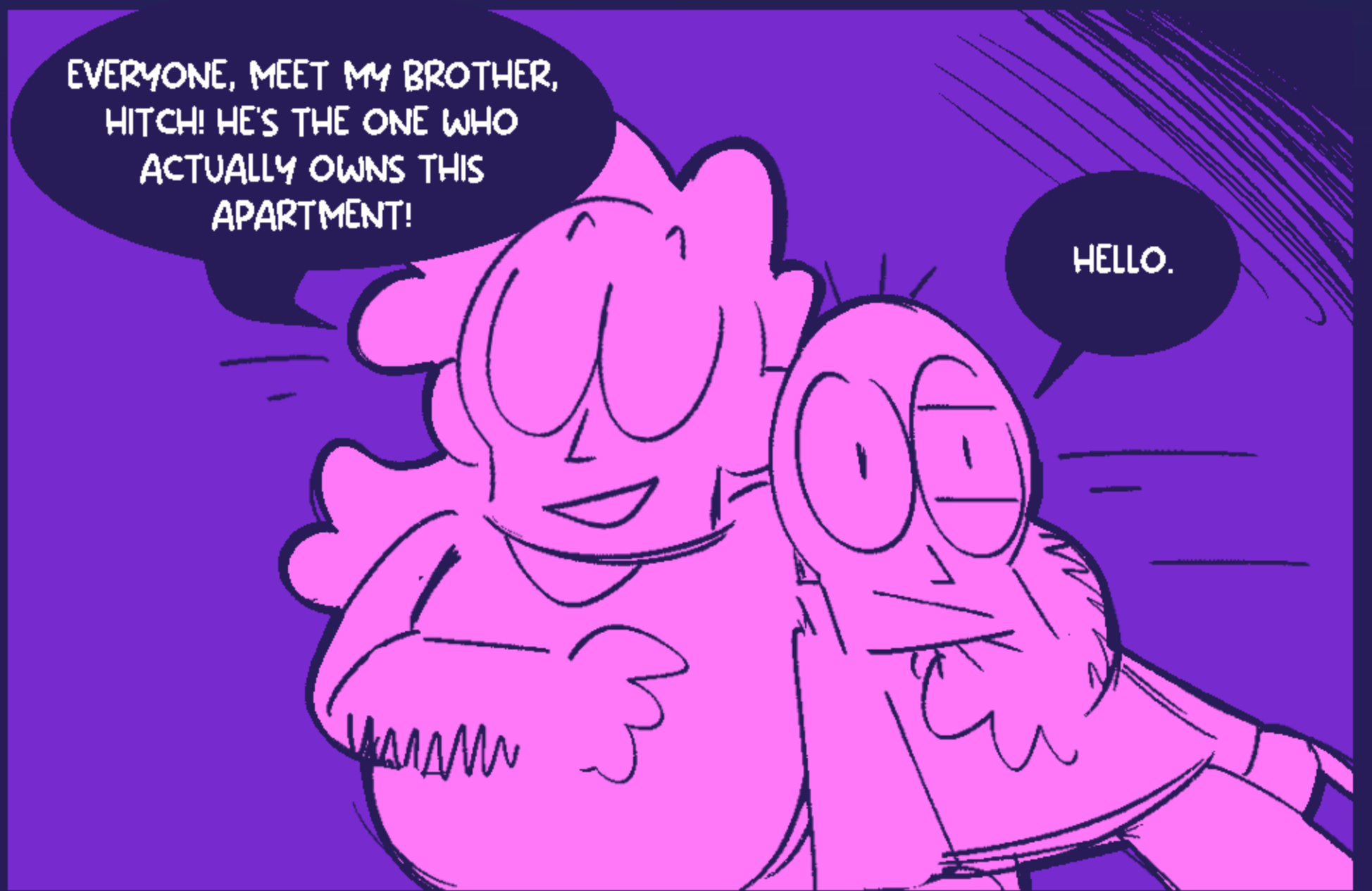
I'M--

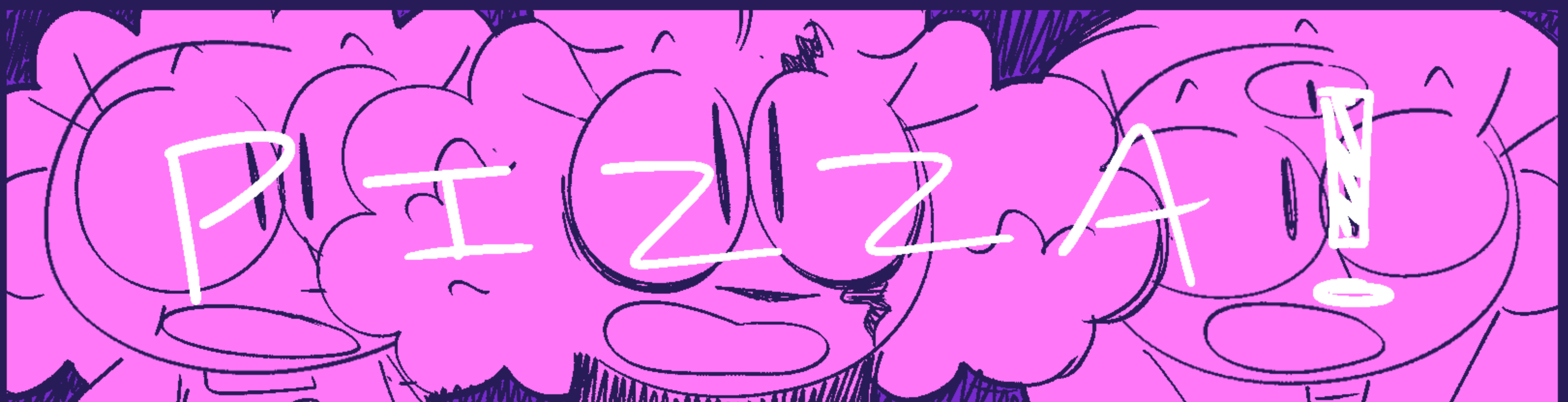


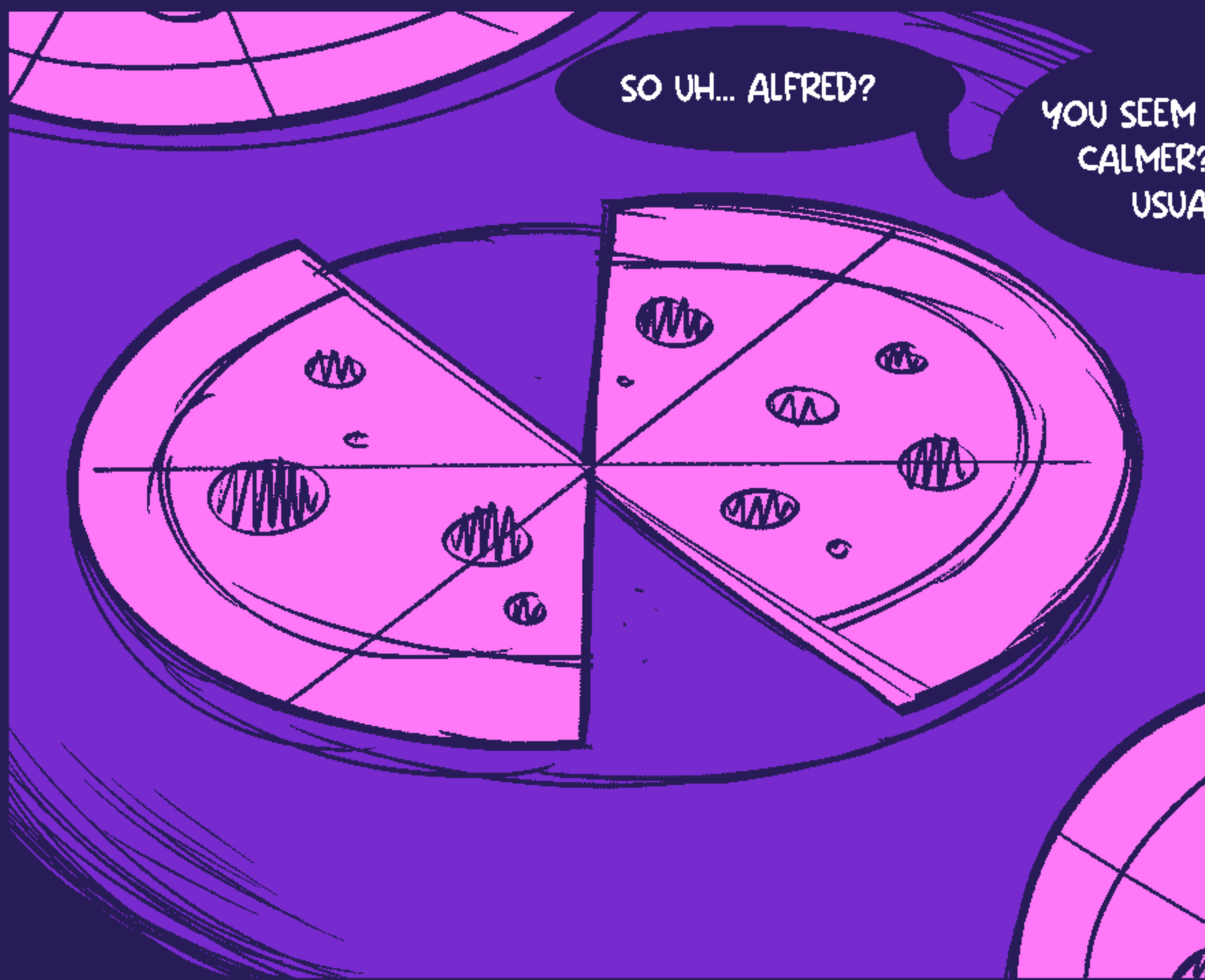
HHH NO, THAT'D TAKE TOO MUCH TIME.

OH CHILLI, YOU REALLY SCREWED ME OVER.









SO UH... ALFRED?

YOU SEEM A LOT MORE...
CALMER? THAN YOU
USUALLY ARE.



WHY THANK YOU, CHILLI.
YOU SEEM CALMER AS WELL.

OH YEAH?



AM I NO LONGER A 'DOG
THAT NEEDS TO BE PUT
ON A LEASH?'

OH... YOU KNOW
ABOUT THAT...

YEAH. SHE DOES.



LOOK, I WASN'T A GREAT PERSON
BACK ON EARTH. I MADE PLENTY
OF MISTAKES. BUT IN HELL, I FEEL
FREE. I'M A BETTER PERSON NOW.
I'M NO LONGER STUCK IN A
DEAD END LIFE.



AND I DON'T HAVE
TO WORRY ABOUT
DEALING WITH
SOMEONE LIKE
SYNTH IN HELL.

UH... Y-YEAH...



SPEAKING OF, HOW IS MY PAIN OF
A DAUGHTER DOING ANYWAY?

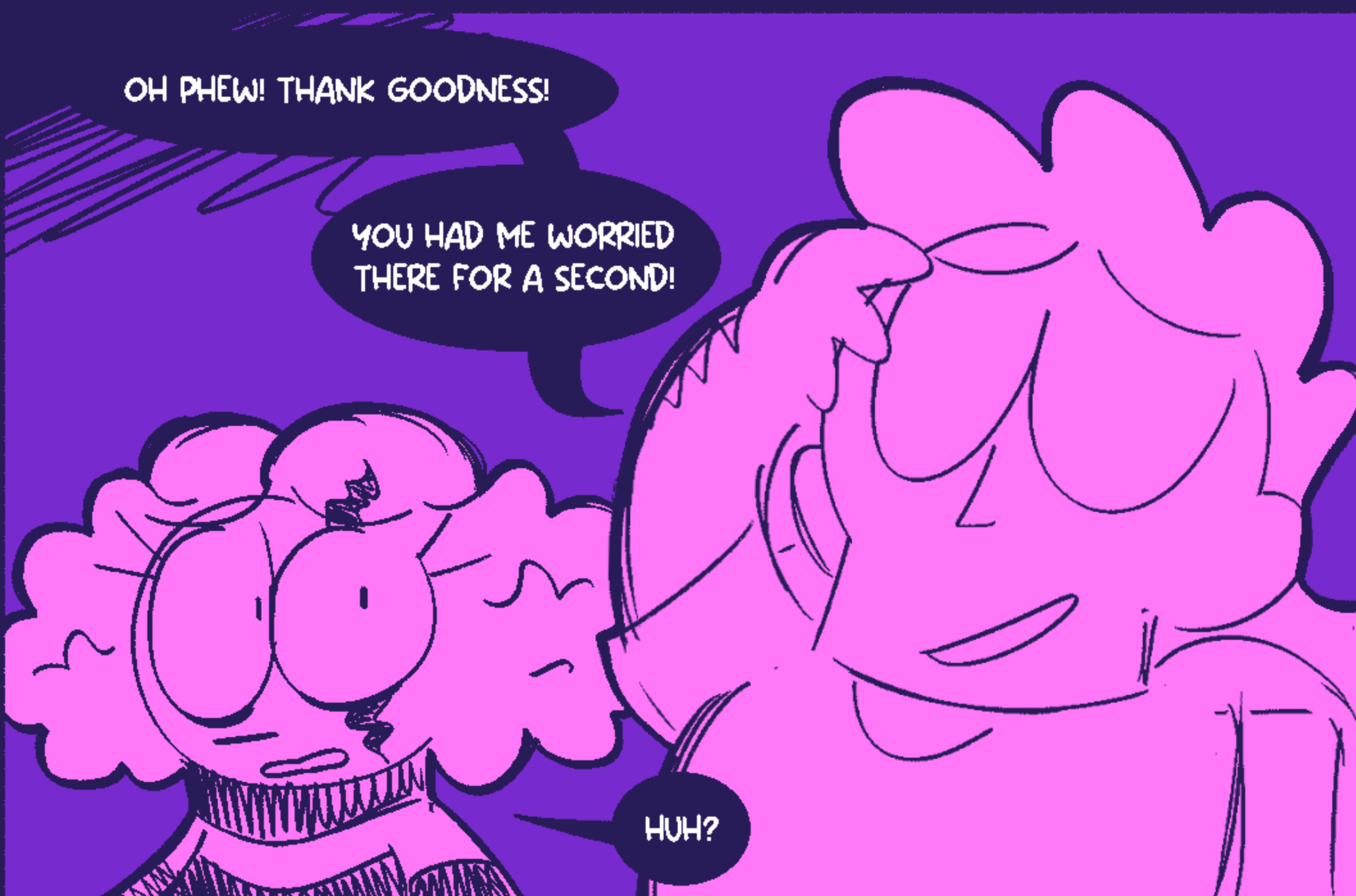
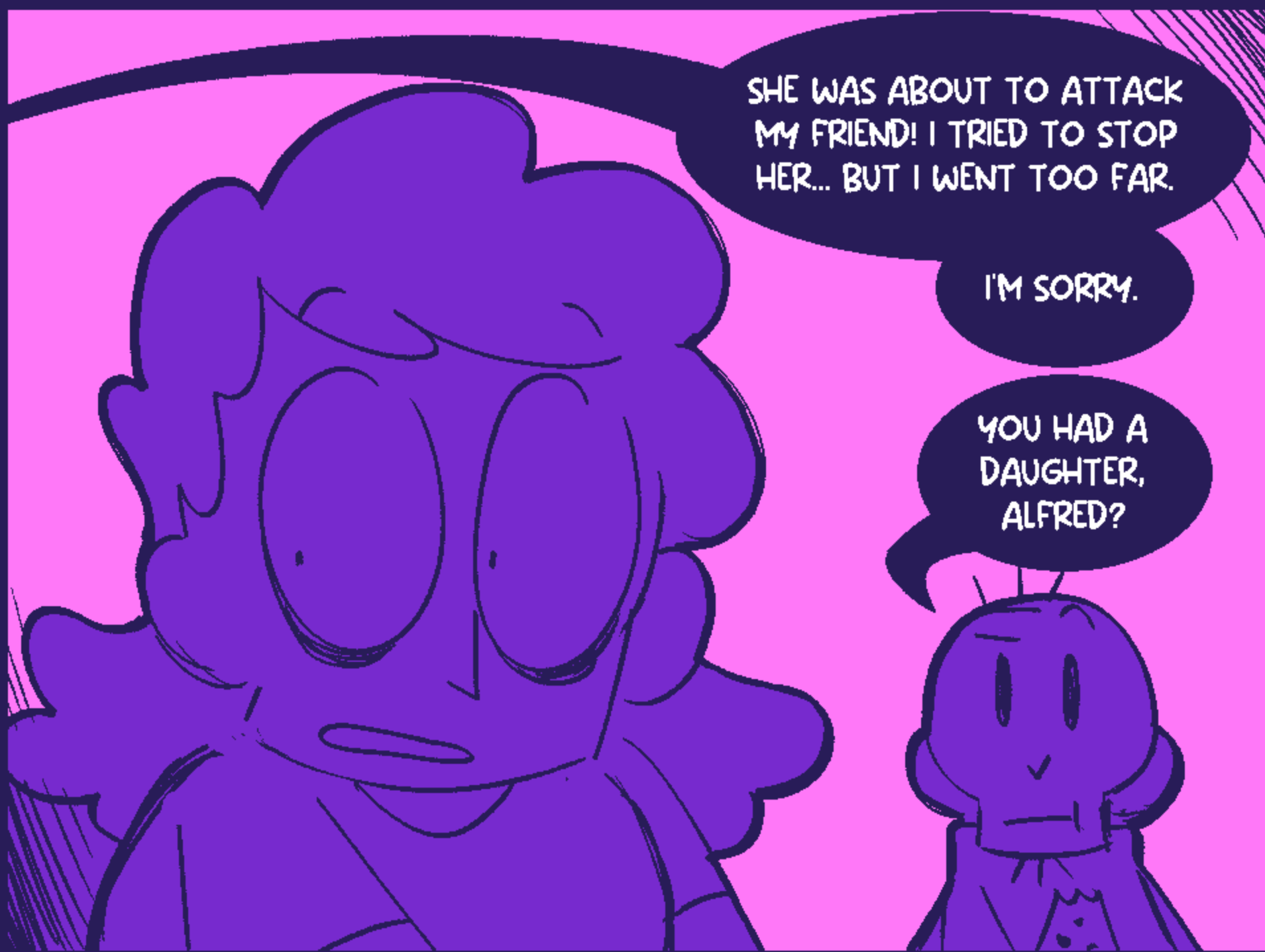
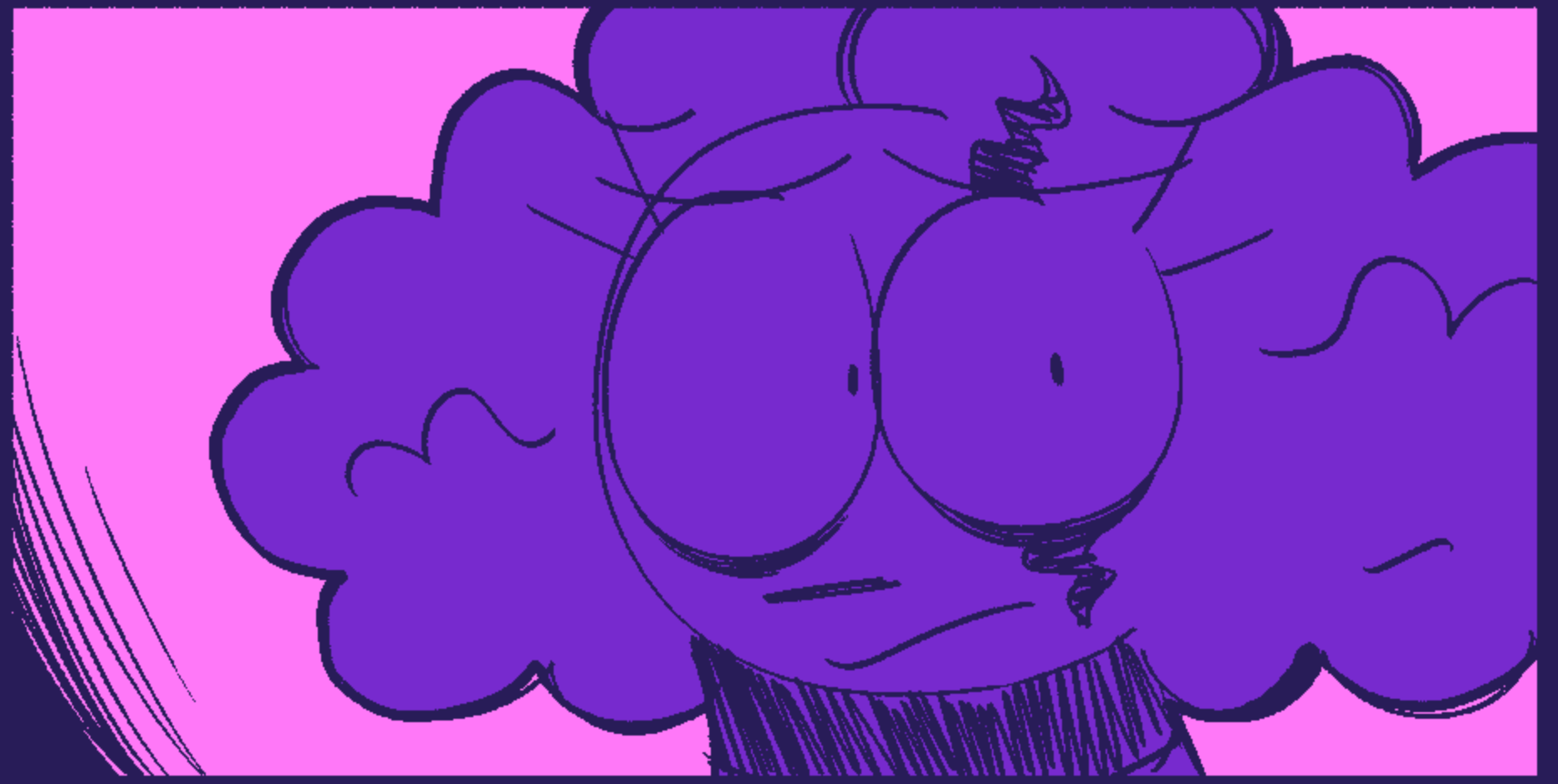
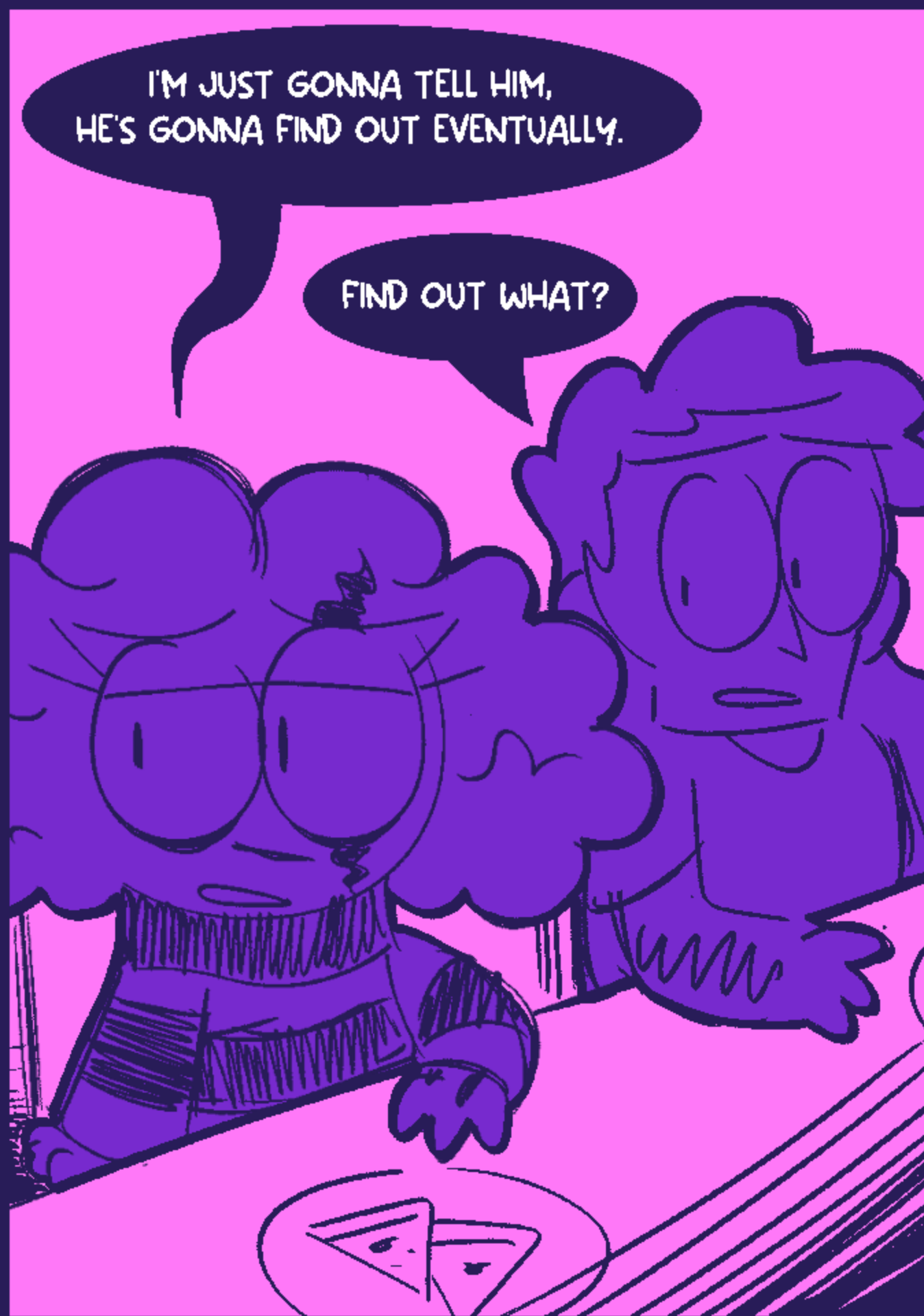
SHE CAUSING TROUBLE?

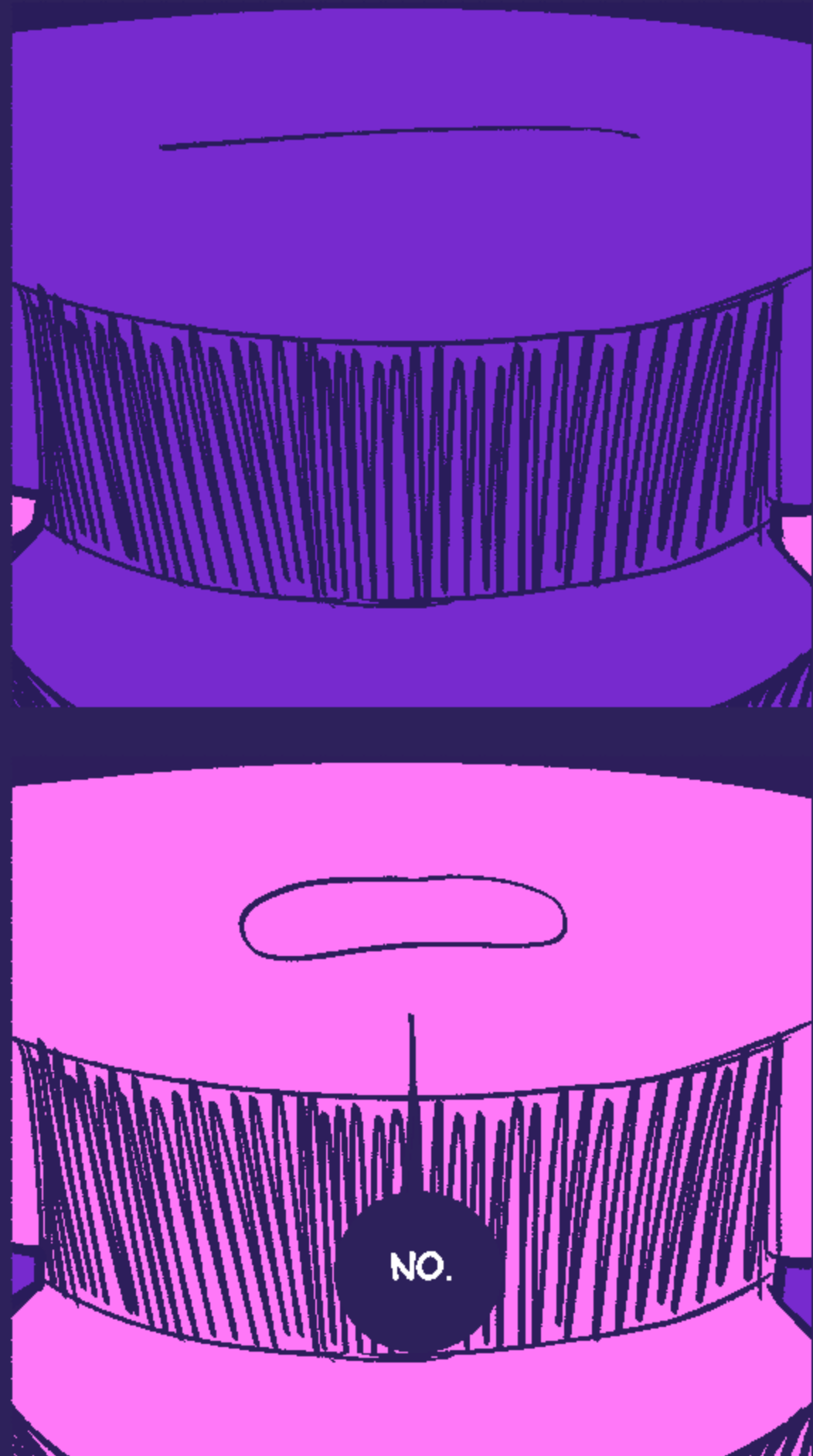
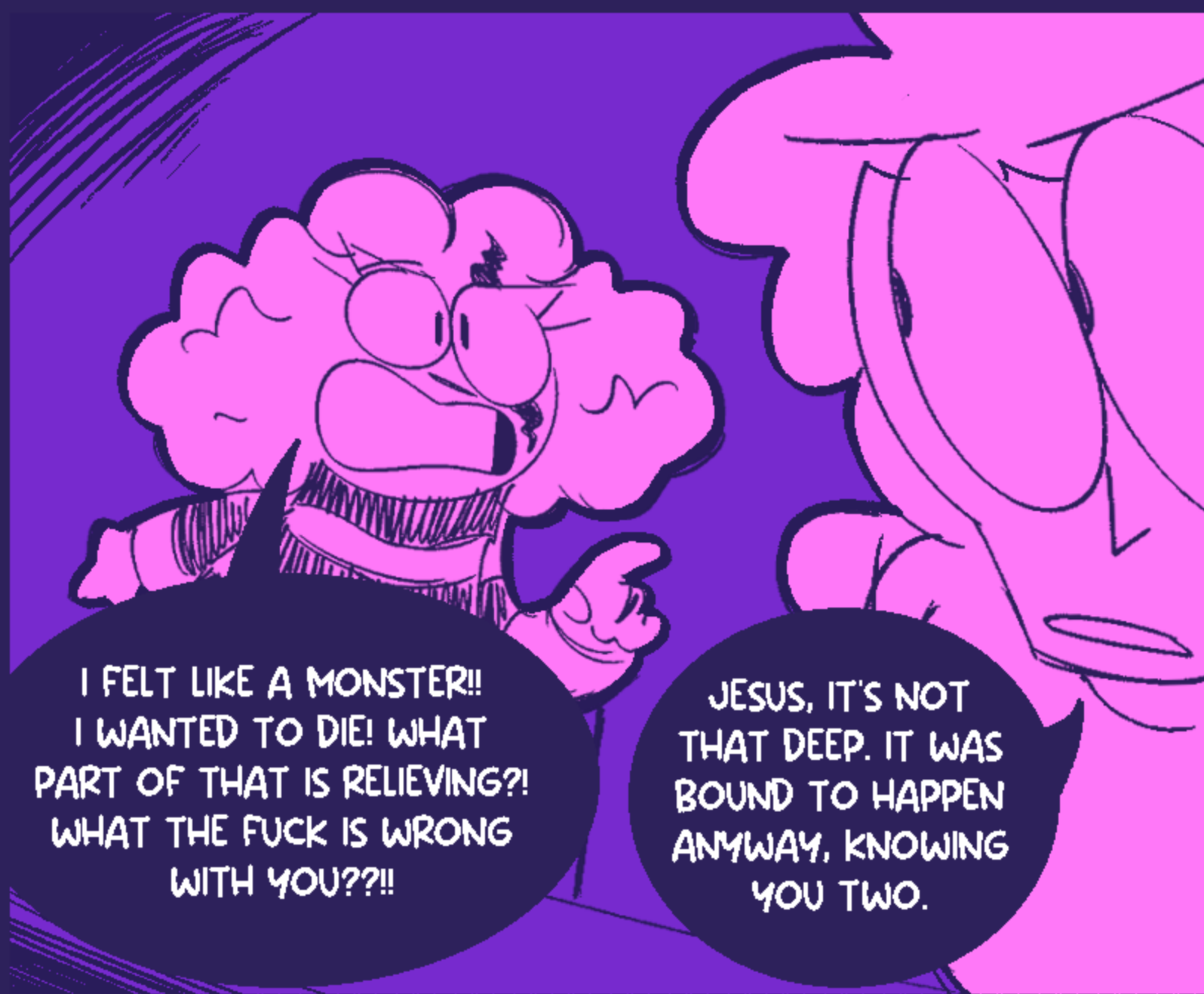


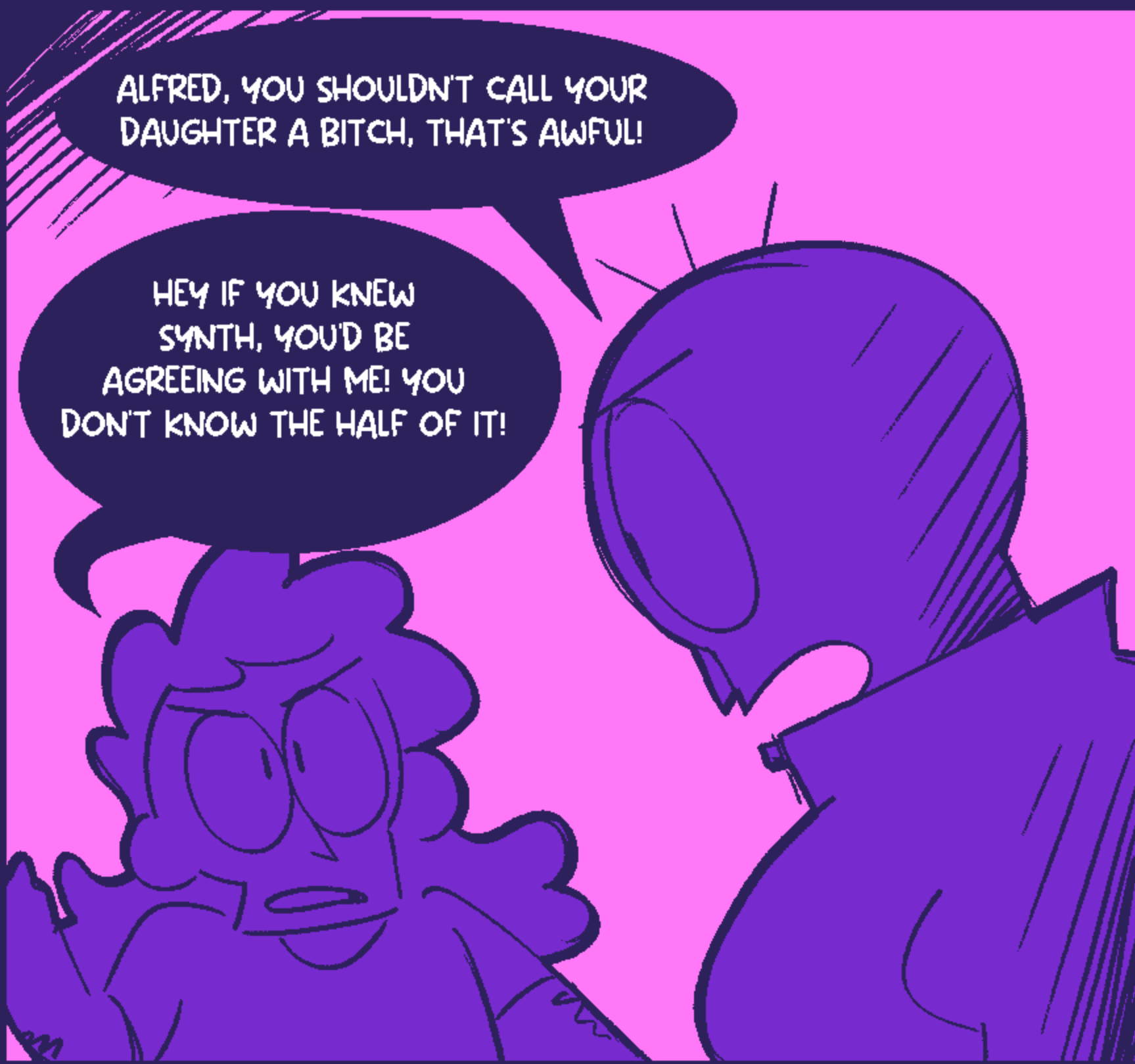
OH, YOU KNOW, SHE'S...
DOING ALRIGHT...

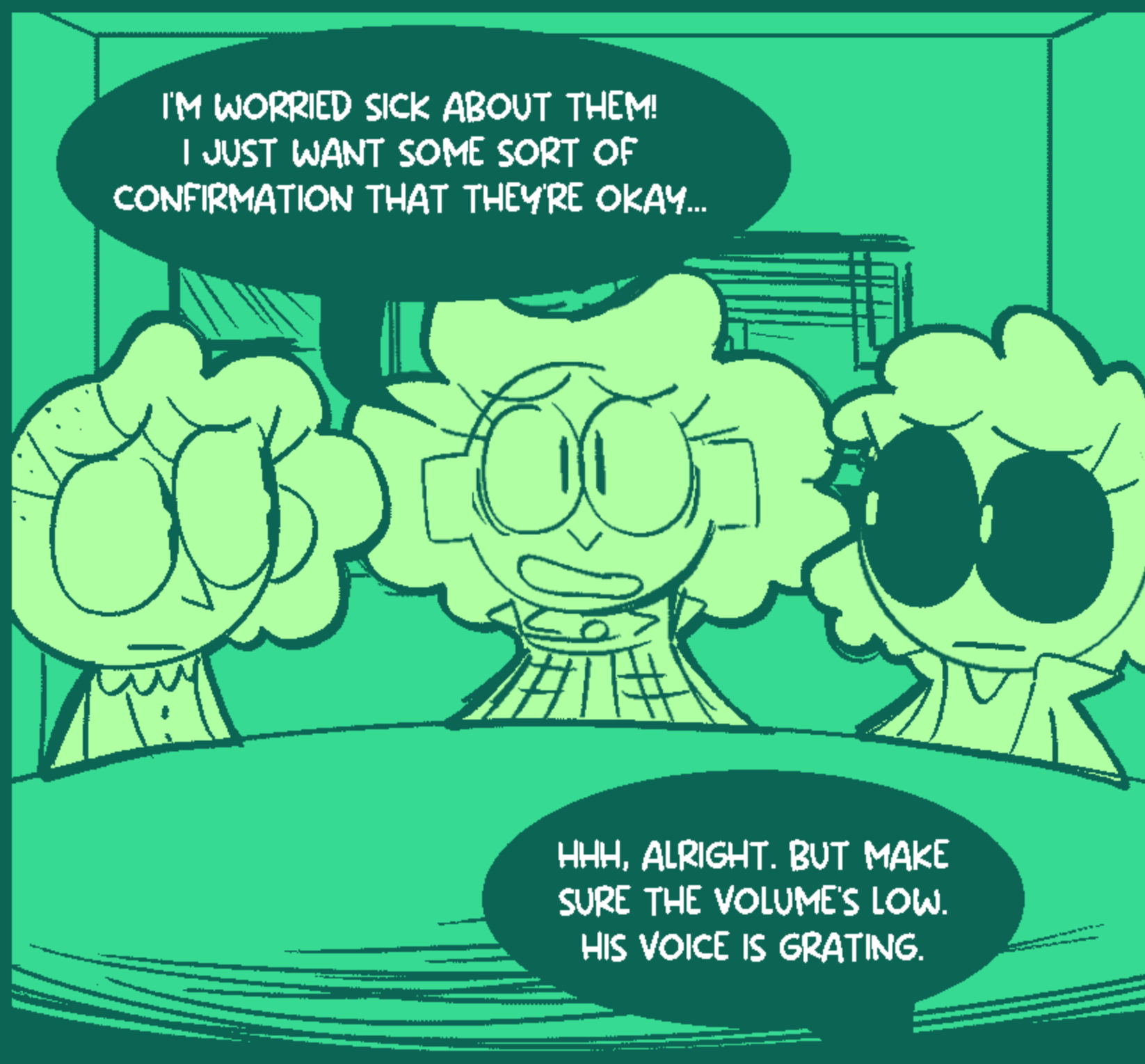
VERY ALIVE...
DOING ALIVE THINGS...

GUYS, THERE'S NO
POINT IN LYING...









AT THE SITE OF WHAT WAS
ONCE THE HQ FOR LUCY
INC., WE FOUND THESE SHARP
TEETH IN THE RUBBLE. DNA
TESTS HAVE CONFIRMED THAT
THESE BELONGED TO CHILLI,
PROVING THAT SHE MURDERED
THE PEPPERS.

WE BELIEVE SHE WAS
ALSO RESPONSIBLE
FOR THE EXPLOSION.

JUST HOURS AGO, A BODY
WAS DISCOVERED IN THE
WOODS CLOSE BY, AND WE
CAN CONFIRM NOW THAT THIS IS
THE BODY OF GEORGE
POPPYFIELD!

dead body

FAKE, LOL

WHAT?! WHAT THE FUCK DID
YOU JUST SAY TO ME?!

I SAID FAKE, LOL,
IT LOOKS LIKE IT WAS
DRAWN IN CRAYON, LOL

SH- SHUT UP!!
IT'S A REAL DRA- PHOTO!!
I MEANT PHOTO.

NOW, WHILE ANNA AND ILI ARE
CURRENTLY STILL MISSING,
THEY ARE ALSO PROBABLY
DEAD TOO! MOST LIKELY!

DUE TO THESE HEINOUS ACTIONS FROM
CHILLI, I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO SUSPEND
OUR CURRENT AD CAMPAIGN WITH HER.
THIS IS A DECISION THAT I HAVE COME TO
BY MYSELF AND ONLY BY MYSELF!

AND NOW, A FULL
LOOK AT THE TIMELINE-

HE- HE'S LYING!!
HE'S GOTTA BE!!



AS YOU CAN SEE IN THIS VERY ACCURATE TIMELINE, THE EVIDENCE IS CLEAR! CHILLI IS GUILTY! THERE IS NO NEED TO LOOK DEEPER INTO THIS! IF YOU HAVE ANY INFO-

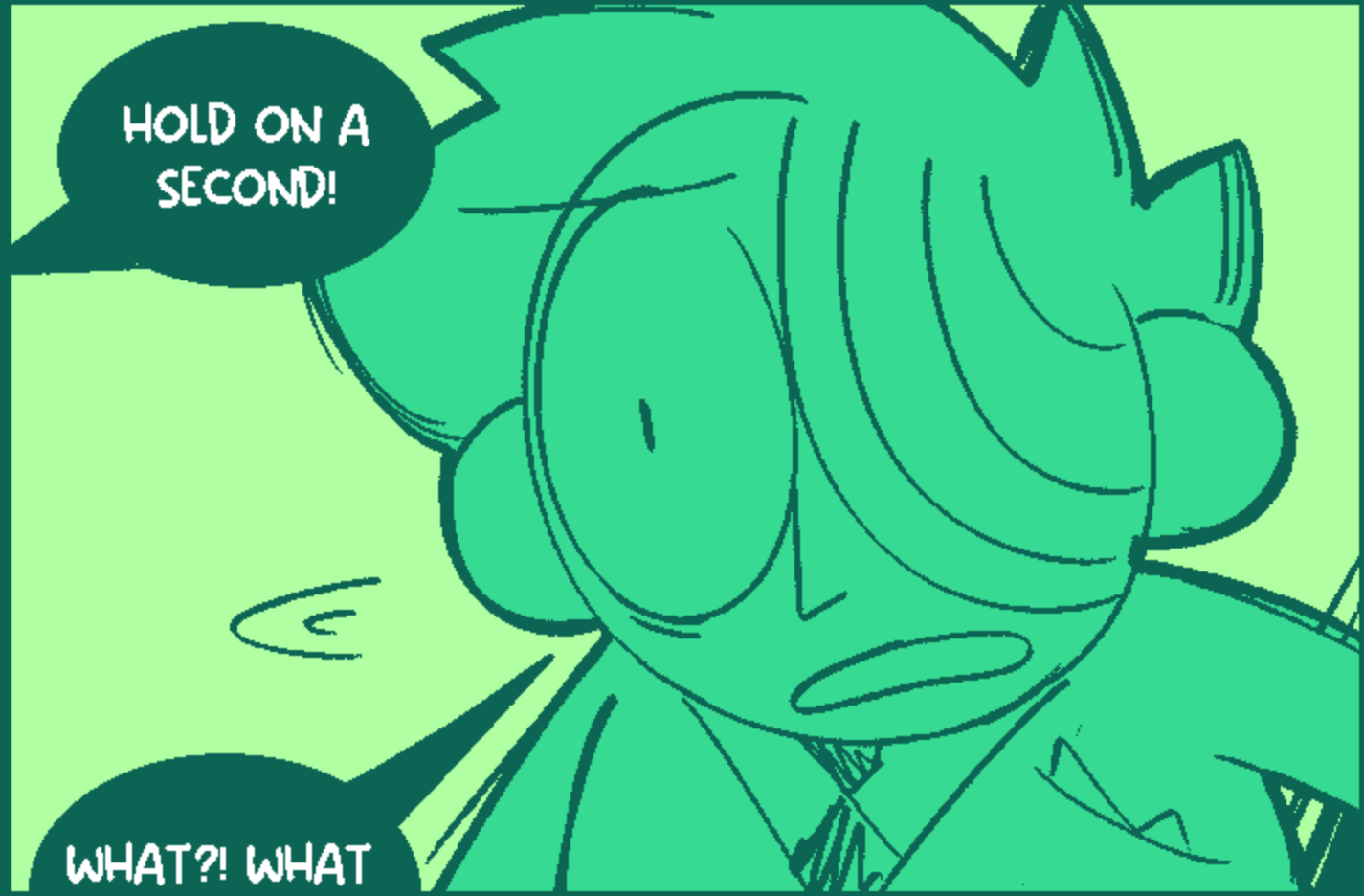
4:15 - CHILLI TRIES TO KILL ME!! THEN LEAVES

4:30 - CHILLI KIDNAPS HER FRIENDS, TAKES THEM TO HER HOUSE

5:00 - CHILLI KILLS GEORGE

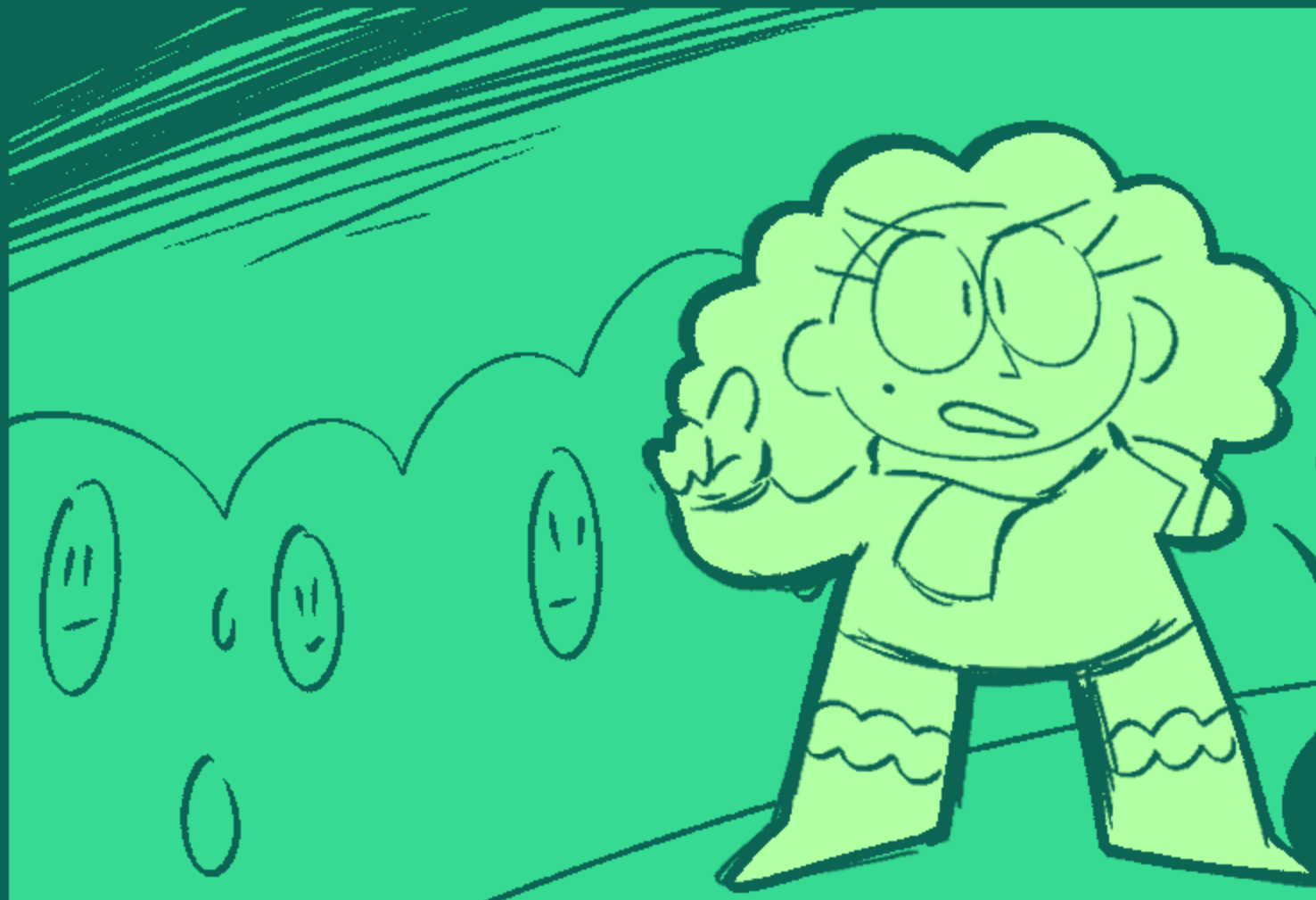
5:15 - GOES TO LUCY INC AND EXPLODES IT

5:20 - GOES BACK TO HOUSE AND MAKES IT DISAPPEAR!!



HOLD ON A SECOND!

WHAT?! WHAT THE FUCK?!



WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?

LILY FIELD. ANNA'S MOM.

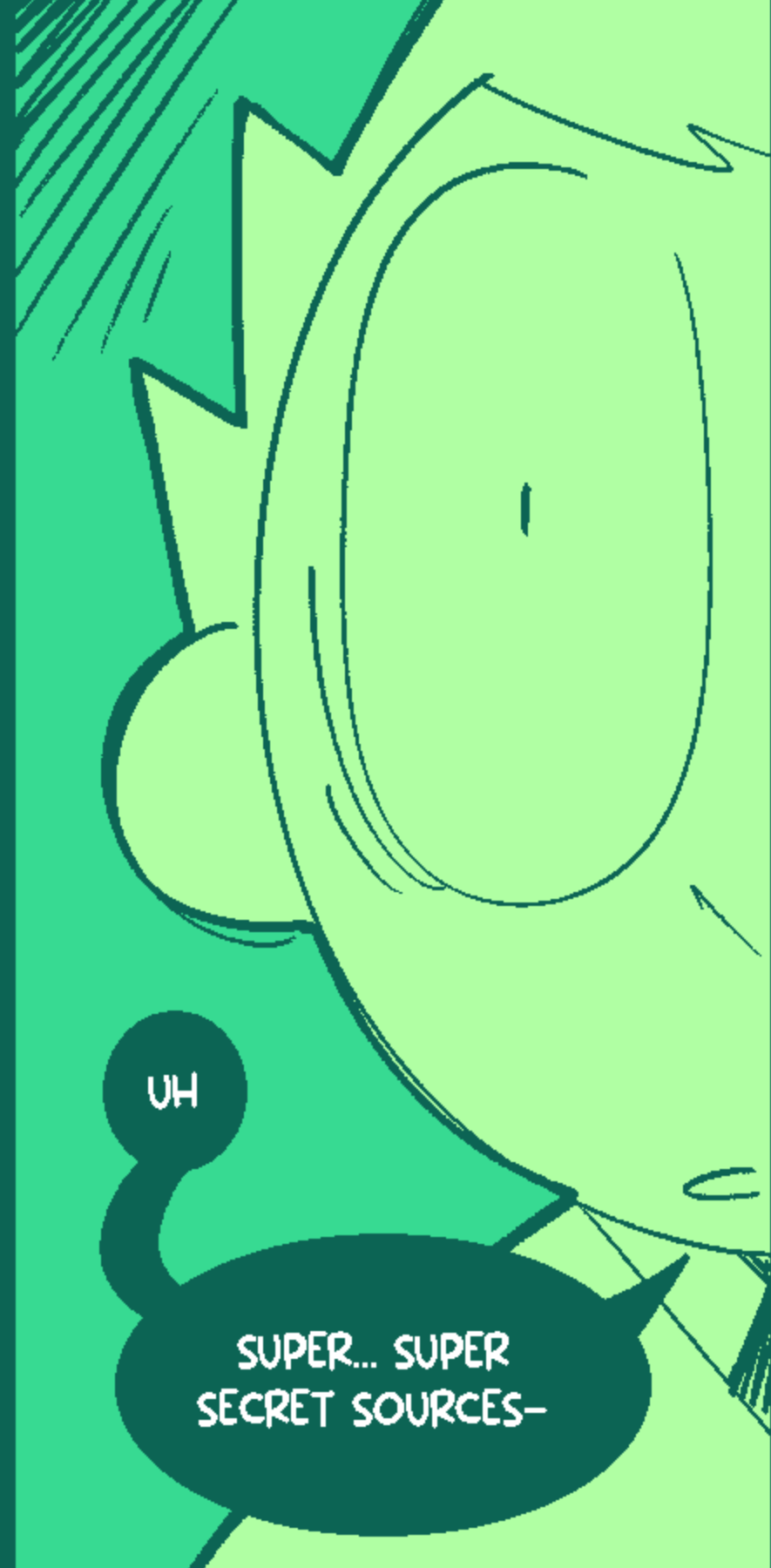
I WAS TALKING TO GEORGE ON THE PHONE AT AROUND SIX. HOW COULD THAT BE POSSIBLE IF HE WAS ALREADY DEAD FOR AN HOUR BEFORE?



AND I WAS TEXTING ANNA AT ABOUT FIVE! SHE DIDN'T SEEM TO BE IN ANY DISTRESS!

LUCY INC. EXPLODED AFTER THE HOUSE DISAPPEARED! AND THAT HAPPENED AT ABOUT SIX THIRTY TO SEVEN!

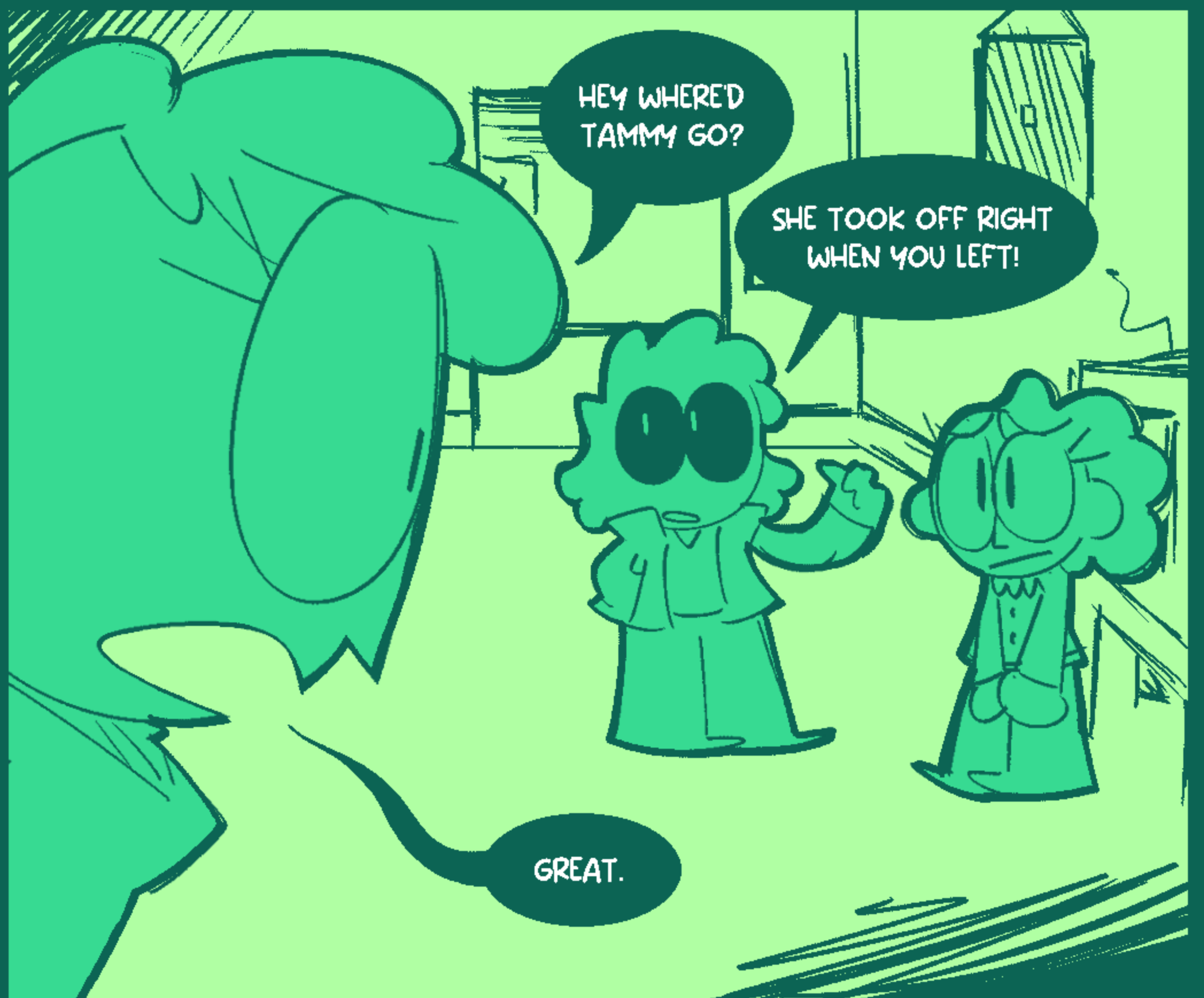
WHAT EXACTLY ARE YOUR SOURCES FOR THIS TIMELINE?!

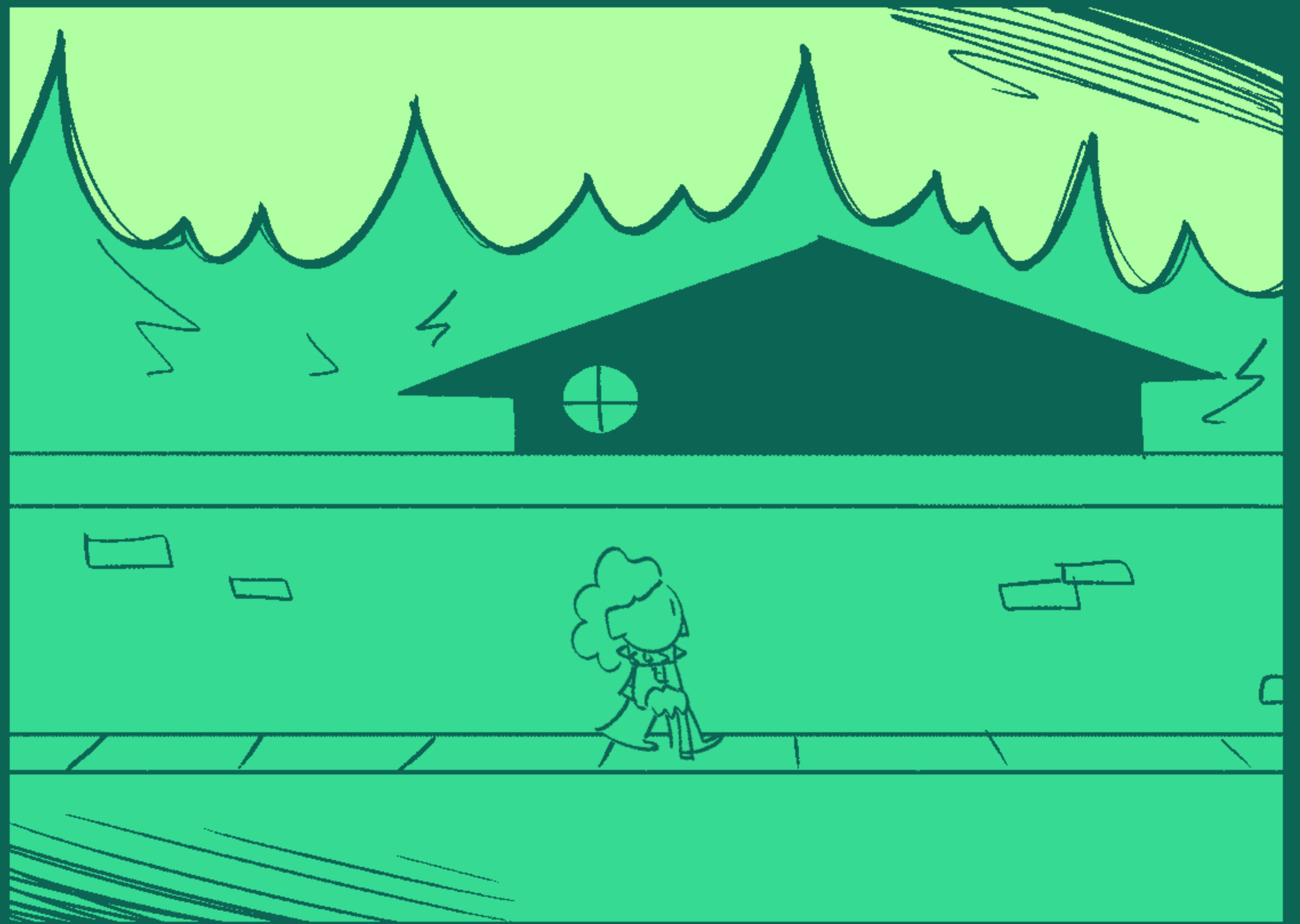


UH

SUPER... SUPER SECRET SOURCES-









ALRIGHT EVERYONE, SORRY YOU ALL HAD TO SEE THAT, THINGS JUST GOT A LITTLE HEATED. WE'RE DONE NOW.



WHERE'D EVERYONE GO?

ANNA AND ILI ARE IN THE OTHER ROOM.

I'M WATCHING TV.



THAT'S A WIDESCREEN TV. THEY HAVE THOSE ON EARTH, TOO.

AND NOW, A WORD FROM OUR SPONSOR

THE TV'S IN HELL LOOK SO WEIRD... THEY'RE SO WIDE AND CLEAR...

WELL I'VE NEVER SEEN ONE.



THERE'S STILL TIME TO JOIN
THE PATCHWORK PLAZA RUMBLE!!
THE BIGGEST FIGHTING TOURNAMENT IN HELL!!



IT'S GONNA HAVE IT ALL!!

**VIOLENCE!!
BLOOD!!
DEATH!!
DRUGS!!
FOUL LANGUAGE!**

**NO SEX THOUGH!!
THAT STUFF'S GROSS!**



AS ALWAYS, THE GRAND PRIZE WINNER
WILL RECEIVE \$100,000, BUT THIS YEAR,
THEY'LL ALSO WIN SOMETHING SPECIAL!!

OH
MY
GOD?!



THEY'LL ALSO RECEIVE A REAL LIFE
LIVING HUMAN!! FROM EARTH! WITH
A BODY AND EVERYTHING!!

HELP ME

DAD??!!

TO BE CONTINUED!!



#19

CHILLI

THE VAMPIRE OPOSSUM



"WITCHES AND WEAPONS"
PART TWO

tw:

bright colors
death threats
fighting
teeth



GIVE ME BACK MY DAD
RIGHT NOW!!!!

MA'AM, I UNDERSTAND YOUR
PLIGHT, BUT I'M JUST
THE TICKET GUY.

SIGN UP 4
PPR
HERE!!

MOVIE:
THE MOTHER

!!



TH-THEN CAN YOU TALK TO
SOMEONE FOR ME?? LIKE
THE EVENT ORGANIZER OR
SOMETHING??

EVEN IF I COULD,
IT WOULDN'T MATTER.
THE PRIZE POOL'S
ALREADY LOCKED UP.

HE'S STAYING IN THERE
NO MATTER WHAT.



BUT IF YOU WANT HIM
BACK SO MUCH-

PERHAPS YOU SHOULD
JUST SIGN UP FOR THE
TOURNAMENT.

DO IT LATER THOUGH,
I'M ON BREAK NOW.
BYYYYYEEEEEE.

NO WAIT!!
OPEN UP!

CLOSED

SIGN UP 4
PPR
HERE!!

MOVIE:
THE MOTHER

!!



PLEASE...

OPEN UP...



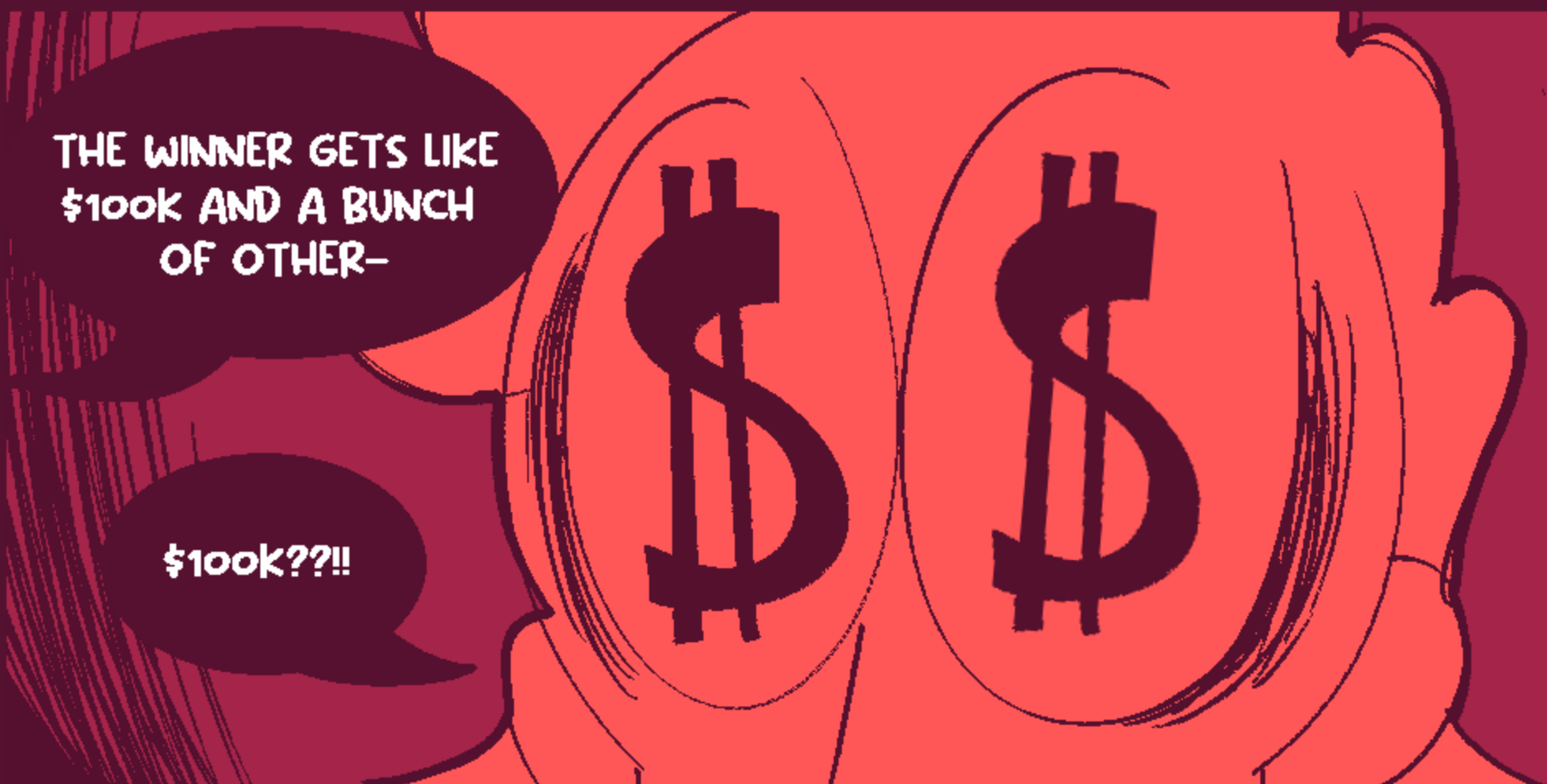
GGGGRRRRR AAAAAAAAH!!
WHY DOES THIS KEEP HAPPENING
TO ME??!

I'M SORRY, CHILLI...
WE'LL GET YOUR
DAD BACK!



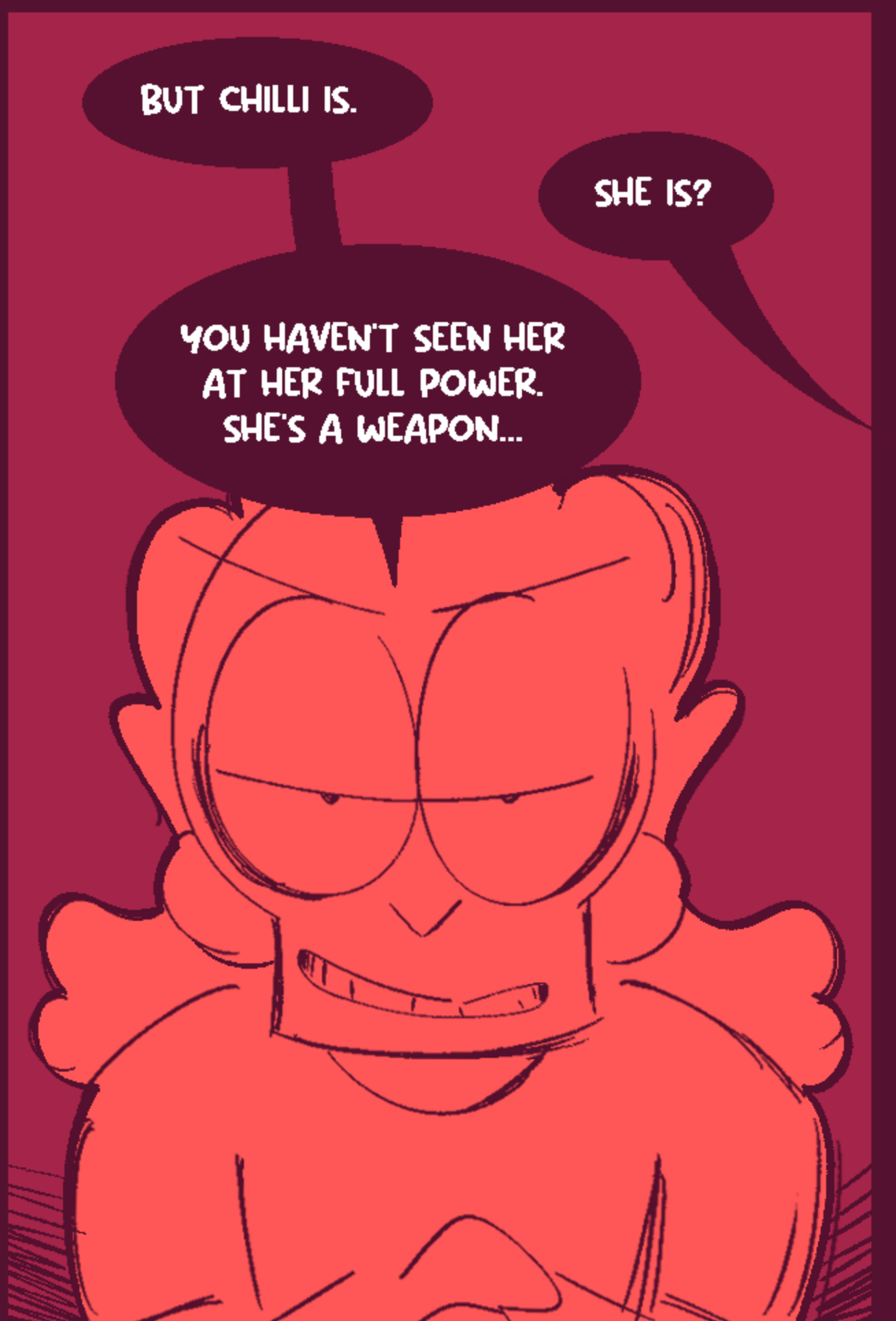
SO WHAT'S THIS
EVENT SUPPOSED TO
BE, ANYWAY?

OH IT'S AN ANNUAL
FIGHTING TOURNAMENT.



THE WINNER GETS LIKE
\$100K AND A BUNCH
OF OTHER-

\$100K??!



BUT CHILLI IS.

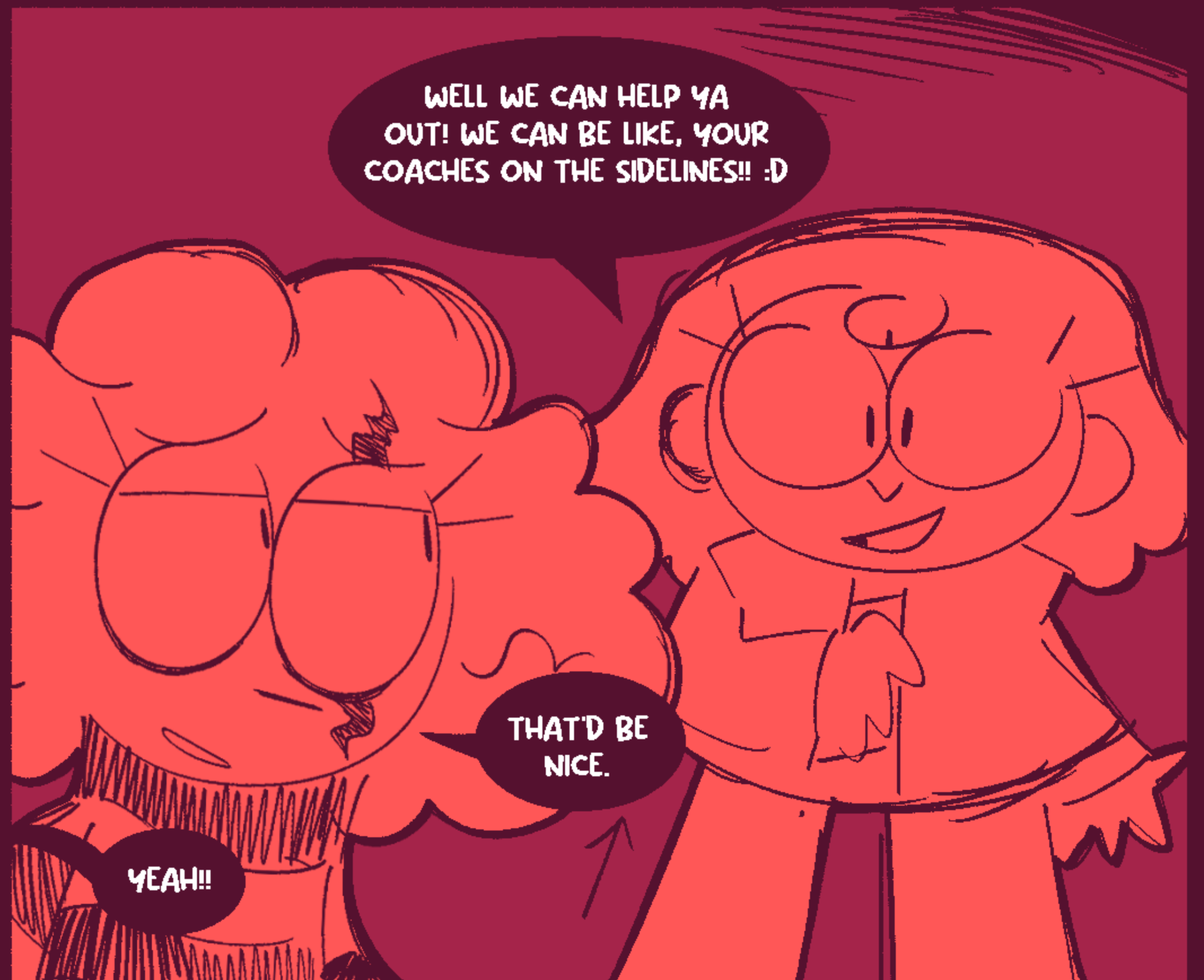
SHE IS?

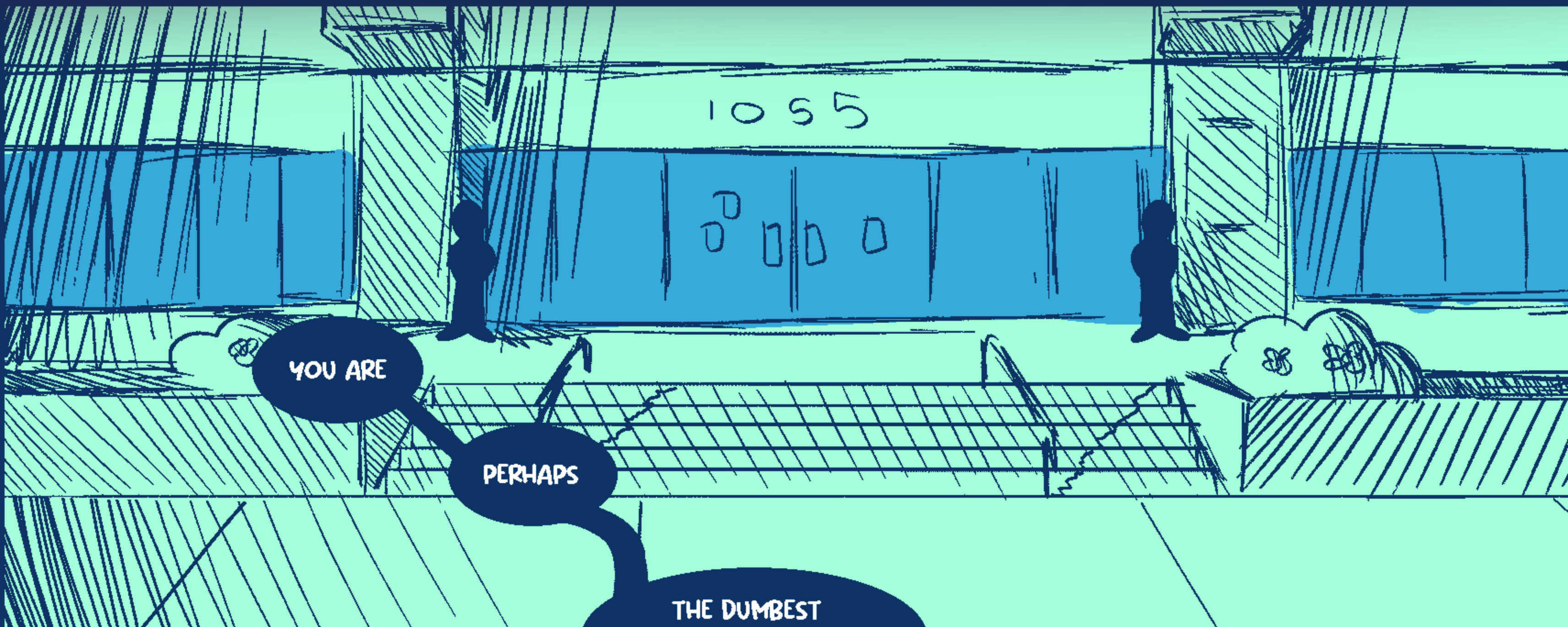
YOU HAVEN'T SEEN HER
AT HER FULL POWER.
SHE'S A WEAPON...



THAT'D BE MORE THAN
ENOUGH TO PAY FOR
THE... YOU KNOW WHAT.

BROTHER, WE'RE OLD.
WE ARE IN NO CONDITION
TO FIGHT.







WHAT WERE YOU EVEN THINKING?!
IF PEOPLE DIDN'T THINK YOU WERE
INVOLVED IN THIS MESS BEFORE, THEY
SURE AS HELL DO NOW!!

I DON'T KNOW
WHAT WENT
WRONG!
EVERYTHING WENT
WELL WHEN
I PLAYED IT OUT
IN MY HEAD...



LOOK AT THIS!

75% BELIEVE
CHILLI IS INNOCENT

W- WELL THAT MEANS
25% STILL BELIEVE ME,
YEAH? THAT'S PRETTY
GOOD, RIGHT??



NO. IT'S NOT.

IF YOU GET IMPEACHED
BECAUSE OF THIS, THE
WITCH TROOPS ARE GONNA
LOSE ALL THEIR FUNDING...

AND THEN WITCHCRAFT MIGHT
BE GIVEN BACK TO... UGH,
NORMIES...



WELL UHHH... WHY CAN'T YOU JUST LIKE,
ERASE EVERYONE'S MEMORIES OR SOMETHING?

I'D HAVE TO
ERASE
EVERYONE'S
MEMORIES
INDIVIDUALLY!
THAT'S NOT
FEASIBLE!



UHH... TIME TRAVEL?

THAT DOESN'T
EXIST.

WELL THAT'S JUST
STUPID.



I'M GONNA GO HOME AND TRY
TO FIGURE SOMETHING OUT, BUT
IT'S PROBABLY TOO LATE TO
FIX ANY OF THIS SHIT.

YOU BETTER HOPE CHILLI AND
THE OTHERS NEVER COME BACK.





DO YOU REALLY THINK THE MAYOR MIGHT BE INVOLVED IN ALL OF THIS?

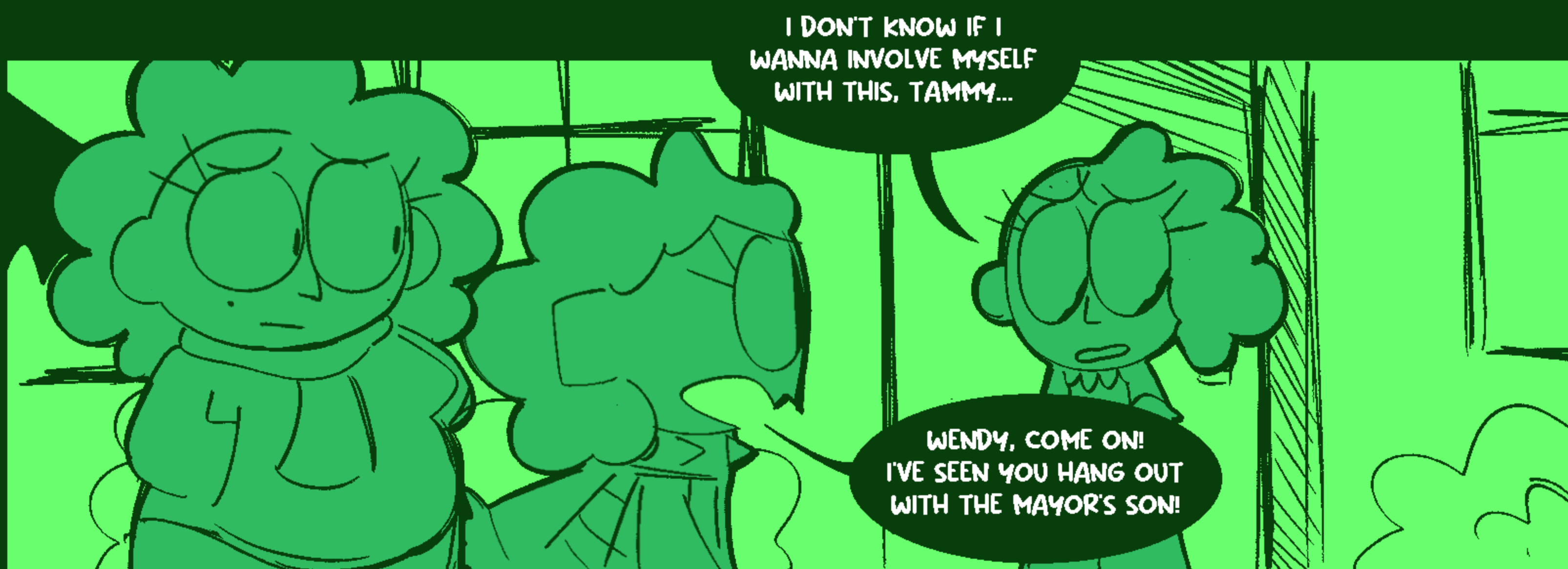
I DON'T KNOW IN WHAT WAY, BUT... YES.

HE WAS SWEATING A BUCKET-TON WHEN I WAS UP ON THAT STAGE.



WELL, I THINK I KNOW A WAY THAT WE CAN FIND OUT FOR SURE...

BUT WE'LL NEED A LITTLE MORE HELP...



I DON'T KNOW IF I WANNA INVOLVE MYSELF WITH THIS, TAMMY...

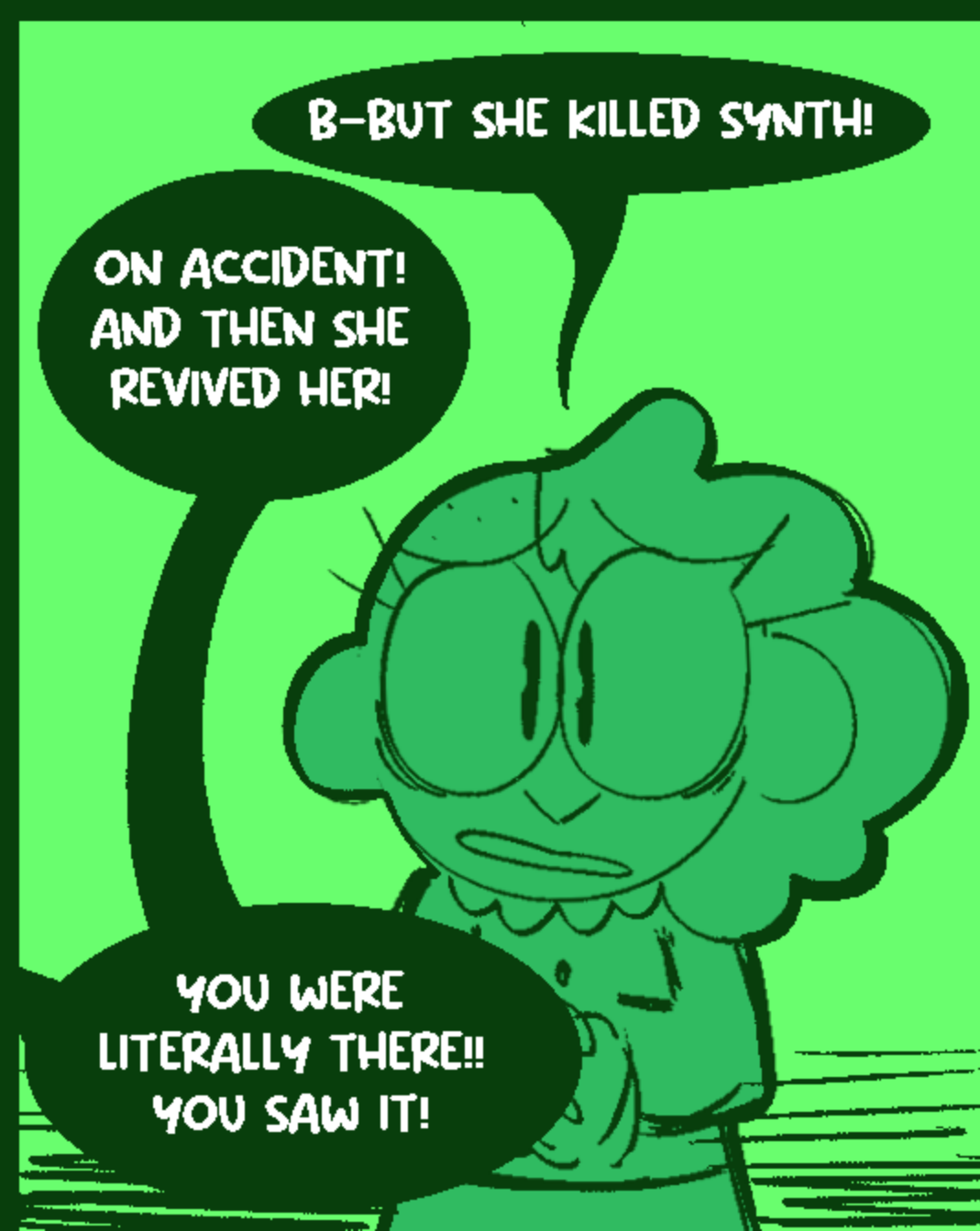
WENDY, COME ON! I'VE SEEN YOU HANG OUT WITH THE MAYOR'S SON!



I KNOW YOU HAVE HIS ADDRESS!

B-BUT WHAT IF MAYOR BONES IS TELLING THE TRUTH...?

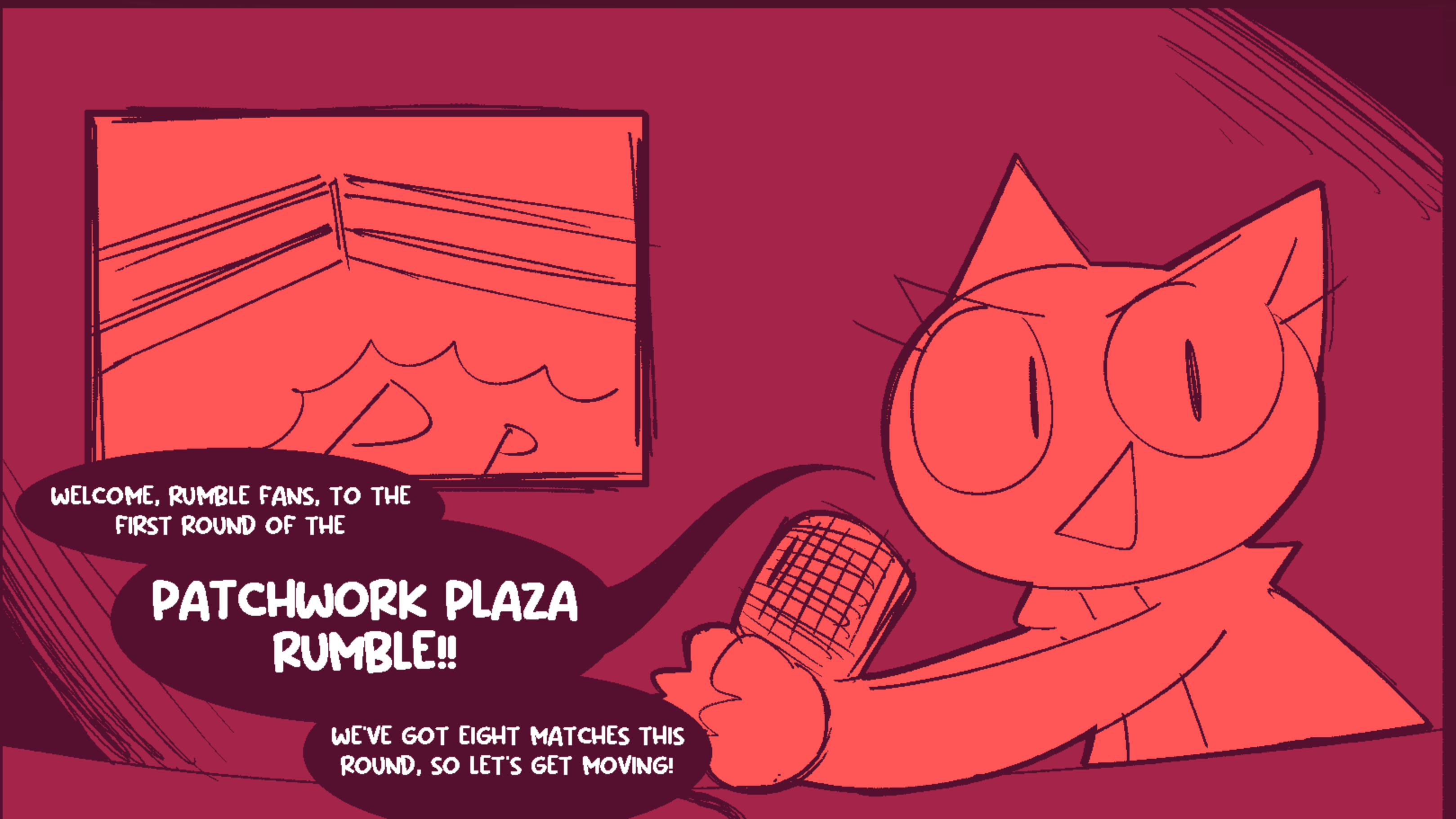
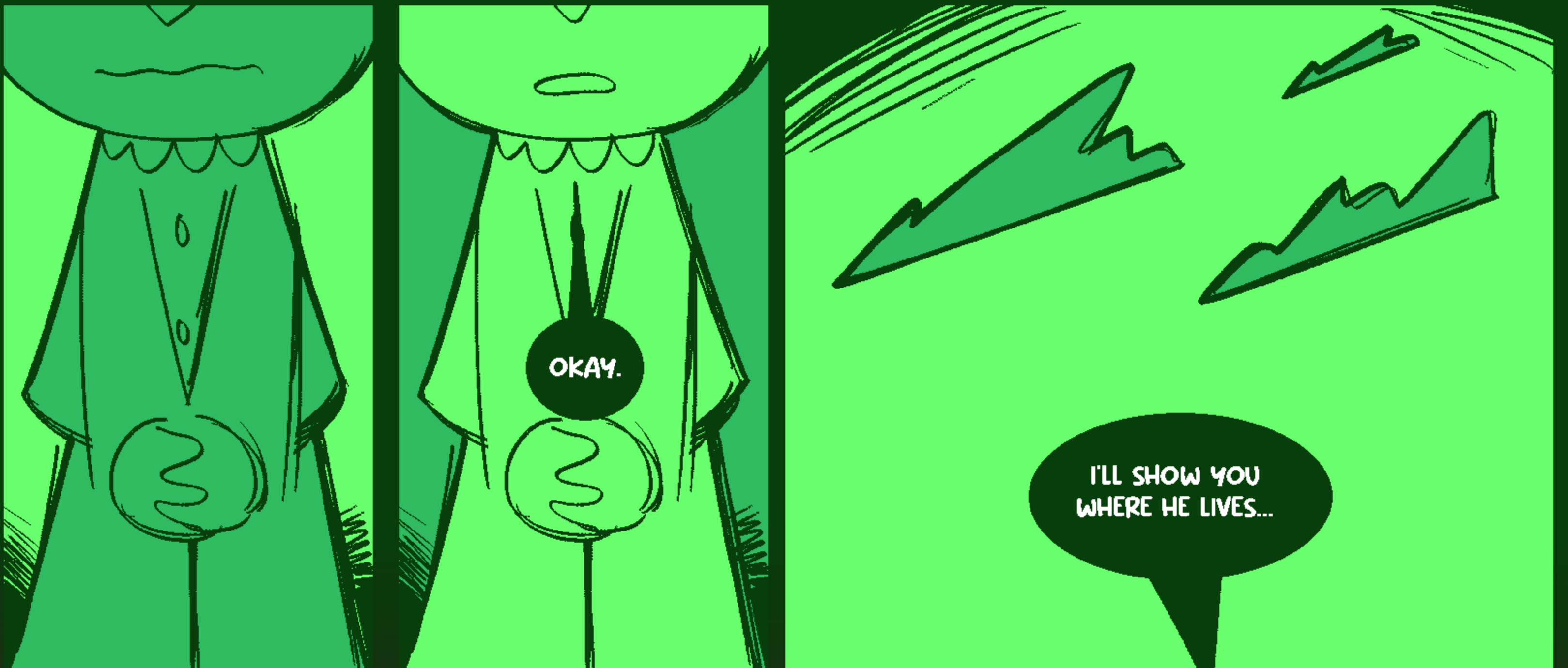
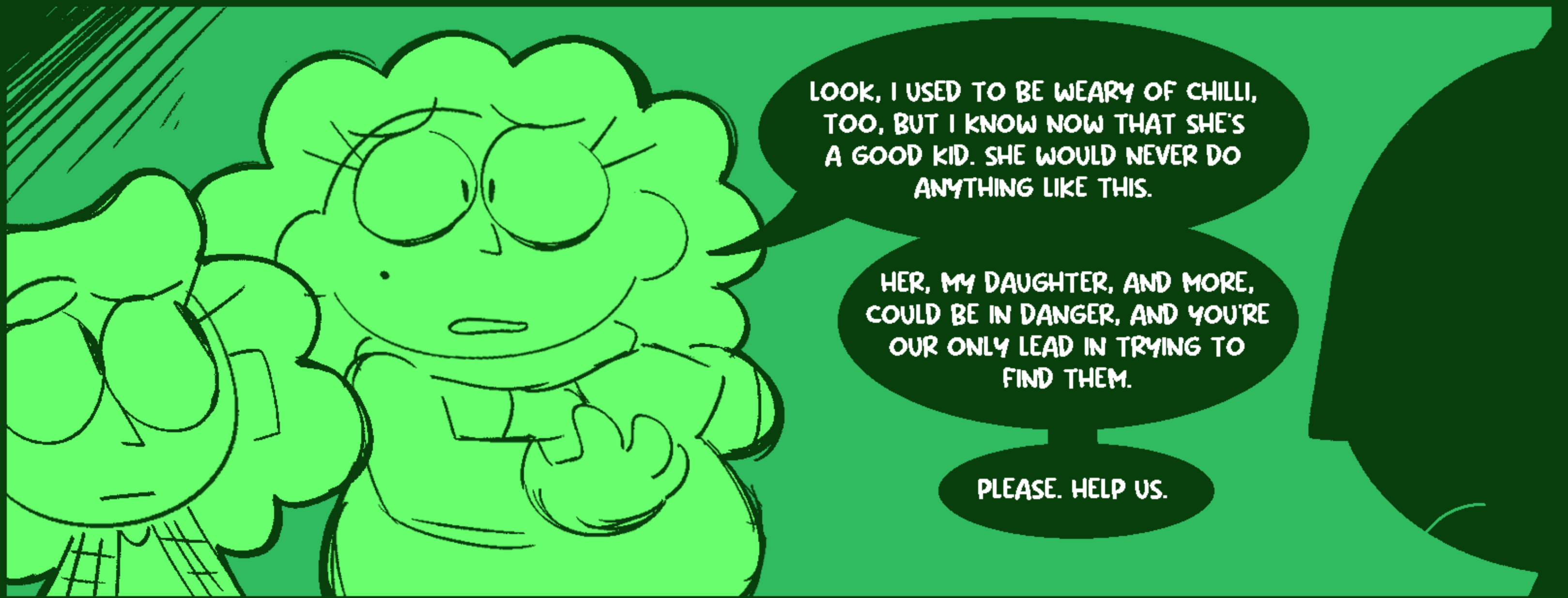
OH FUCK OFF! CHILLI IS NOT A SERIAL KILLER!



B-BUT SHE KILLED SYNTH!

ON ACCIDENT! AND THEN SHE REVIVED HER!

YOU WERE LITERALLY THERE!! YOU SAW IT!







OUR LAST BATTLE LEFT ME SEVERELY INJURED, BUT NOW I'M BACK, READY TO TAKE YOU DOWN!

USING A SELF-MADE PORTAL, I TRAVELED TO HELL, KNOWING THAT AT ANY MOMENT, YOU'D-

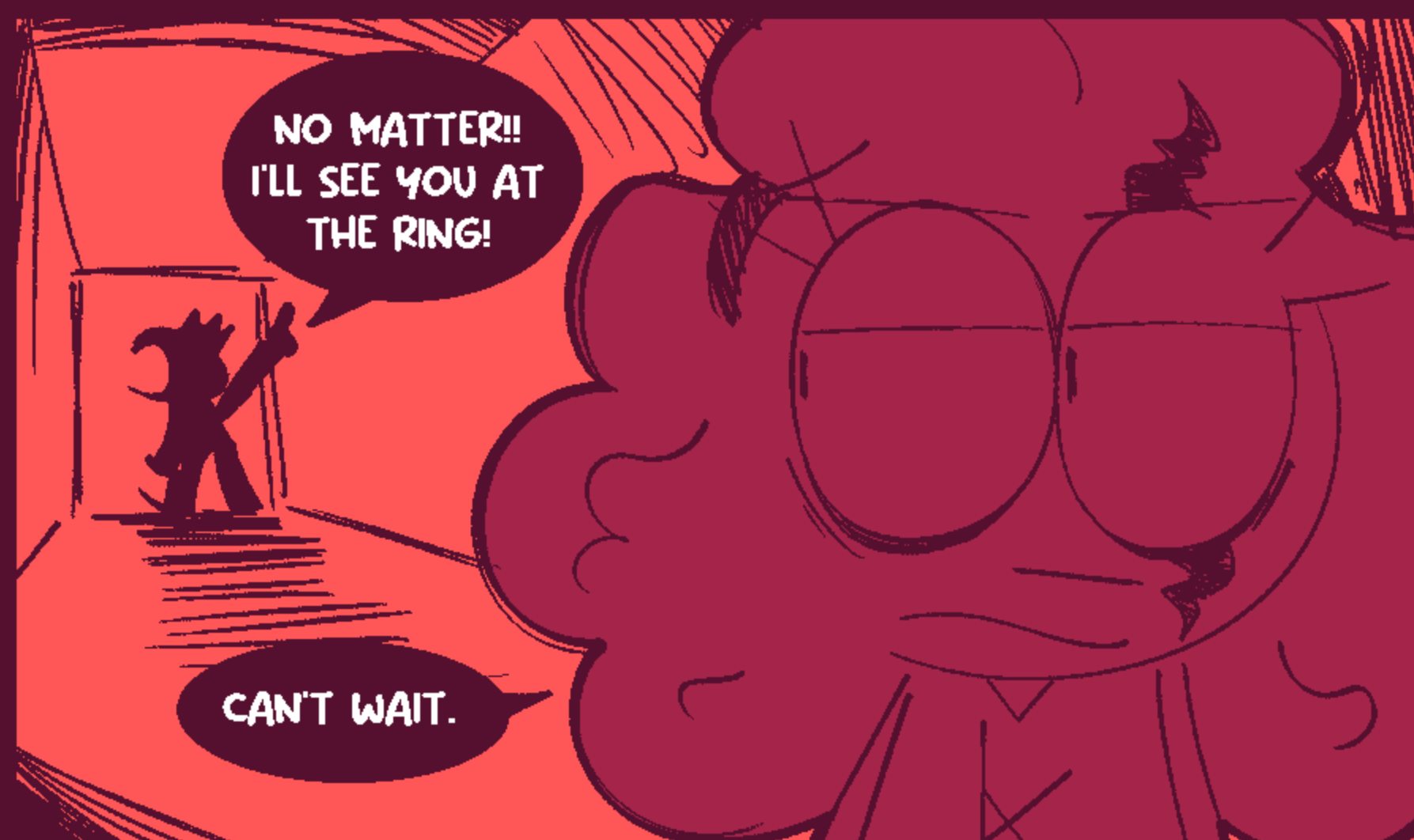
GO AWAY.



B-BUT DON'T YOU WANNA HEAR MY REVENGE BACKSTORY??

NO, YOU'RE ANNOYING.

...AWW. :C



NO MATTER!! I'LL SEE YOU AT THE RING!

CAN'T WAIT.



IN THIS CORNER, FROM ALL THE WAY IN THE PITS OF EARTH-

CHILLI POPPYFIELD!! THE VAMPIRE POSSUM!

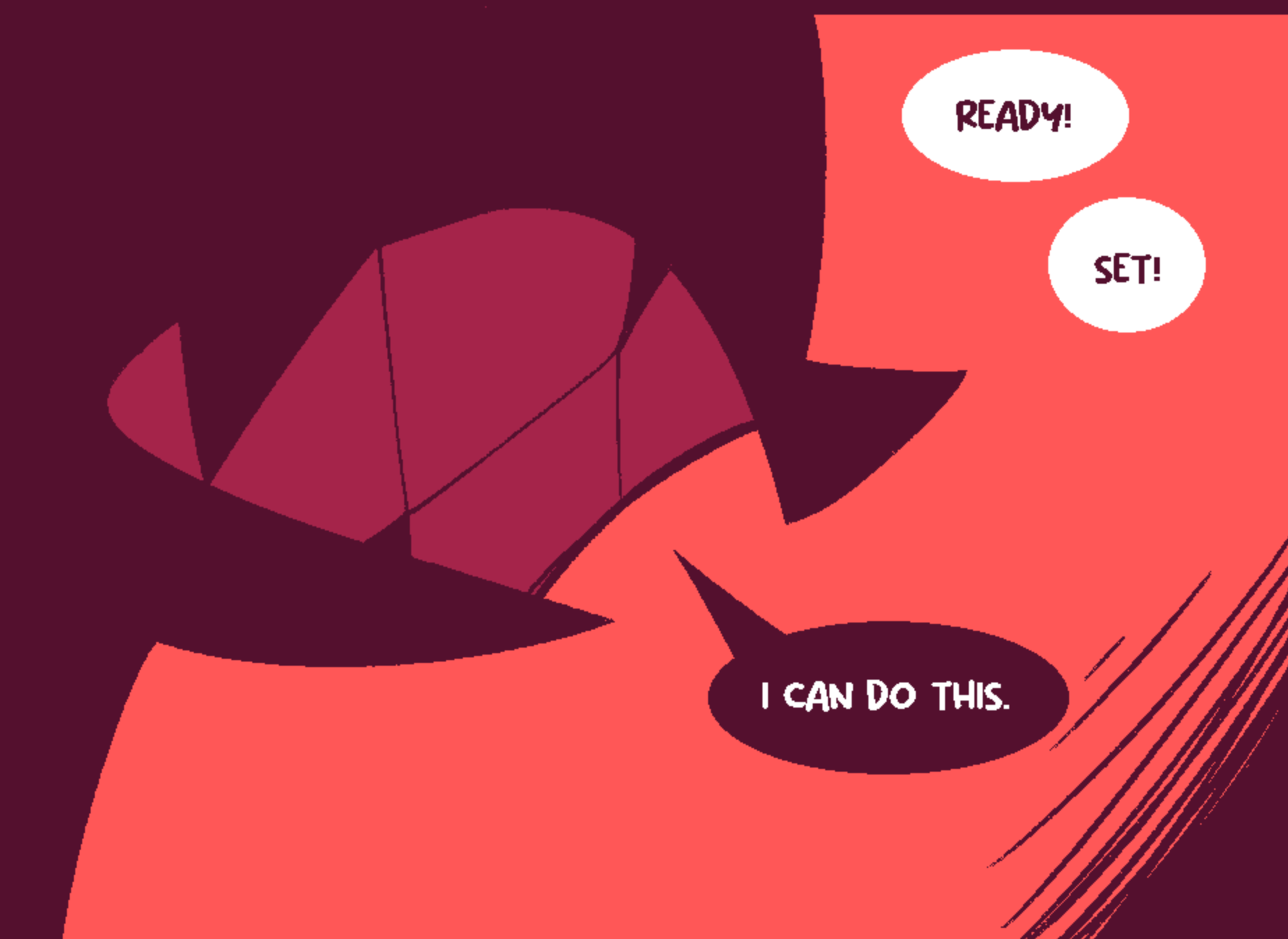
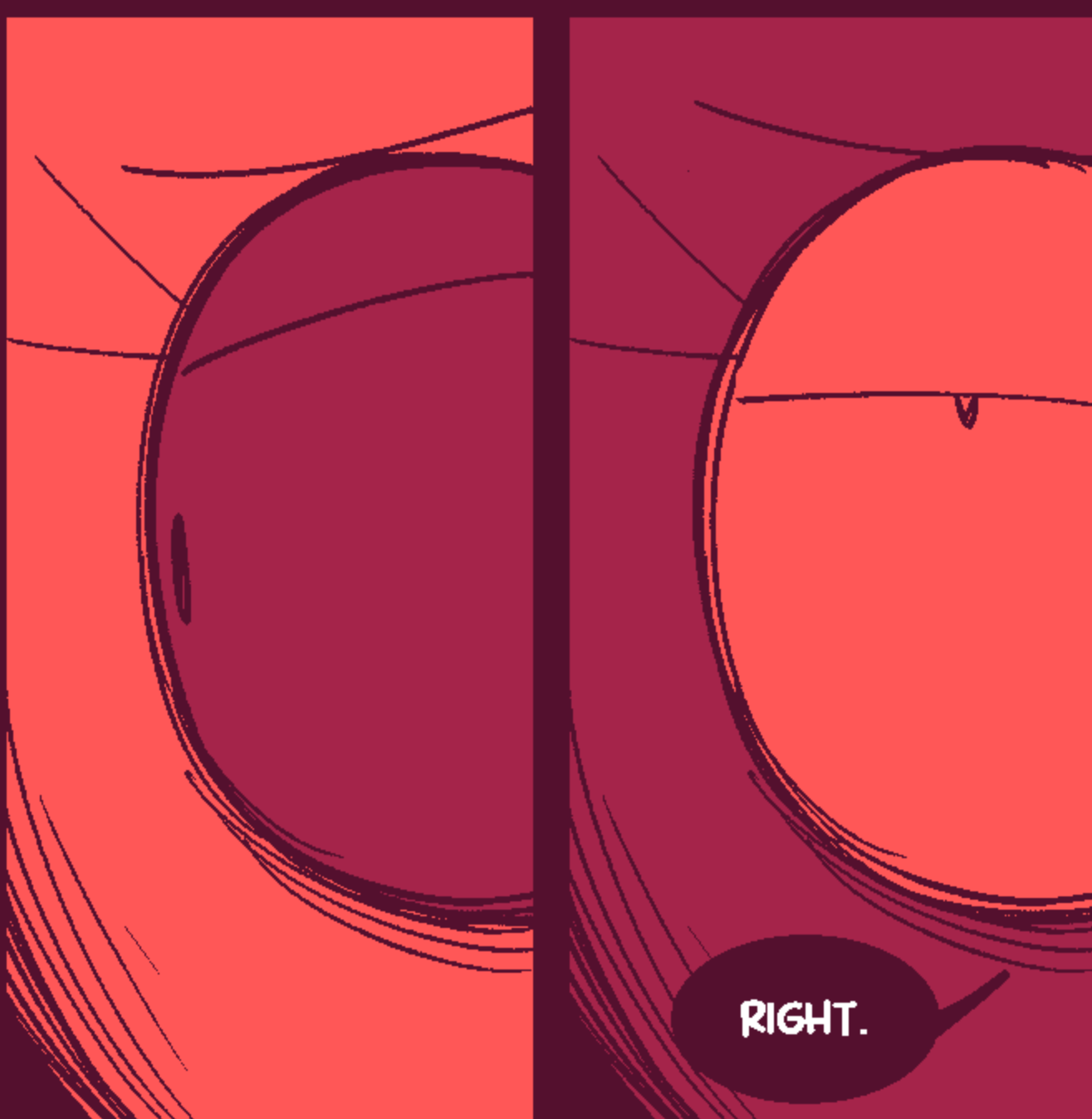
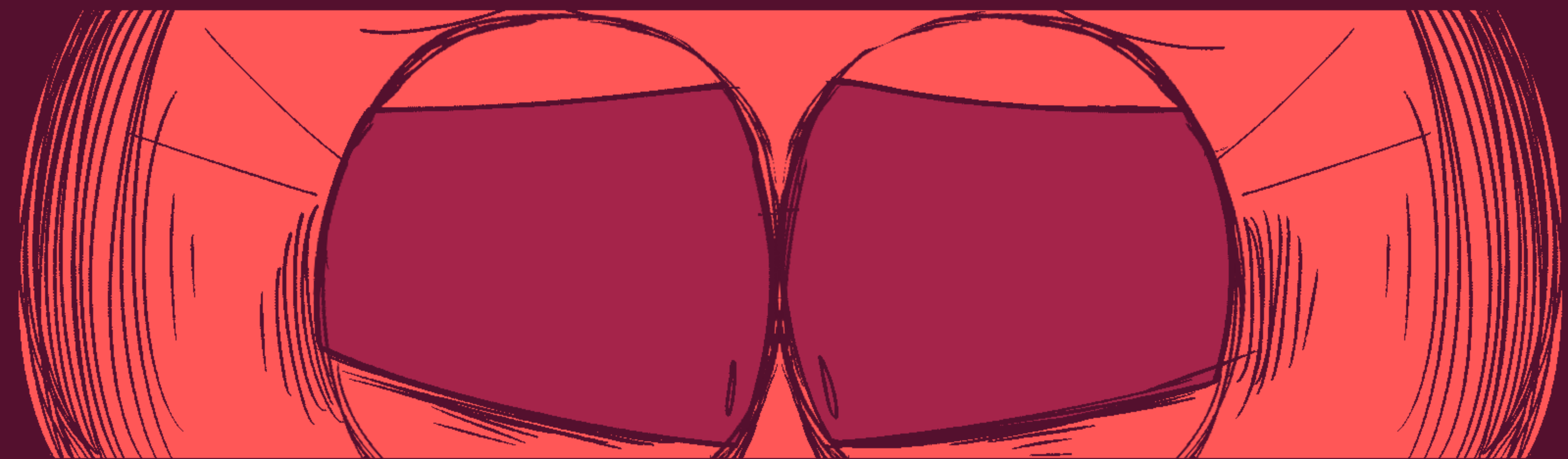
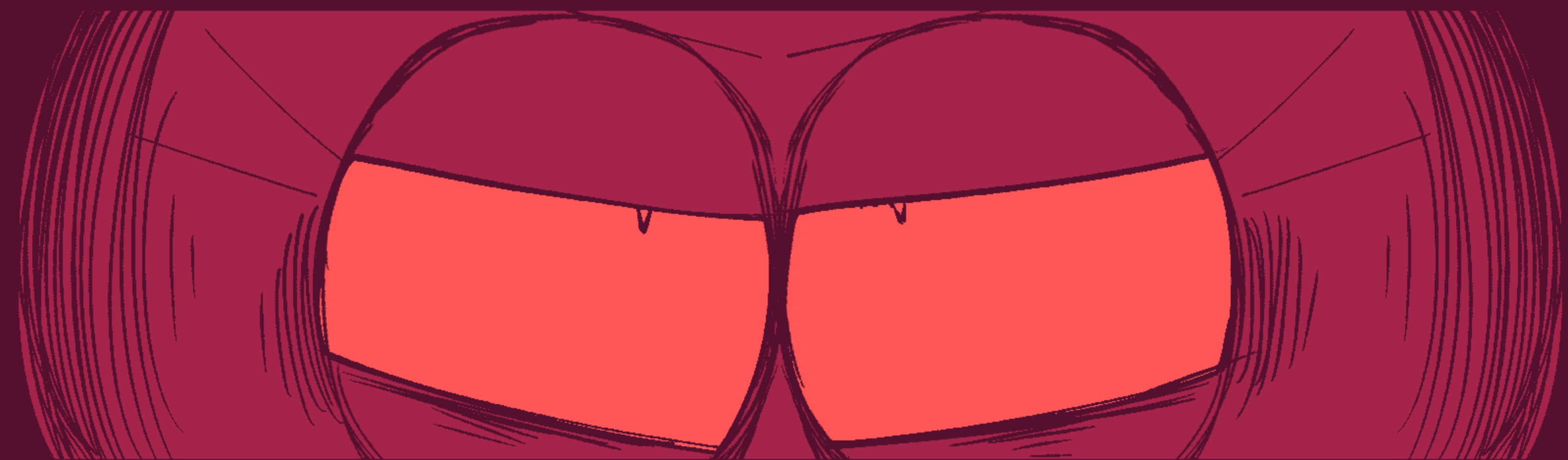


AND IN THIS CORNER, FROM MISSOURI-

PUMPKIN CLAWS!!

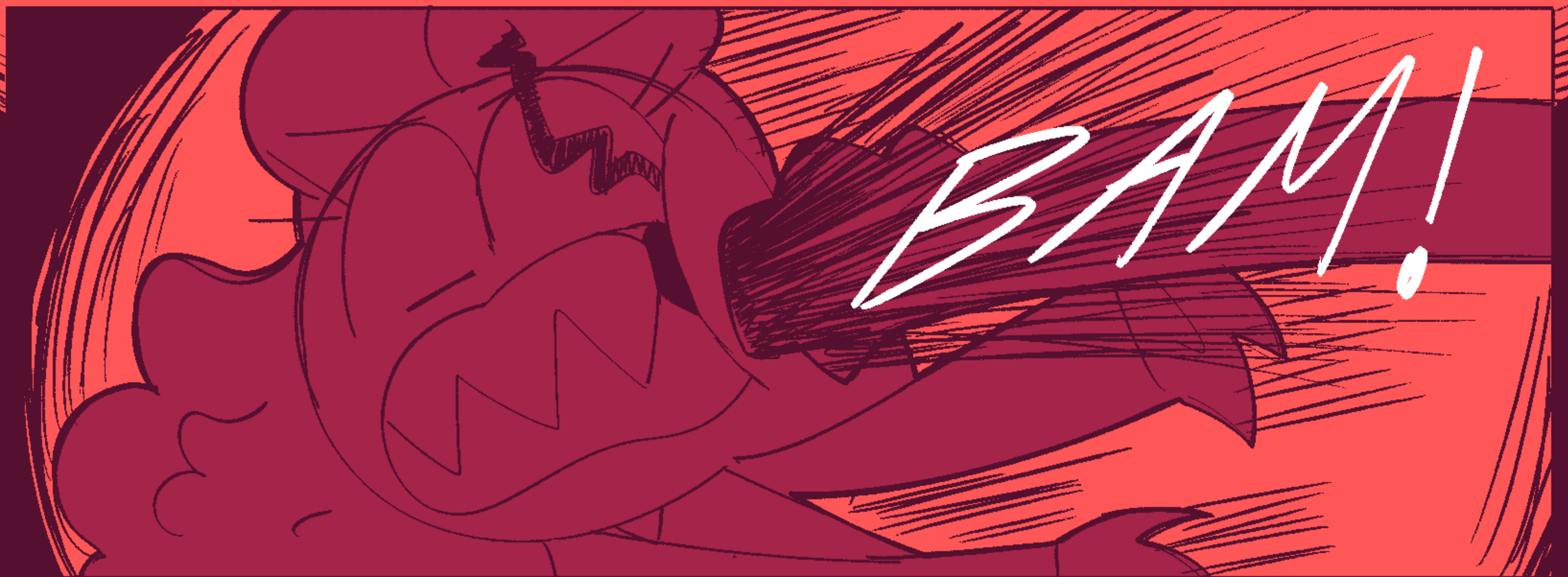


GO CHILLY BILLY!!! YOU'VE GOT THIS!

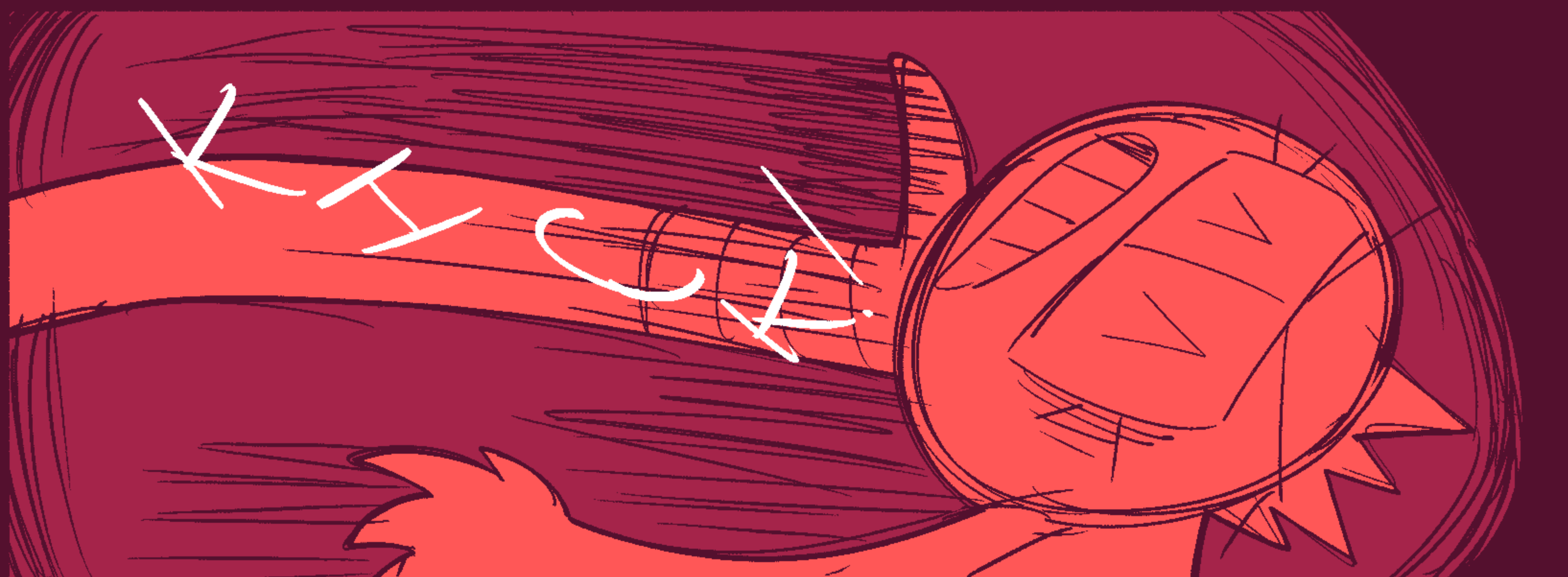




RUMBLE!!!!



BAM!



KICK



MISS!



COME ON, CHILLI,
DON'T SCREW THIS
UP!

SHUT UP!
I'M NOT DOING
THIS FOR YOU!
I'M DOING THIS
FOR MY DAD!



SO DISAPPOINTING, CHILL!!

YOU'VE GOTTEN WEAKER
SINCE OUR LAST FIGHT!!



HEY, MAYBE YOU SHOULD USE
YOUR DEMON FORM TO FIGHT HIM!

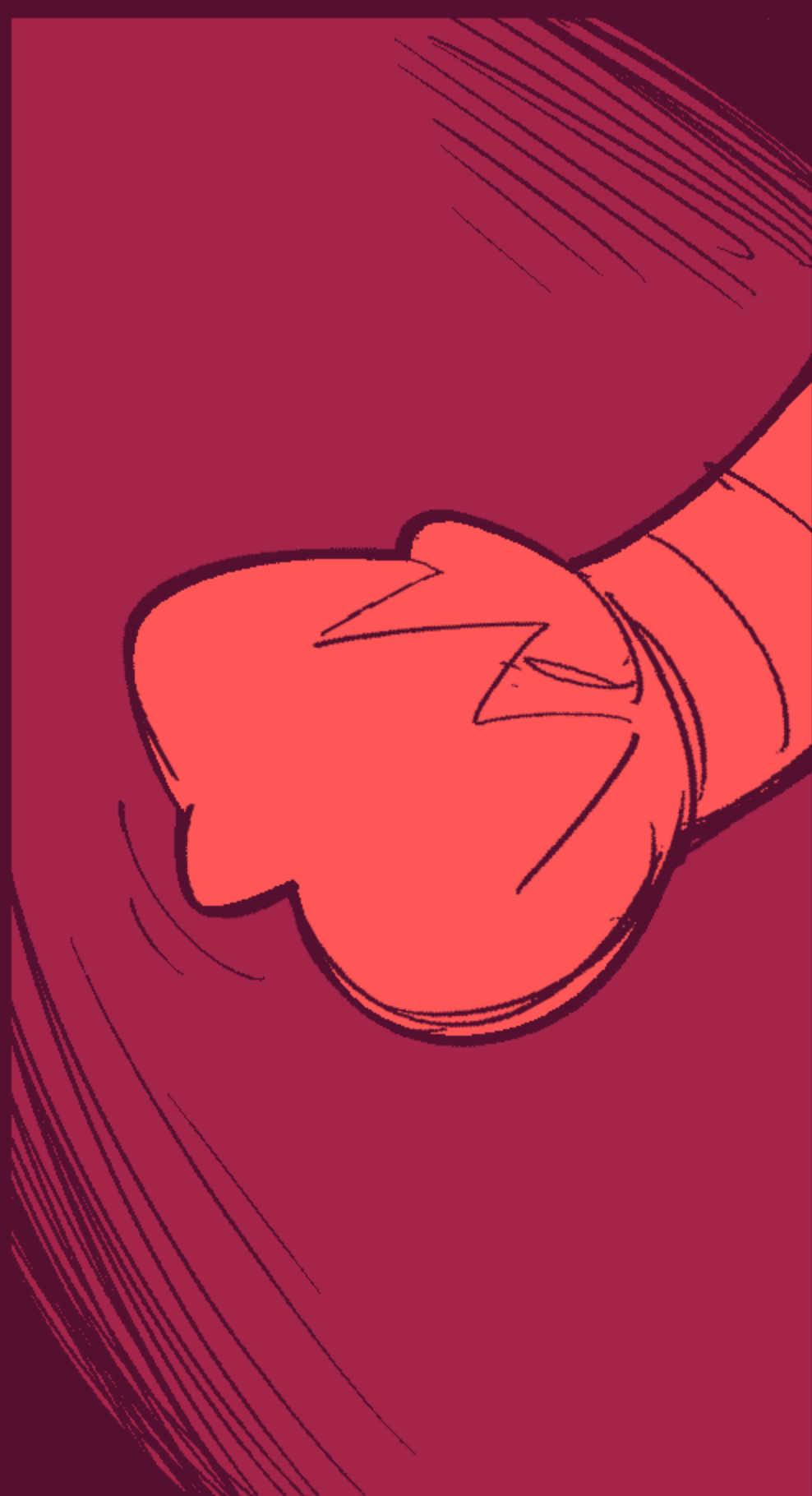
I-I DON'T KNOW IF
I'M READY TO USE
THAT FORM AGAIN
QUITE YET-



YOU USED IT WHEN YOU
SCRATCHED UP THE
MAYOR THOUGH!

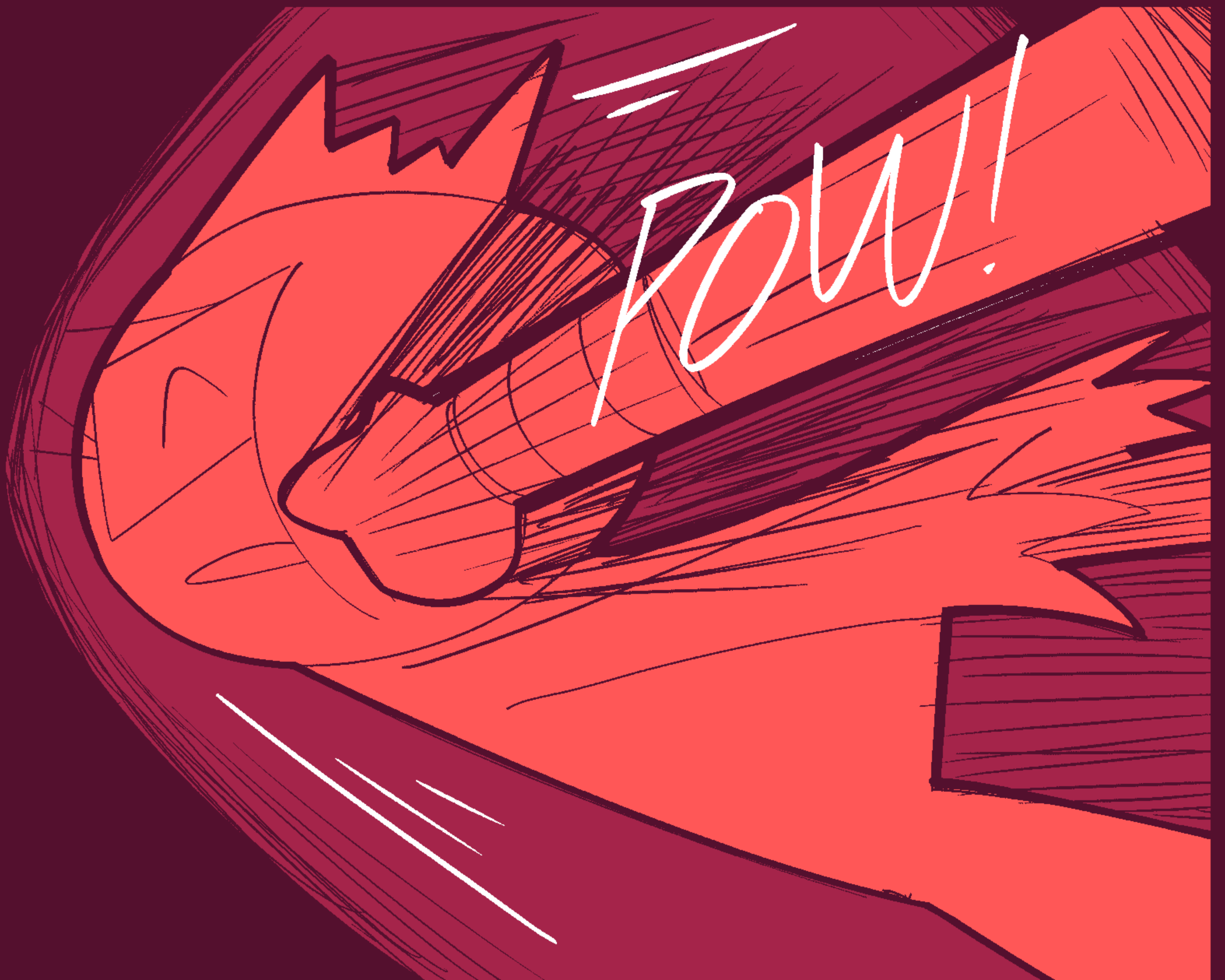
I DID?? OH-

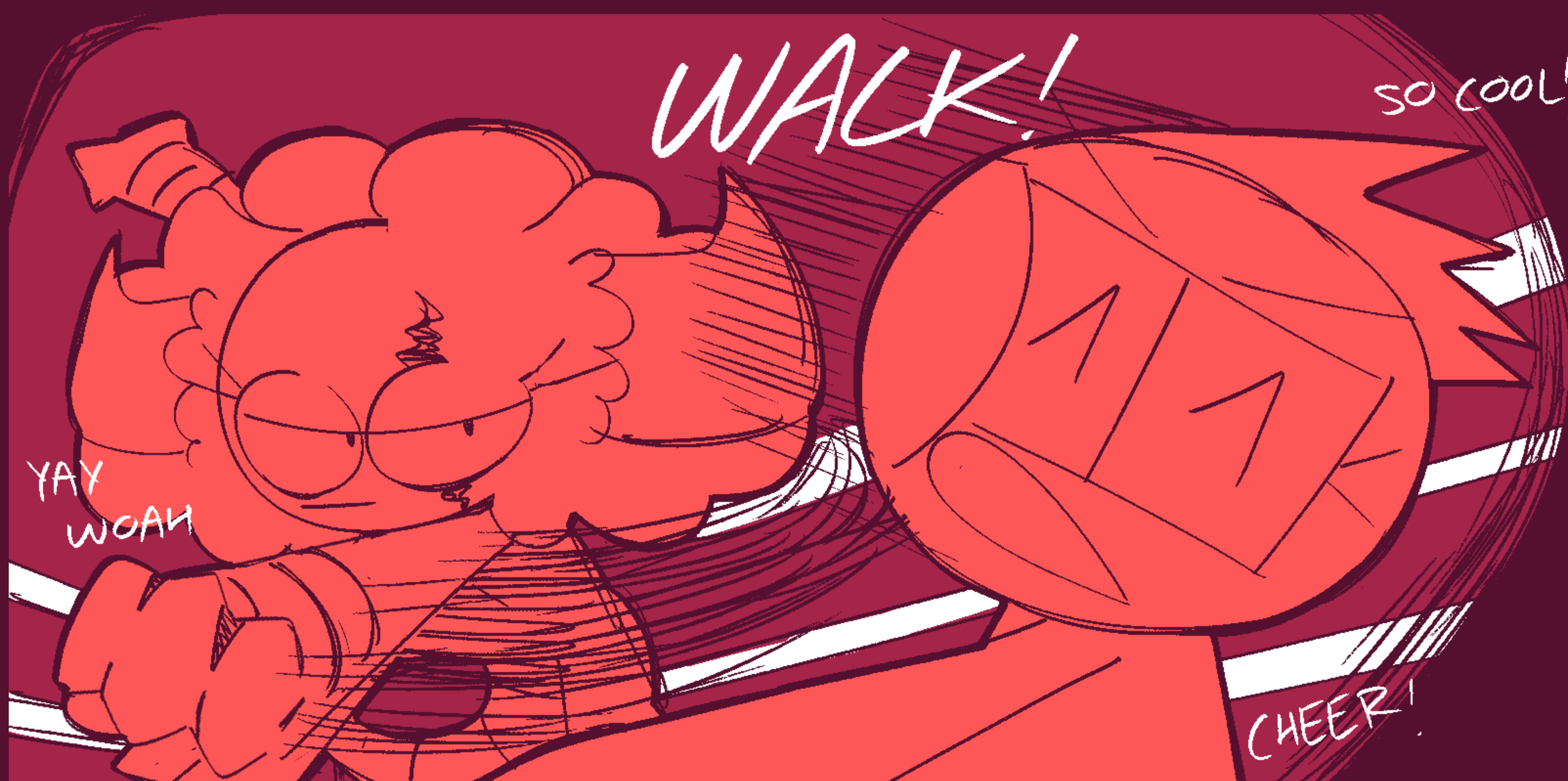
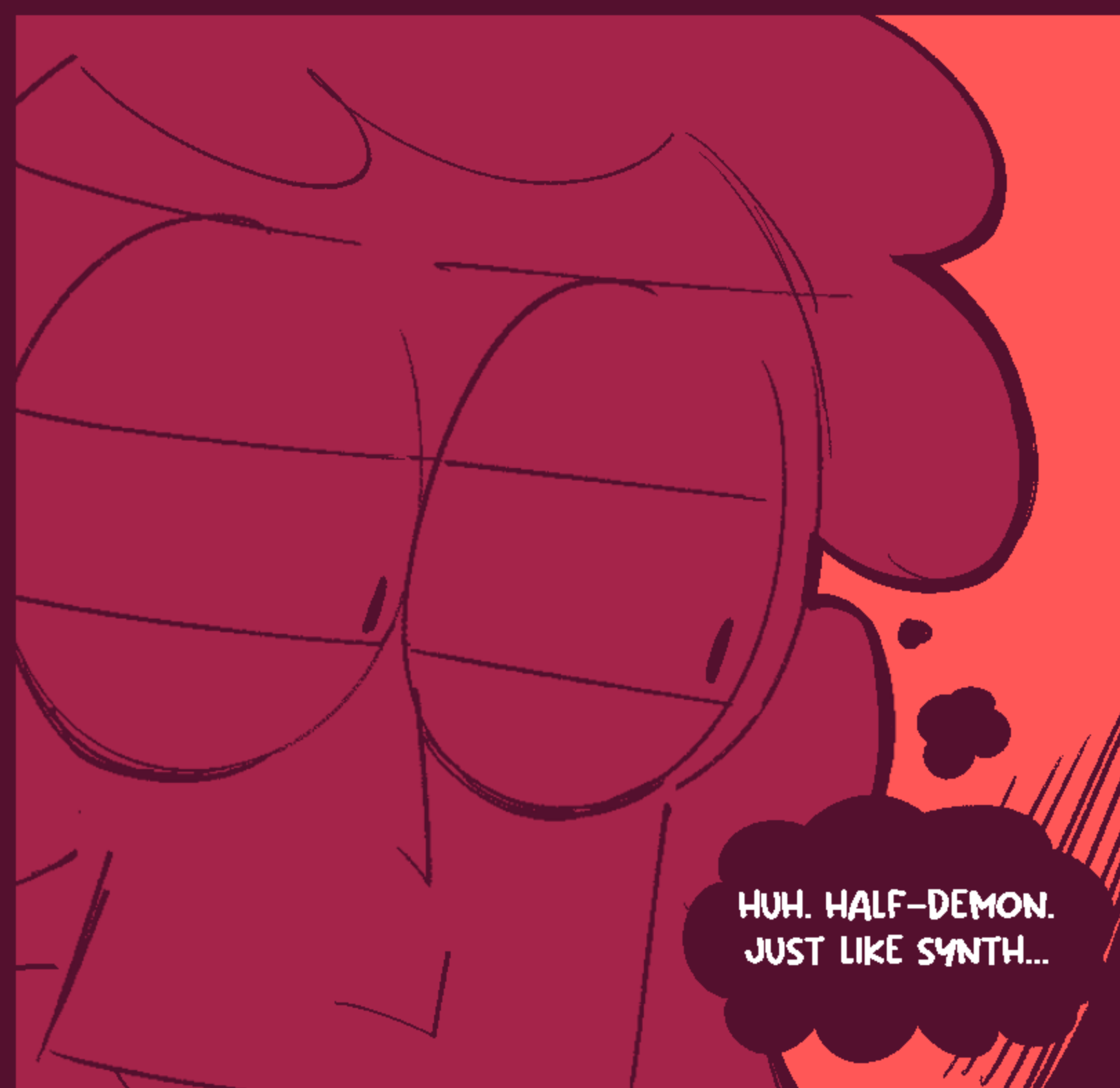
I... DIDN'T
EVEN
REALIZE-

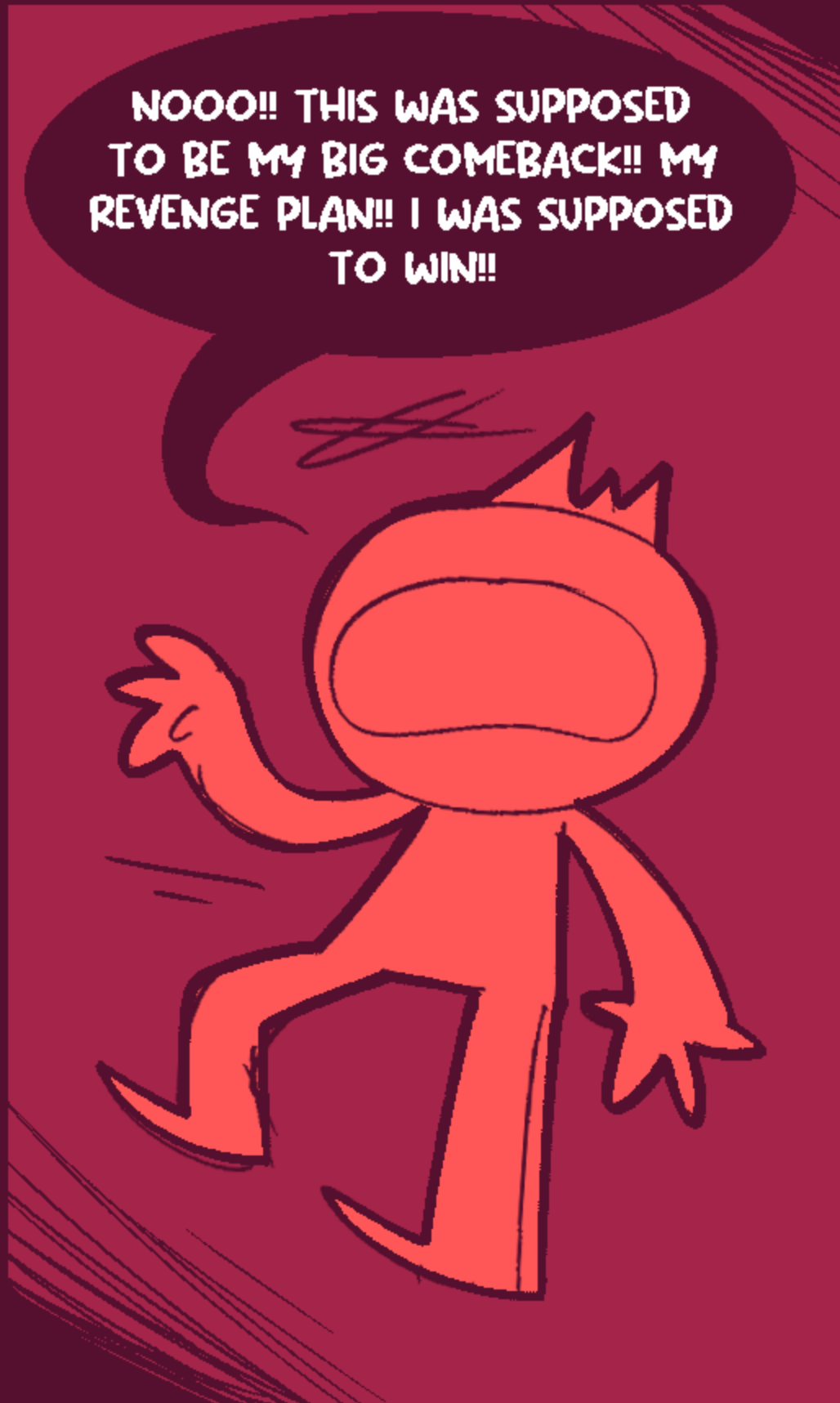


WELL... OKAY.

I CAN TRY.







NOOO!! THIS WAS SUPPOSED TO BE MY BIG COMEBACK!! MY REVENGE PLAN!! I WAS SUPPOSED TO WIN!!



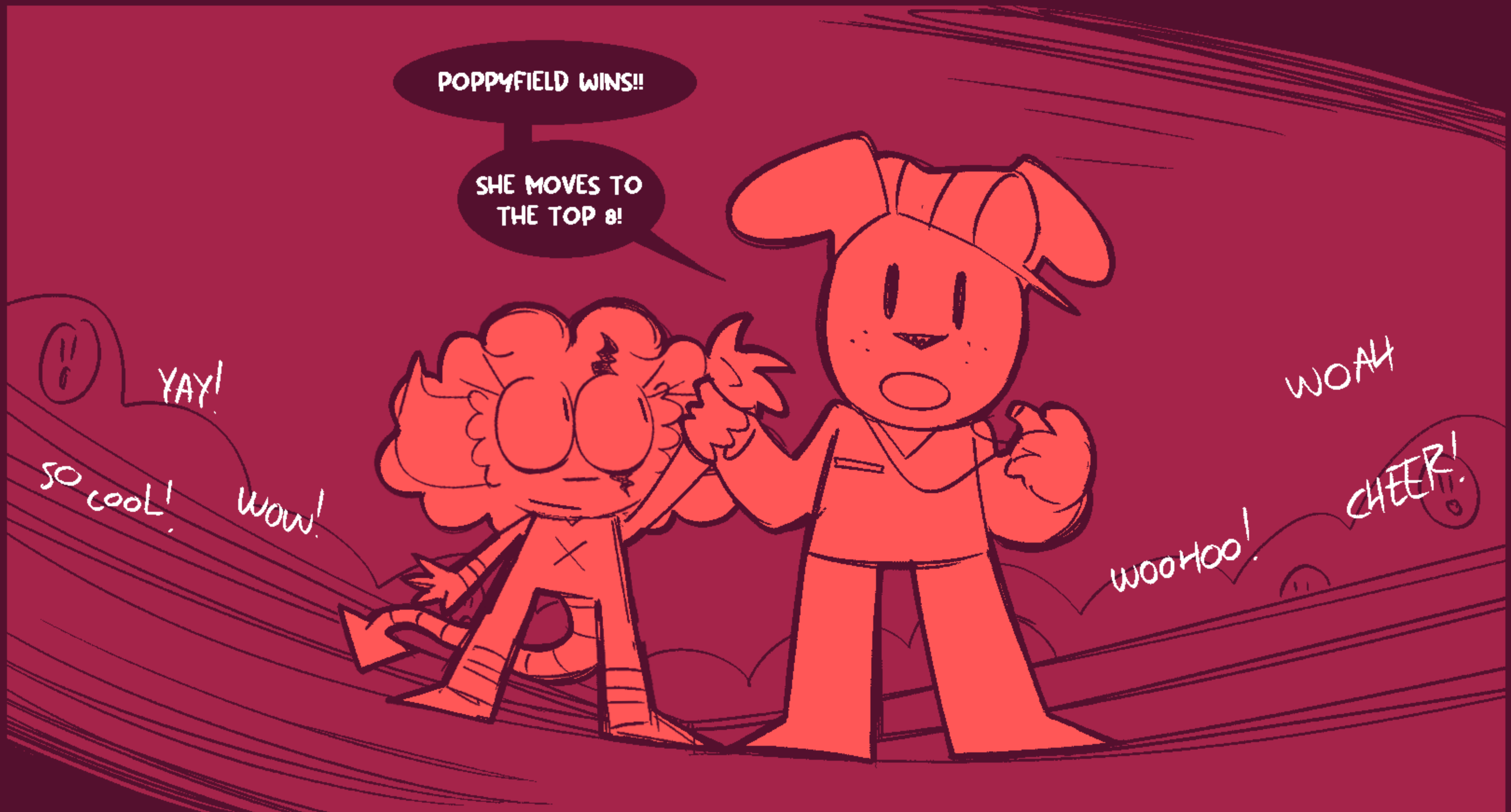
I'LL GET YOU FOR THIS, CHILL!! I... UH...



PUMPKIN CLAWS HAS BEEN DEFEATED!!



PLOP!



POPPYFIELD WINS!!

SHE MOVES TO THE TOP 8!

YAY! SO COOL! WOW!

WOAH! CHEER!

WOOHOO!

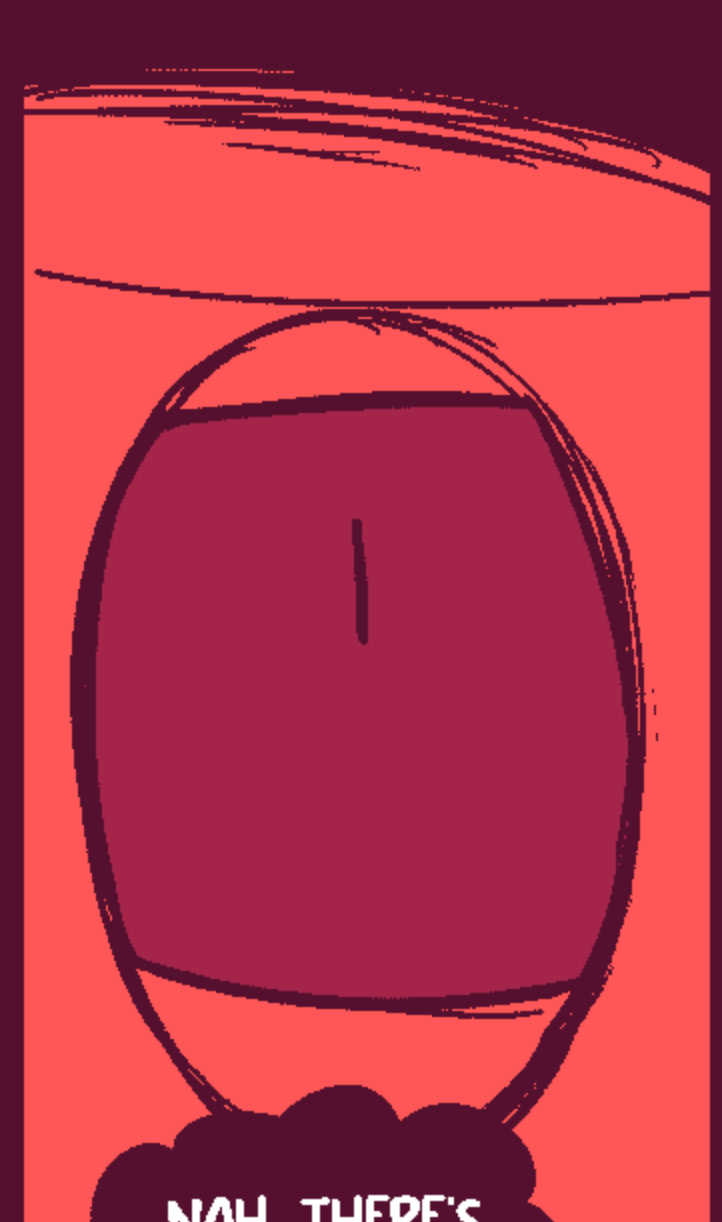
WOAH!



YAY! GO CHILL!!

GOOD JOB, LOVE! :3

HALF-DEMON... I WONDER IF...

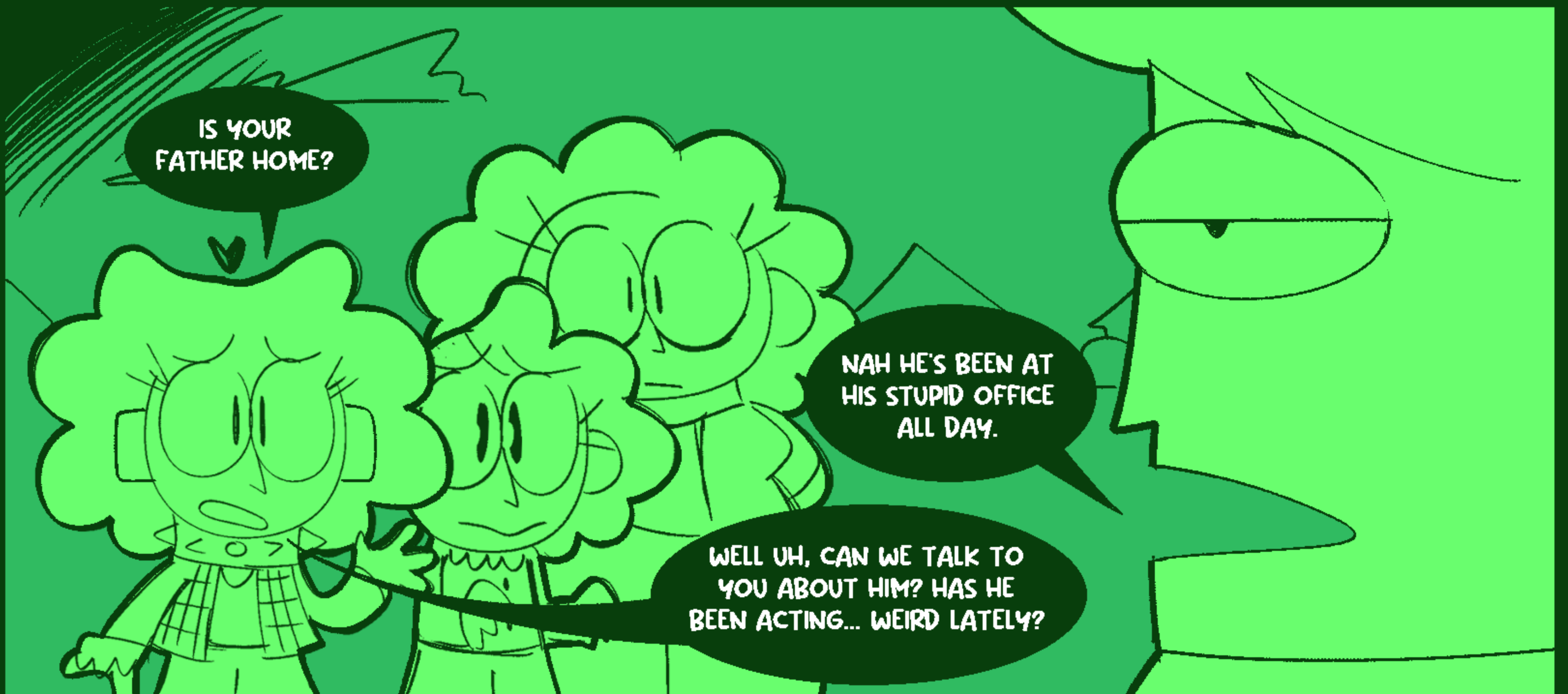
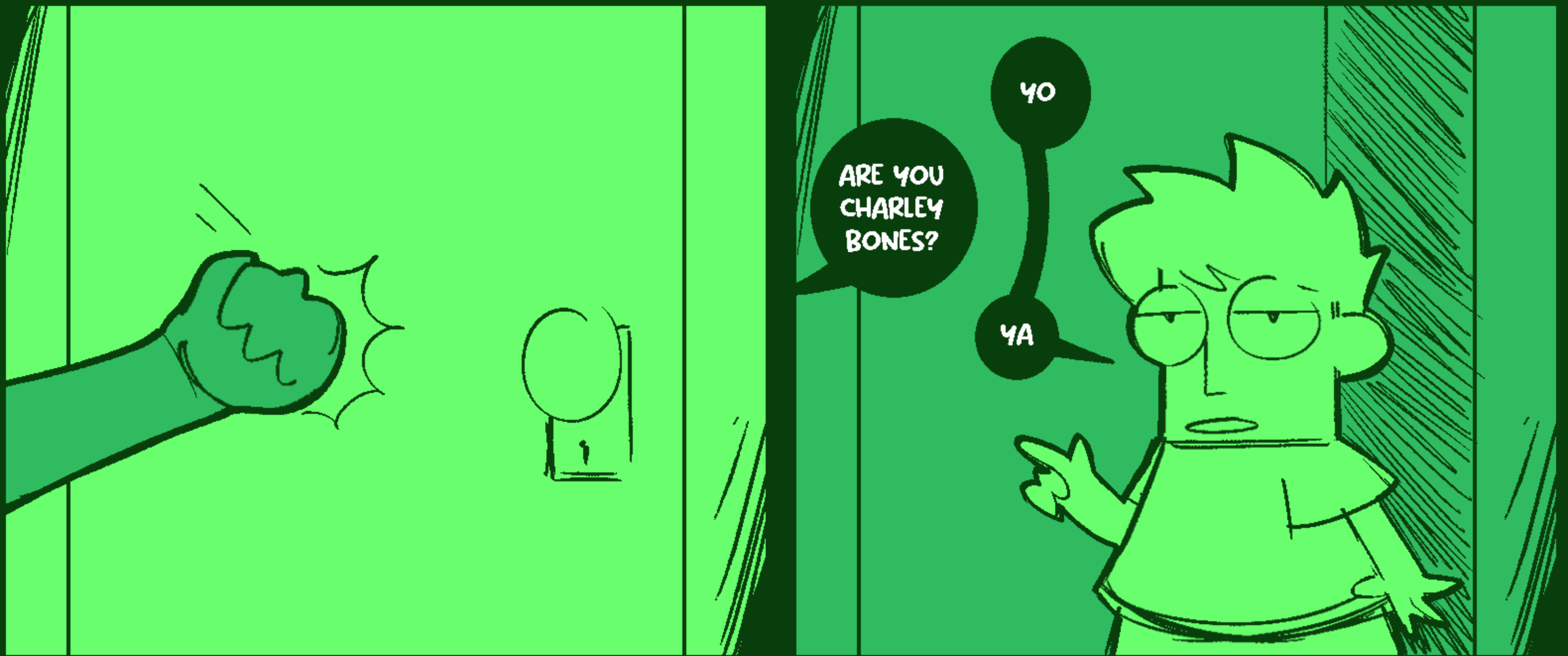


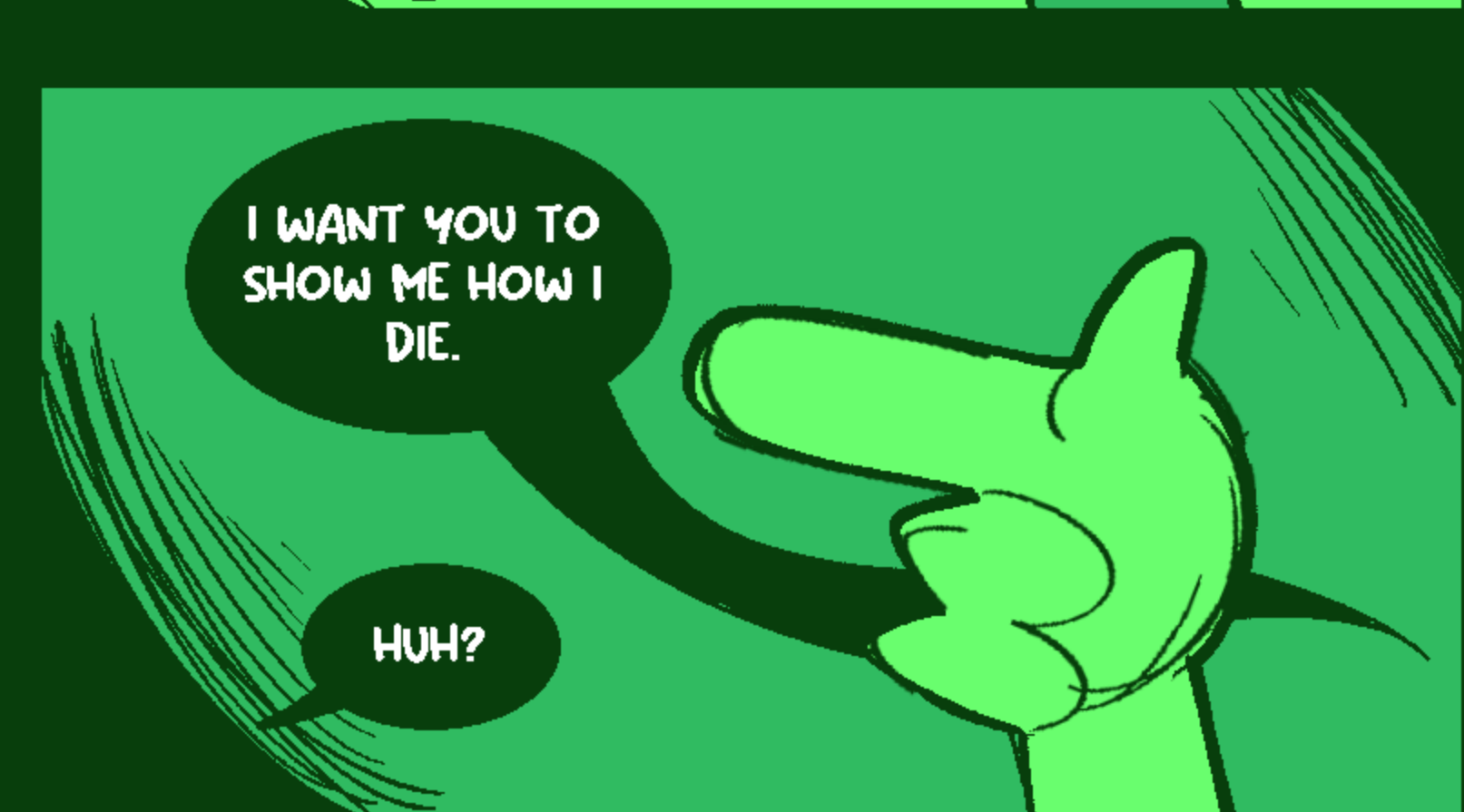
NAH. THERE'S NO WAY.

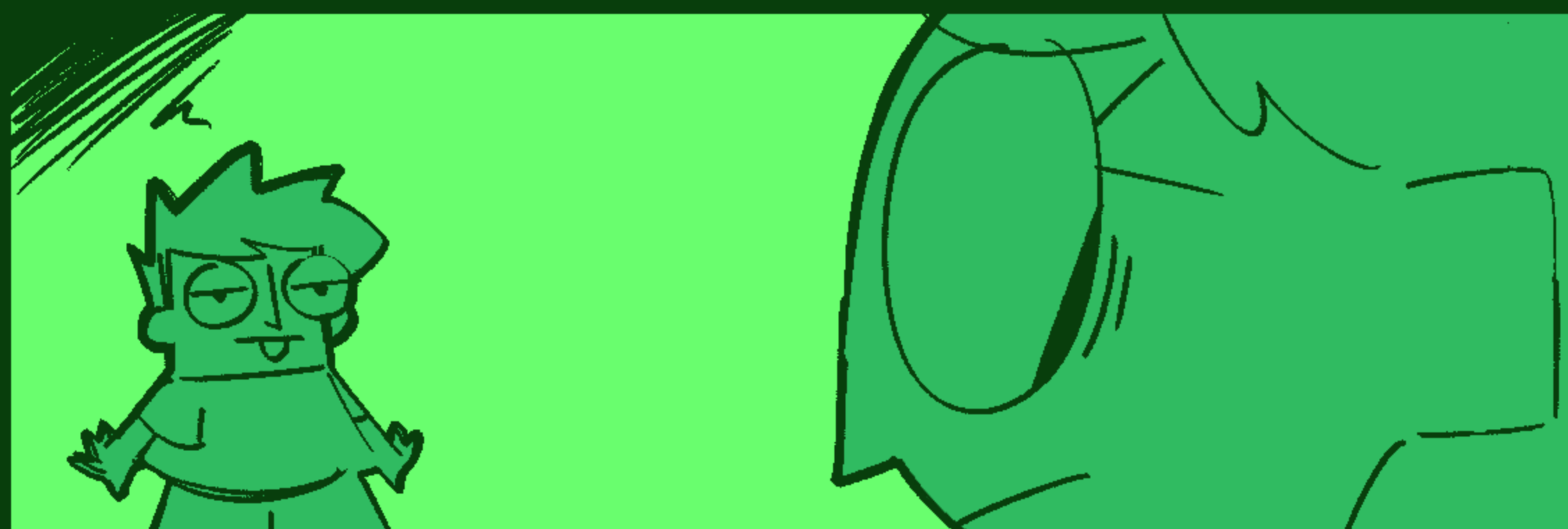
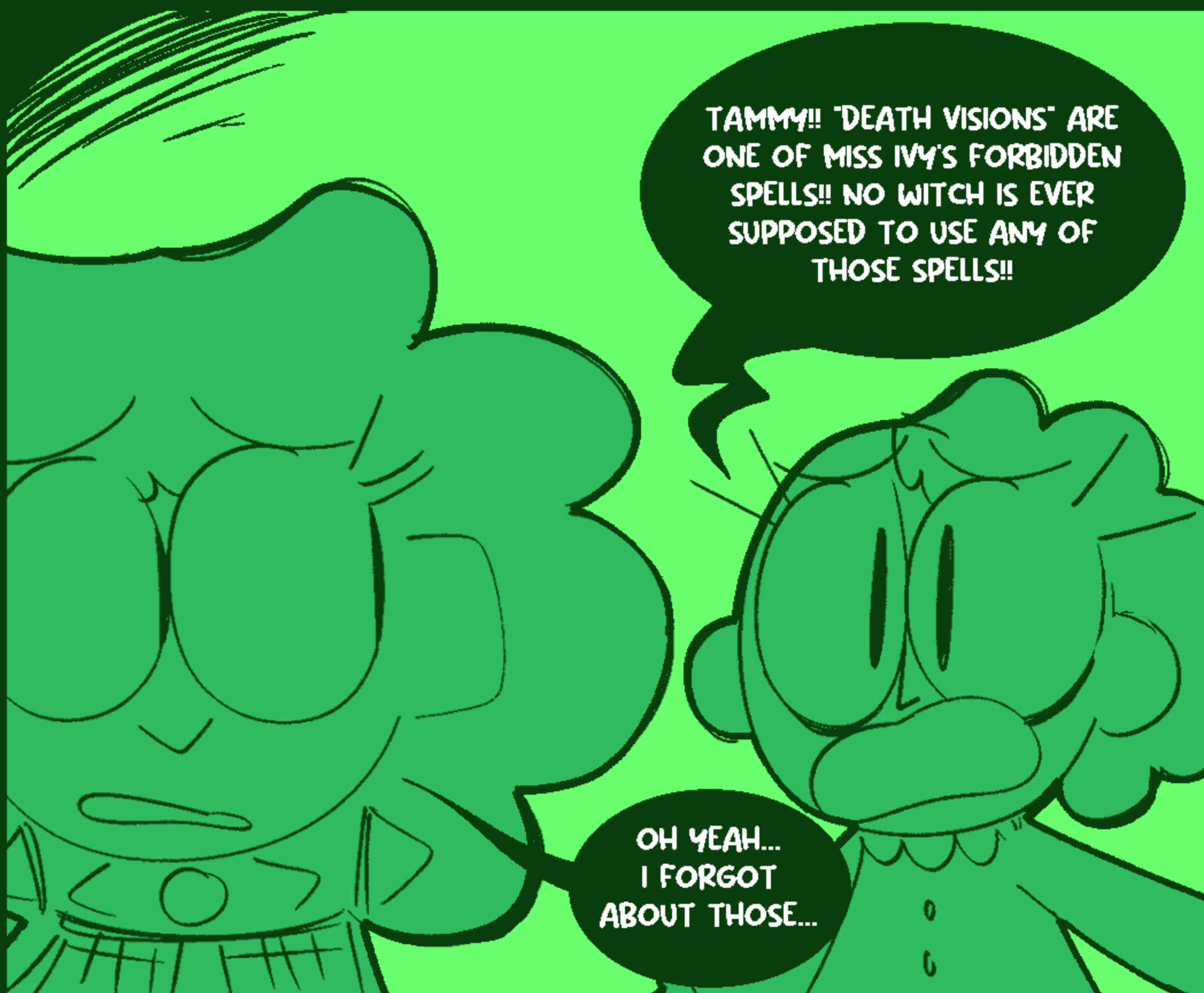
HALF-DEMON... I WONDER IF...

NAH. THERE'S NO WAY.

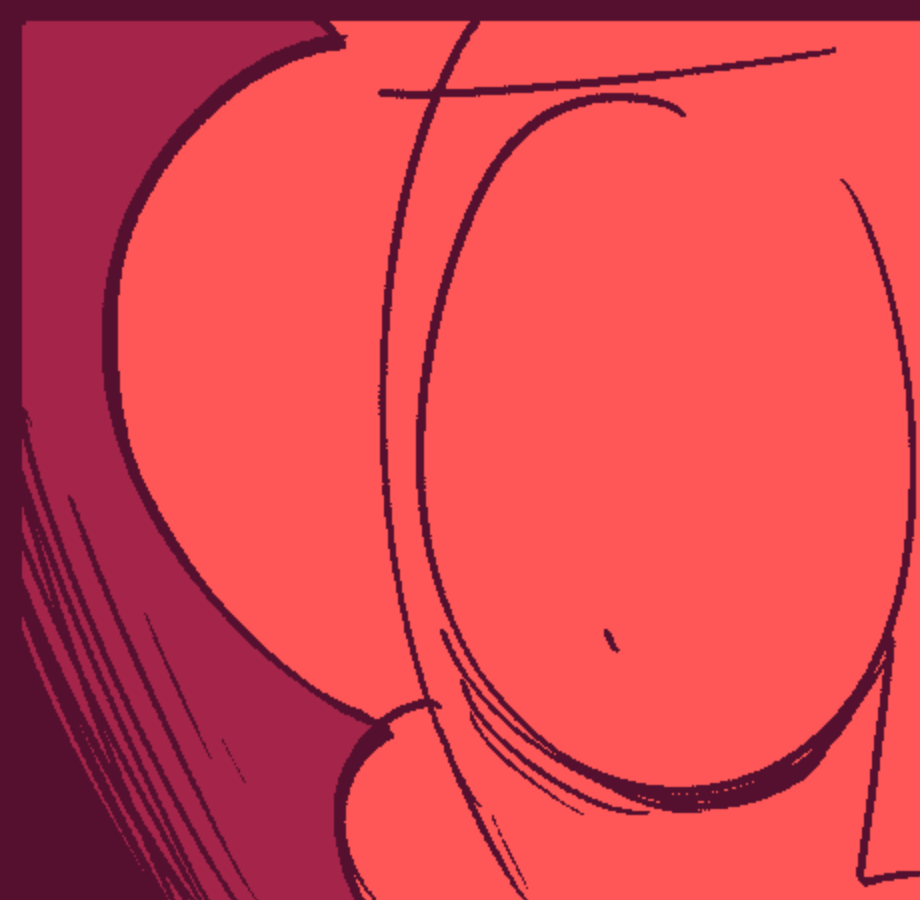
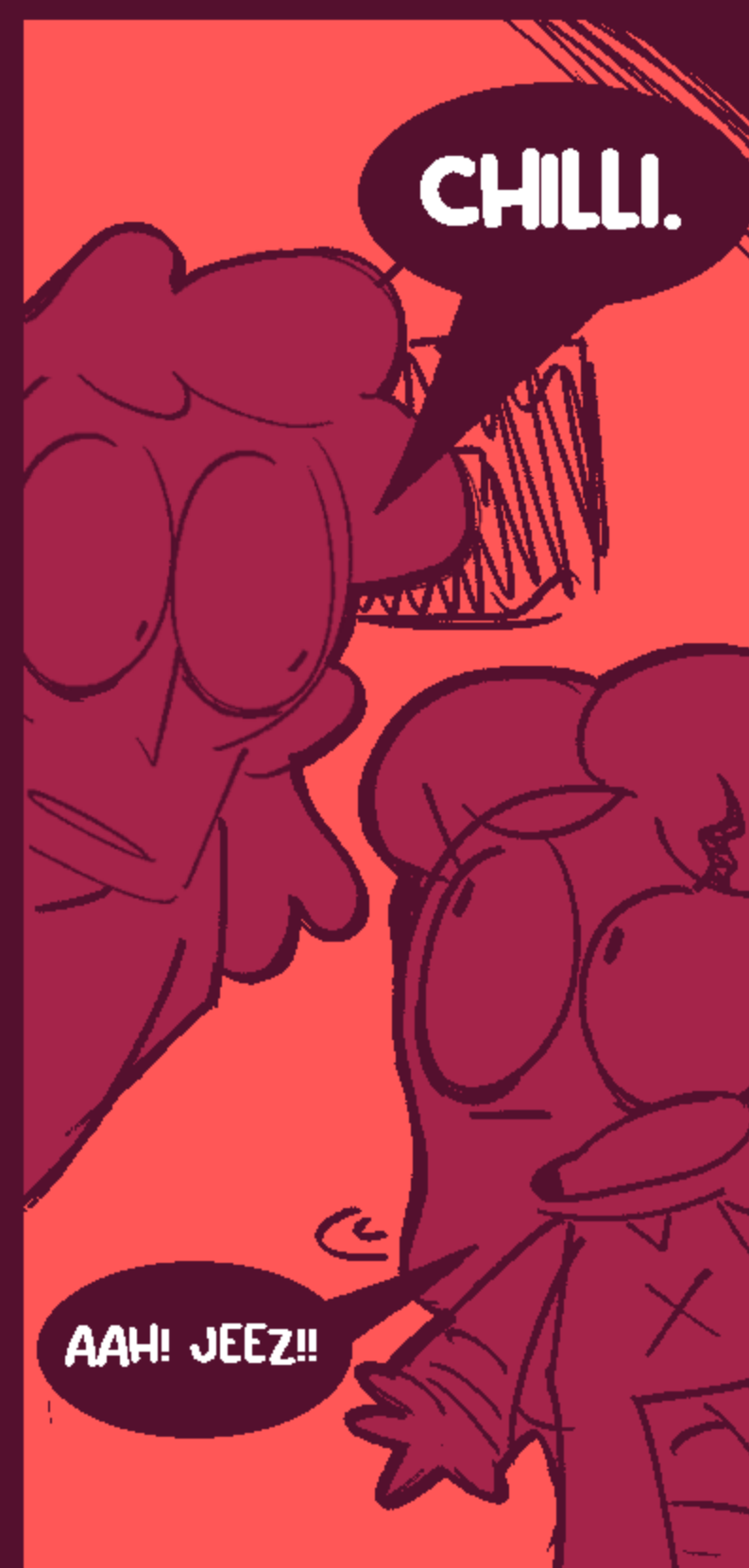
HALF-DEMON... I WONDER IF...

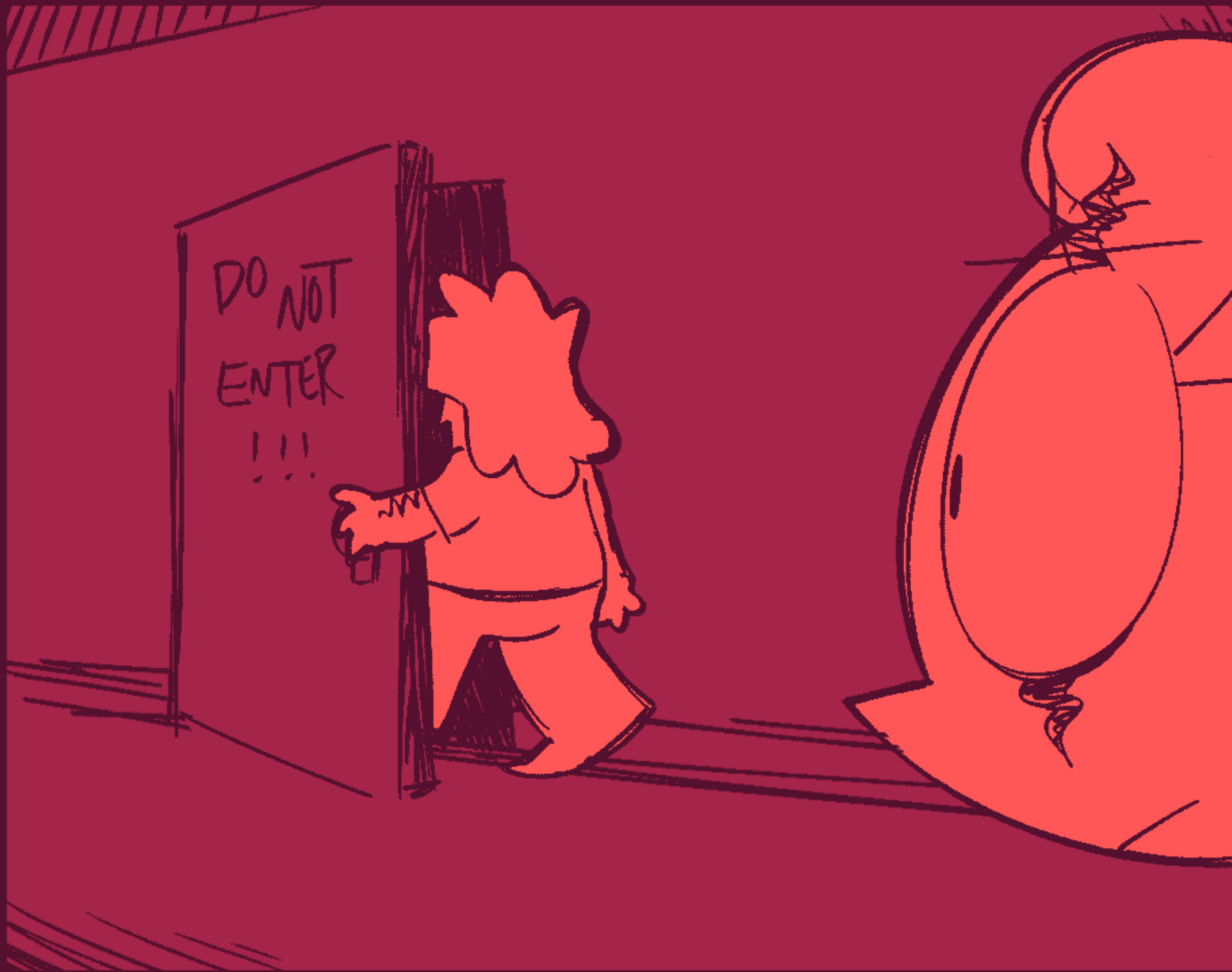
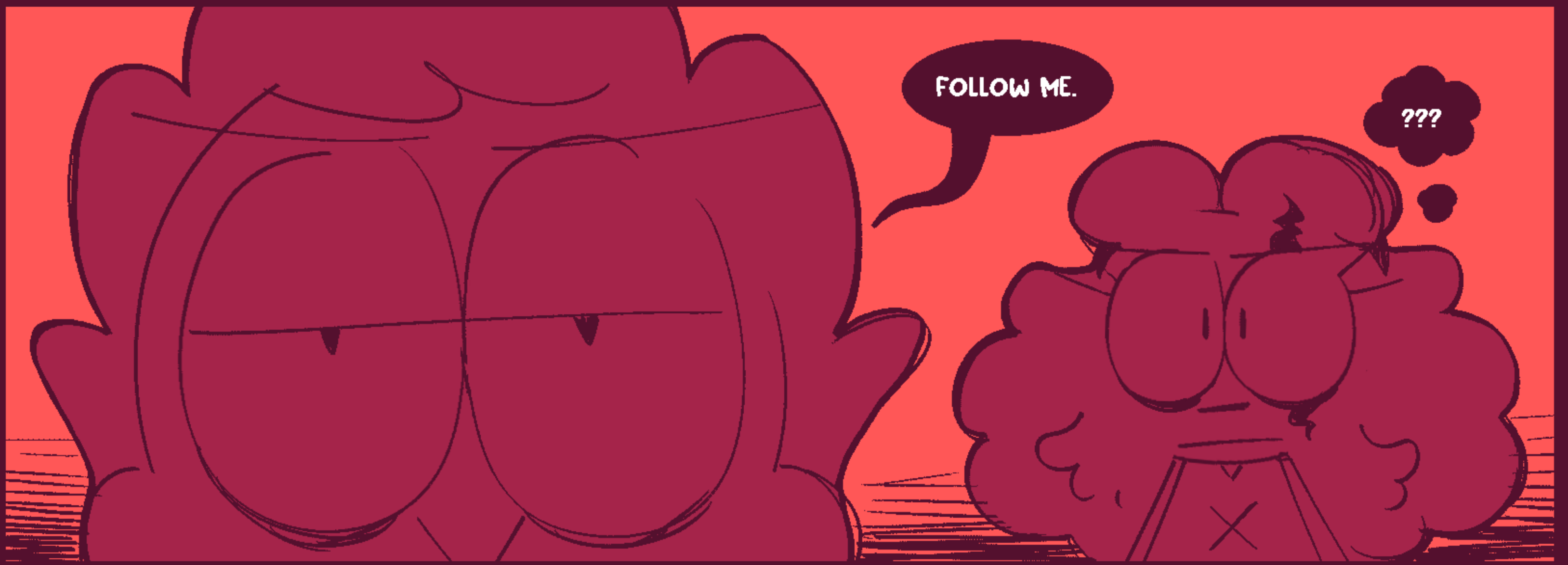


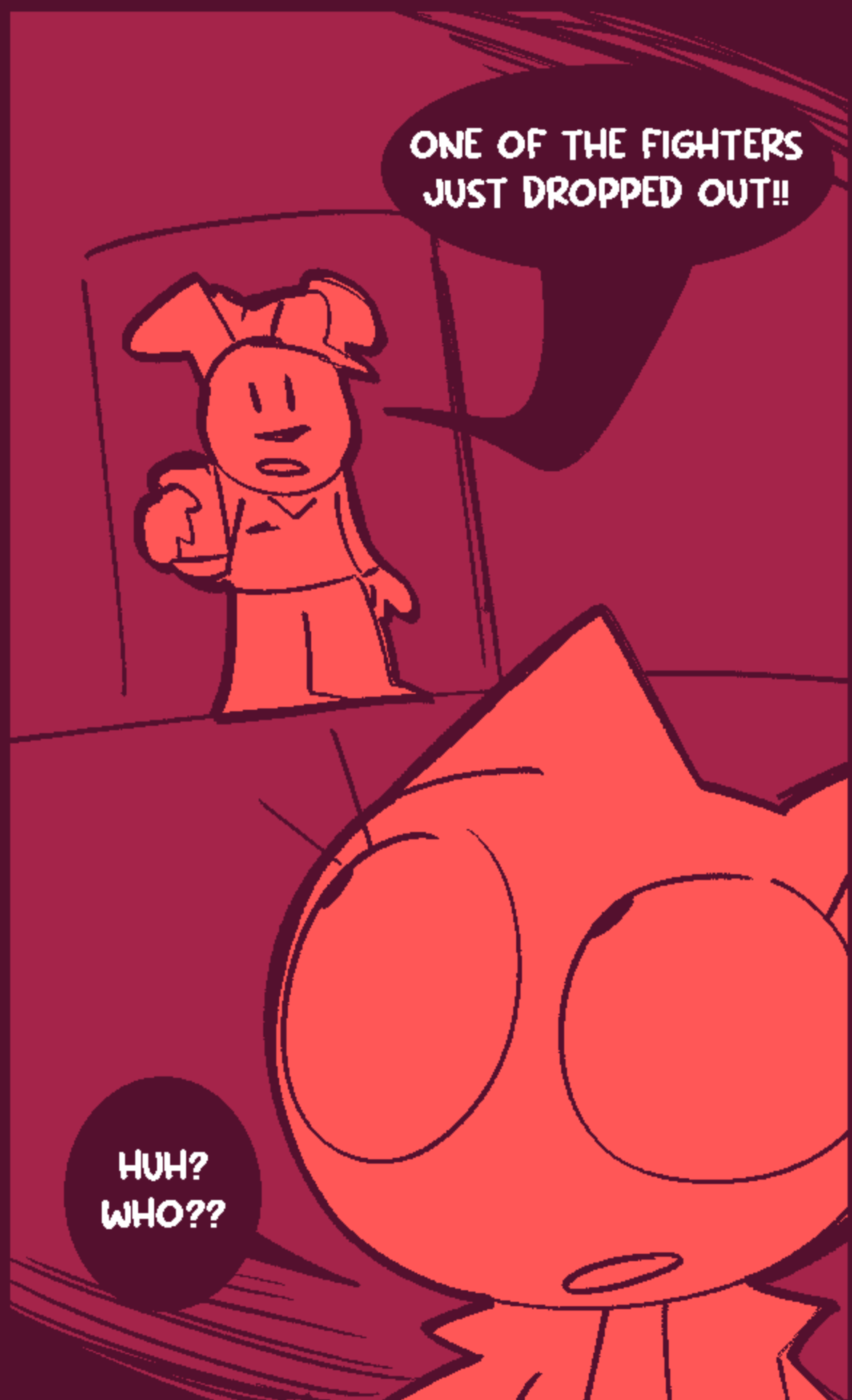












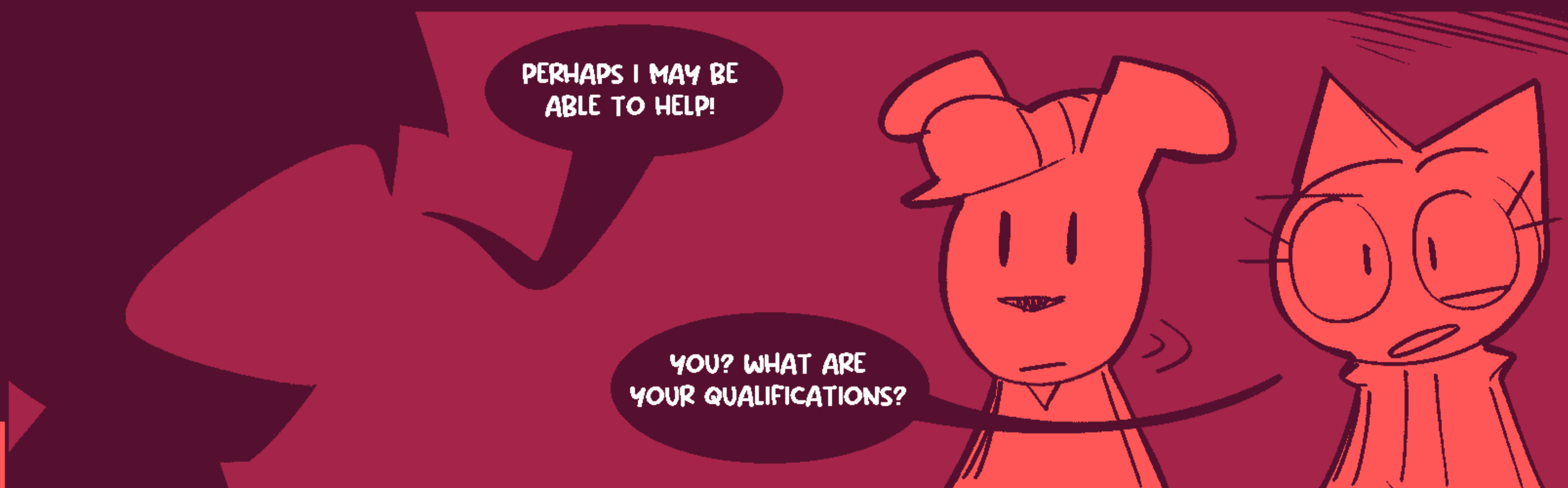
ONE OF THE FIGHTERS
JUST DROPPED OUT!!

HUH?
WHO??



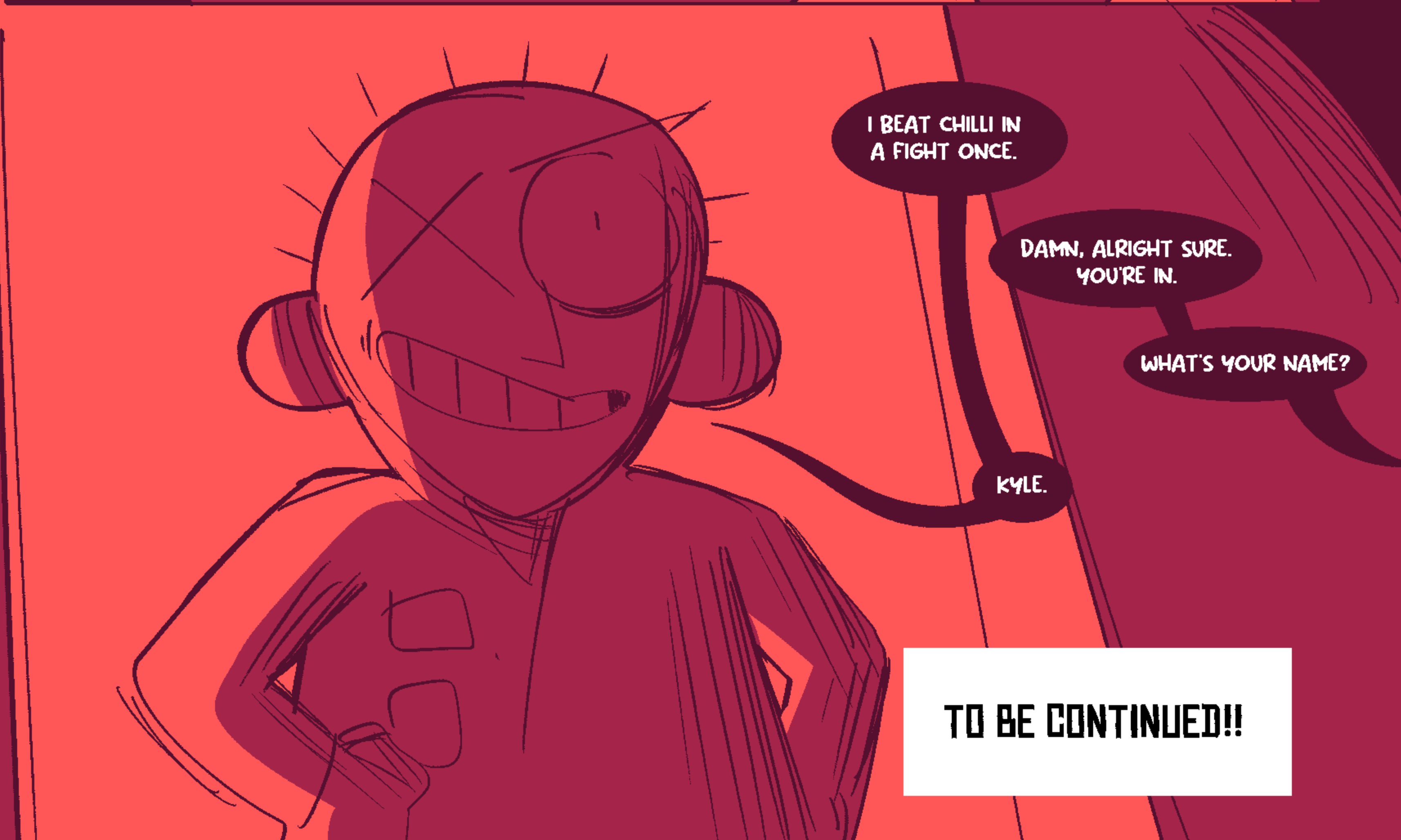
LONG JOHN BROHN! HE SAID HE
DIDN'T WANNA GO UP AGAINST
CHILLI! HE SAID HE WAS TOO SCARED!

WELL SHIT, WE GOTTA
REPLACE HIM WITH SOMEONE!



PERHAPS I MAY BE
ABLE TO HELP!

YOU? WHAT ARE
YOUR QUALIFICATIONS?



I BEAT CHILLI IN
A FIGHT ONCE.

DAMN, ALRIGHT SURE.
YOU'RE IN.

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

KYLE.

TO BE CONTINUED!!



#20

CHILLI

THE VAMPIRE OPOSSUM



"WITCHES AND WEAPONS"
PART THREE

tw:

abuse

blood

body horror

bright colors

eyes

panic attack

possession

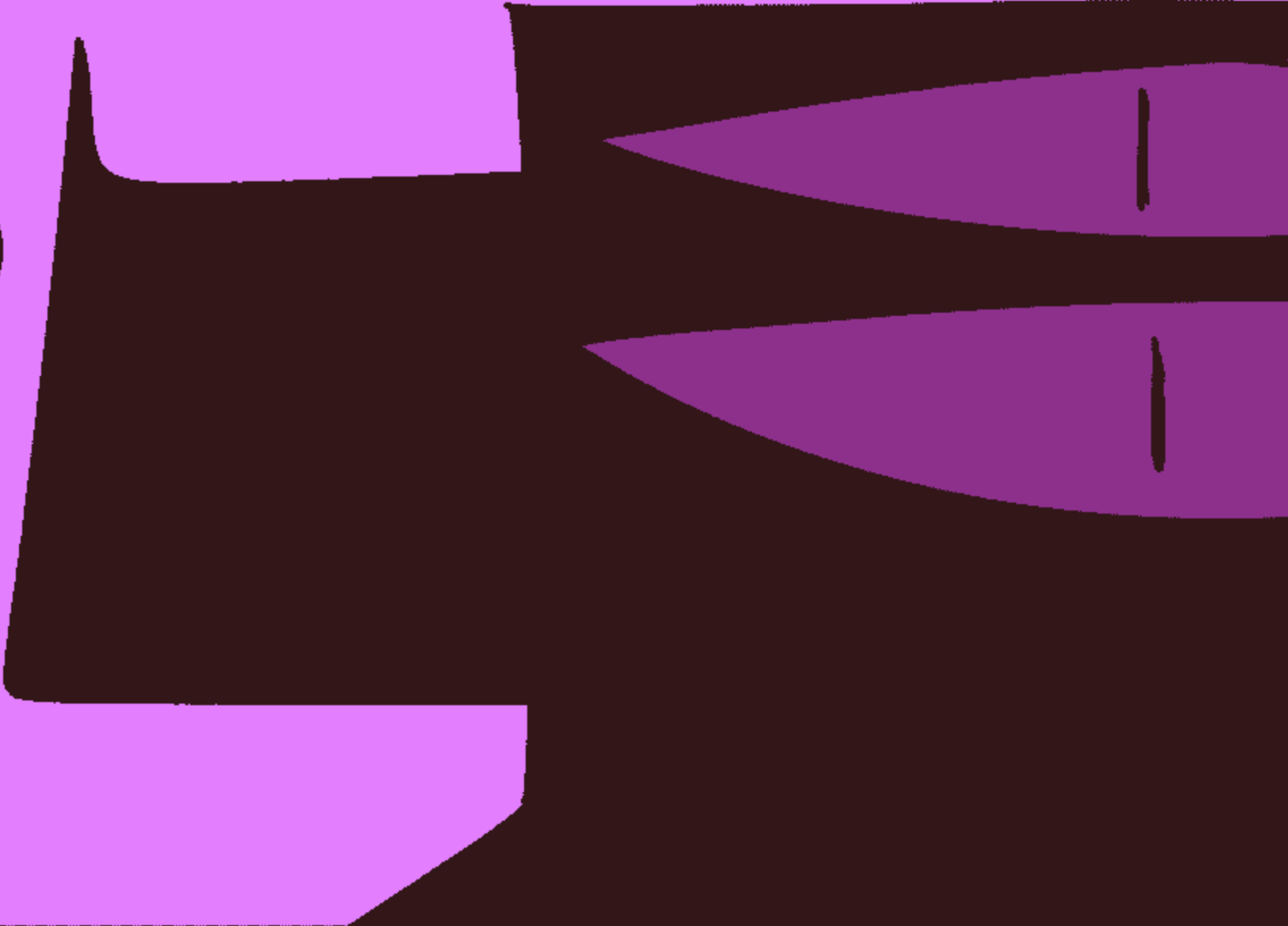
teeth

trauma

violence

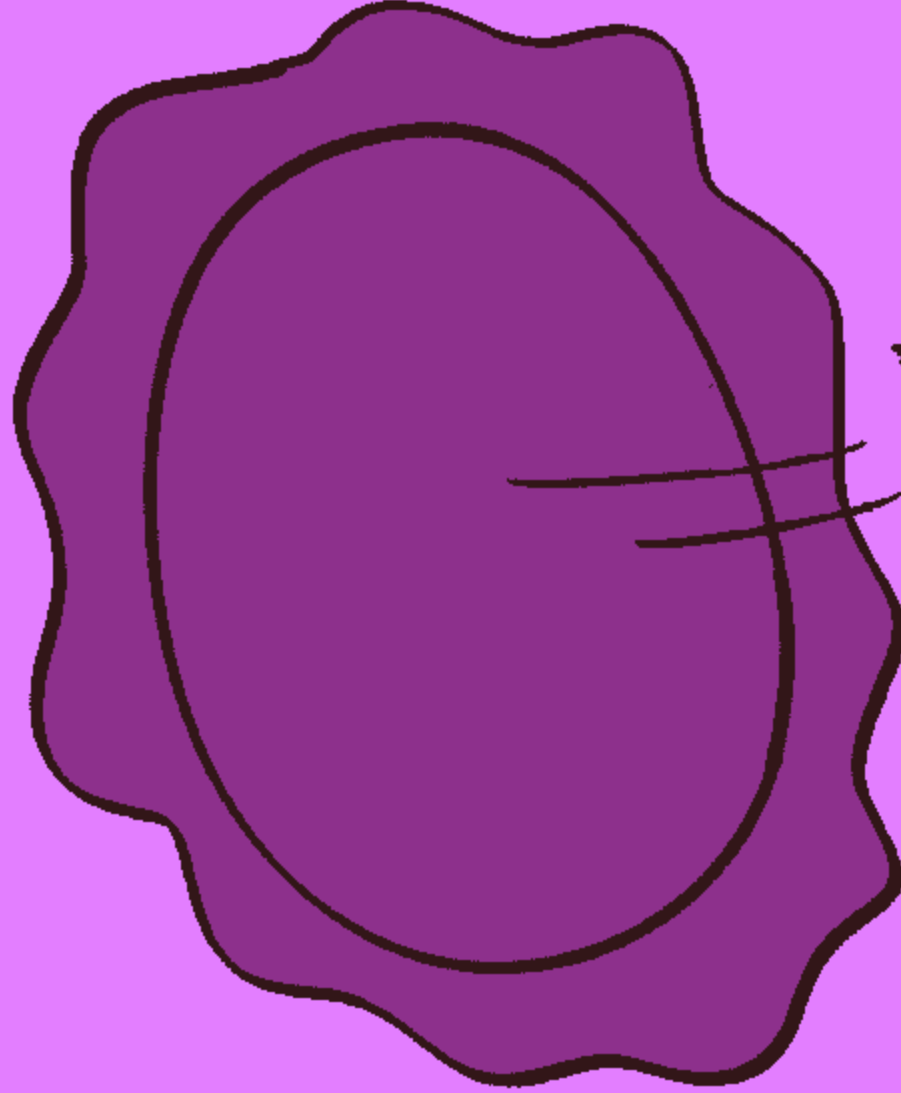
**TWO SISTERS, LOCKED IN WAR
AS THEIR MOTHER WATCHES CLOSELY
SHE PULLS THE STRINGS
THE DEMON SINGS
AS THEIR MOTHER WATCHES SLOWLY**

**HUMANITY'S BROUGHT DOWN TO ITS KNEES
AS THE OLD COVE'S HEART IS STABBED
AND SO COMES OUT
THE MOTHER, SHE SHOUTS
"THE DEVIL HAS FINALLY LAUGHED!"**



SINCE ITS INCEPTION LONG AGO, HELL HAS EXISTED AS THE FINAL RESTING PLACE FOR A MAJORITY OF EARTH'S SOULS. NO ONE REALLY REMEMBERS WHY THAT'S THE CASE, BUT THAT'S JUST THE WAY THINGS ARE.

HELL HAS GONE THROUGH MANY CHANGES DURING ITS ETERNITY, SUCH AS THE APPOINTMENT OF SATAN, AS WELL AS THE ACCIDENTAL BIRTH OF WHAT ARE NOW KNOWN AS "CRYPTIDS."



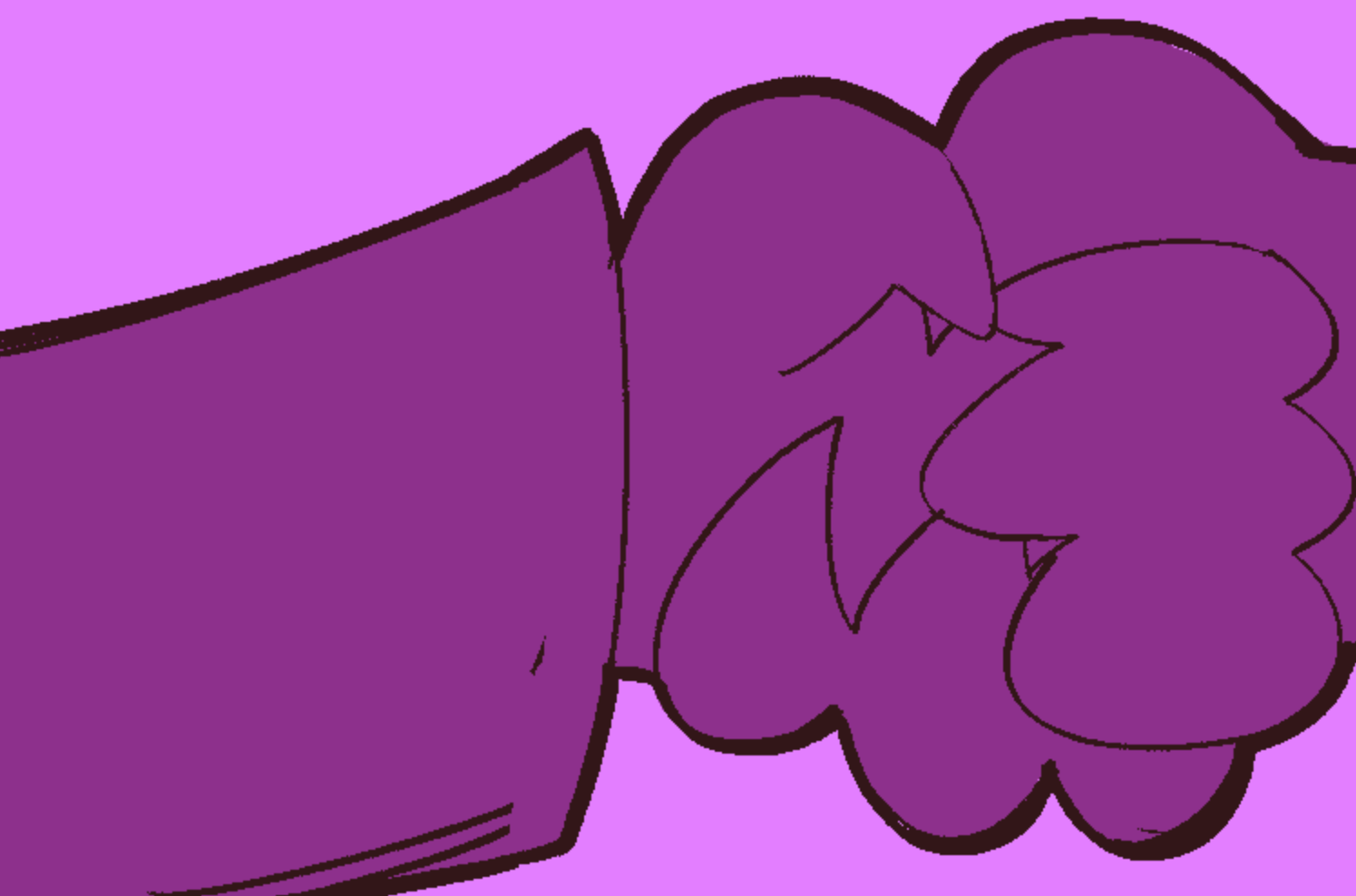
BUT ITS BIGGEST CHANGE WOULD COME NEARLY 60 YEARS AGO, WHEN A MYSTERIOUS PIECE OF WRITING APPEARED FROM A PORTAL FROM ANOTHER WORLD.



THE COUNCIL OF HELL INTERPRETED THIS AS A PROPHECY, THAT FORETOLD A DAY WHERE HELL WOULD BRING AN END TO EARTH AND HUMANITY ITSELF.

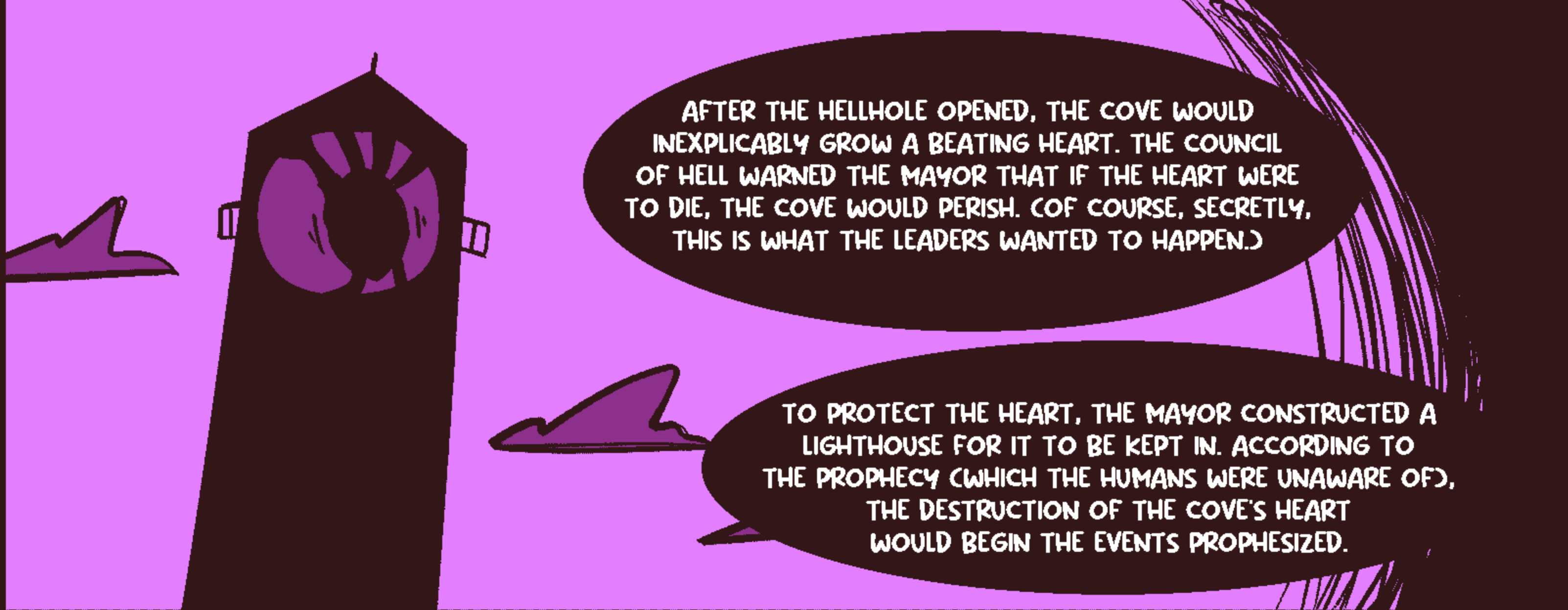
AFTER CONSTRUCTING AN OFFICIAL INTERPRETATION, THE COUNCIL WOULD GET TO WORK ON FULFILLING THE PROPHECY. THE FOLLOWING YEAR, SATAN WOULD HAVE A DAUGHTER, BY THE NAME OF SCARLET FEVER.

SHE WAS GIVEN THE POWER OF CELL SPLITTING, WHICH ALLOWED HER TO SPLIT INTO TWO, AND EVEN INTO FOUR IF NECESSARY. ONE DAY, SHE WOULD SUCCEED HER FATHER AS THE LEADER OF HELL.



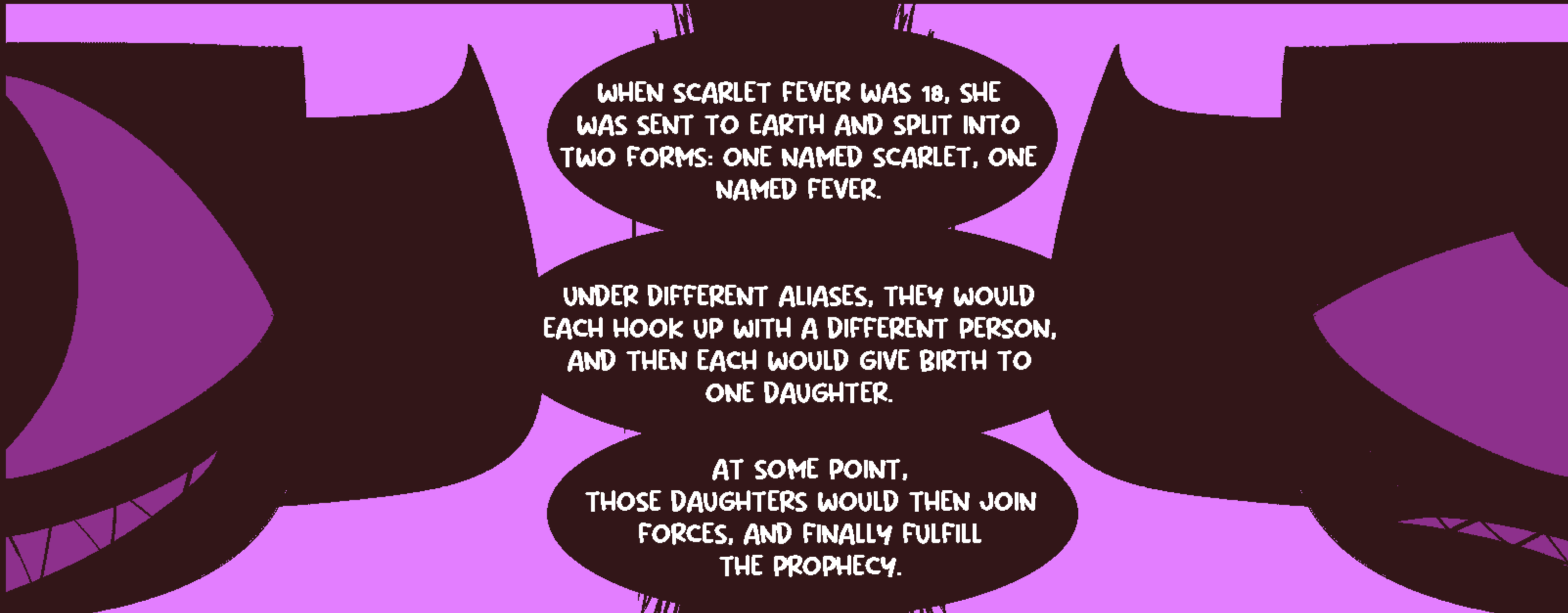
CONVENIENTLY, ON EARTH, THE MAYOR OF A SMALL TOWN CALLED HEART ATTACK COVE WOULD CONSTRUCT A PORTAL TO HELL, AND WOULD ASK SATAN TO, IN HIS OWN WORDS, "HELP GIVE THE TOWN NEW LIFE."

SATAN AGREED, AND A HELLHOLE WAS CREATED TO BRIDGE TOGETHER THE COVE AND HELL. NOT ONLY WOULD BOTH BENEFIT FROM AN ECONOMIC BOOM, BUT HELL WOULD, IN SECRET, BEGIN THE PLAN TO FULFILL THE PROPHECY OF HUMANITY'S DESTRUCTION.



AFTER THE HELLHOLE OPENED, THE COVE WOULD INEXPLICABLY GROW A BEATING HEART. THE COUNCIL OF HELL WARNED THE MAYOR THAT IF THE HEART WERE TO DIE, THE COVE WOULD PERISH. COF COURSE, SECRETLY, THIS IS WHAT THE LEADERS WANTED TO HAPPEN.)

TO PROTECT THE HEART, THE MAYOR CONSTRUCTED A LIGHTHOUSE FOR IT TO BE KEPT IN. ACCORDING TO THE PROPHECY (WHICH THE HUMANS WERE UNAWARE OF), THE DESTRUCTION OF THE COVE'S HEART WOULD BEGIN THE EVENTS PROPHESIZED.



WHEN SCARLET FEVER WAS 18, SHE WAS SENT TO EARTH AND SPLIT INTO TWO FORMS: ONE NAMED SCARLET, ONE NAMED FEVER.

UNDER DIFFERENT ALIASES, THEY WOULD EACH HOOK UP WITH A DIFFERENT PERSON, AND THEN EACH WOULD GIVE BIRTH TO ONE DAUGHTER.

AT SOME POINT, THOSE DAUGHTERS WOULD THEN JOIN FORCES, AND FINALLY FULFILL THE PROPHECY.

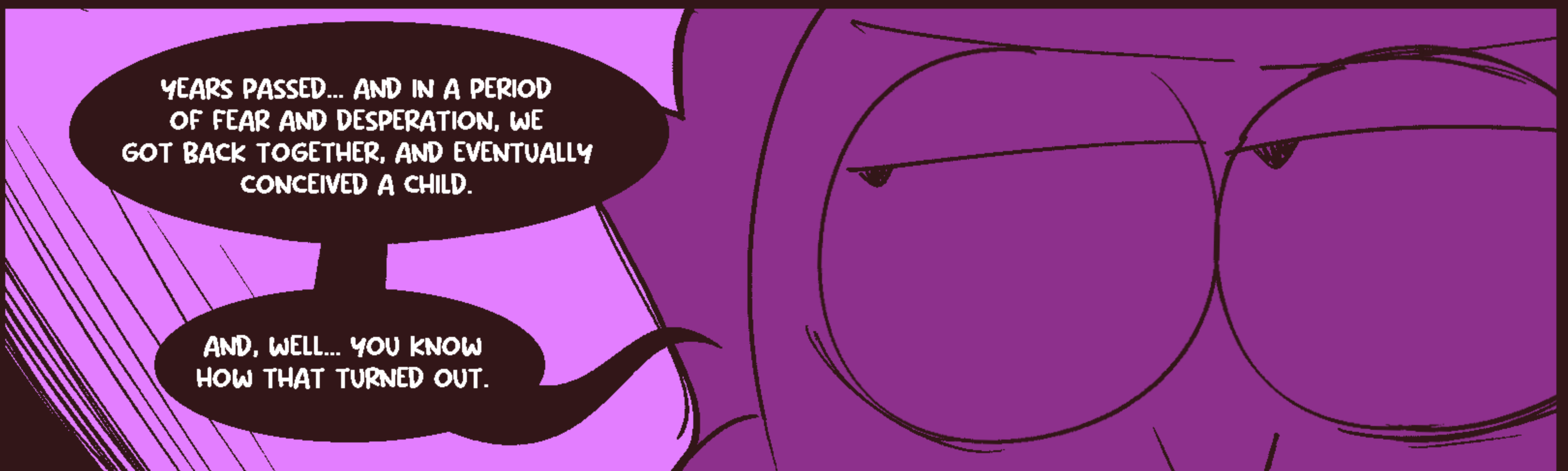
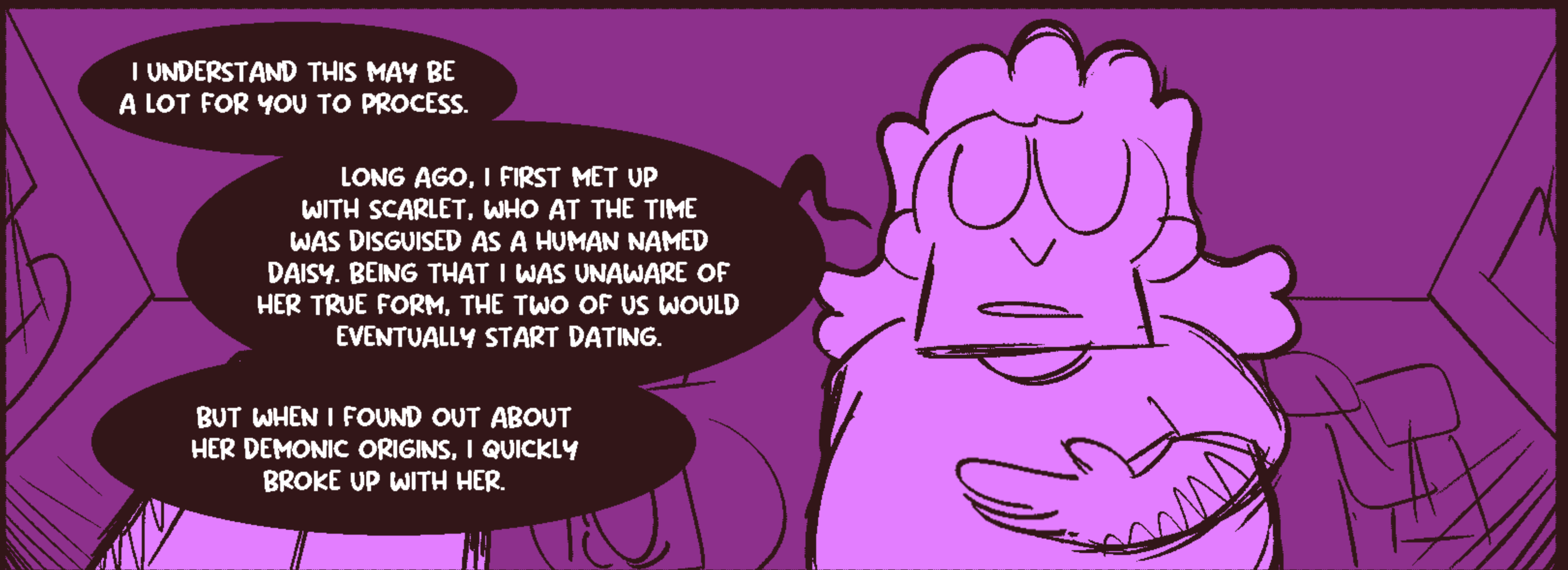


BUT, FOR REASONS I DON'T EVEN FULLY UNDERSTAND, THIS PLAN HASN'T GONE INTO FRUITION JUST YET.

BUT IF I'M CORRECT, I BELIEVE IT'S ANY DAY NOW BEFORE DISASTER STRIKES FOR THE COVE.



AND THAT'S WHERE YOU COME IN, CHILLI.



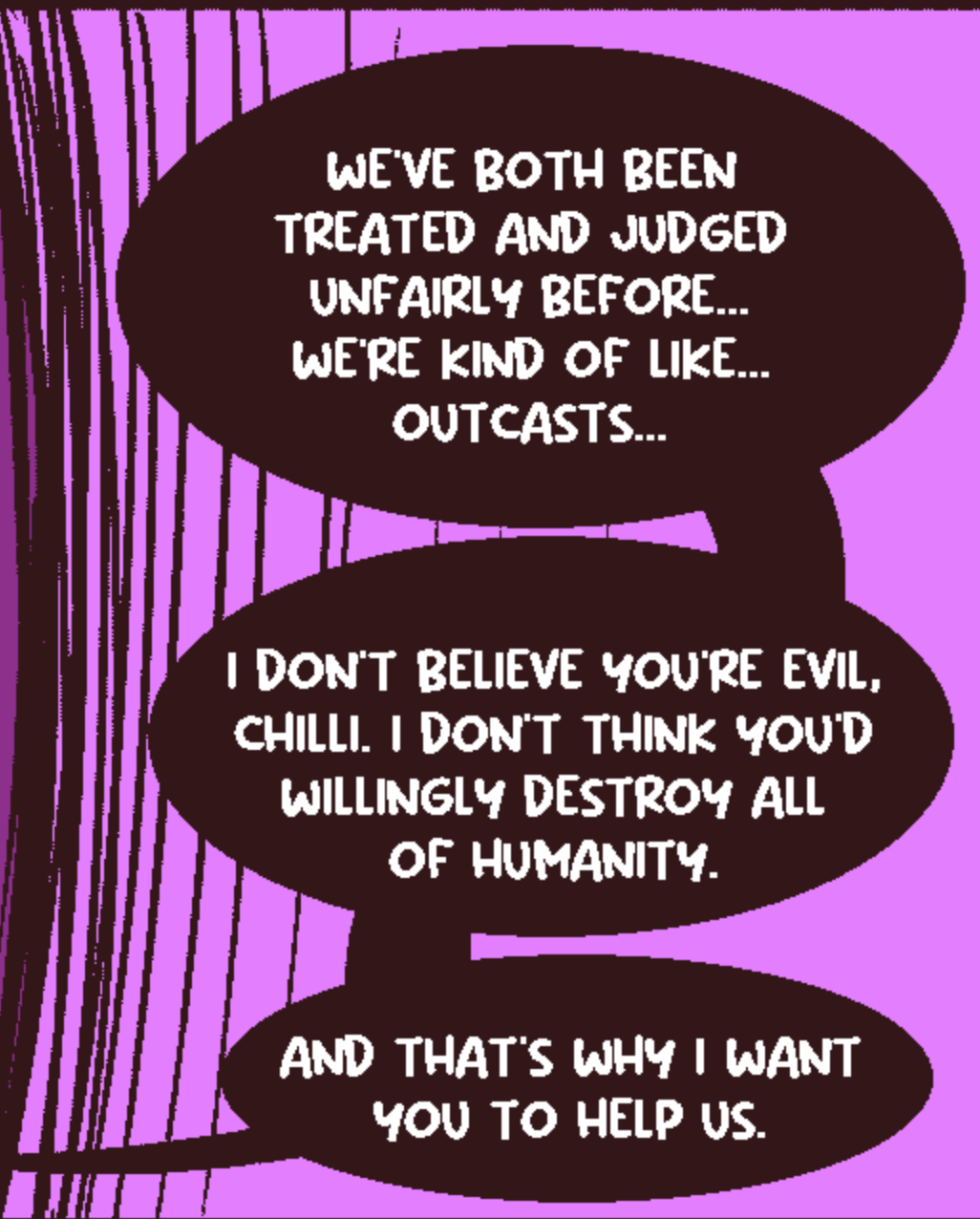
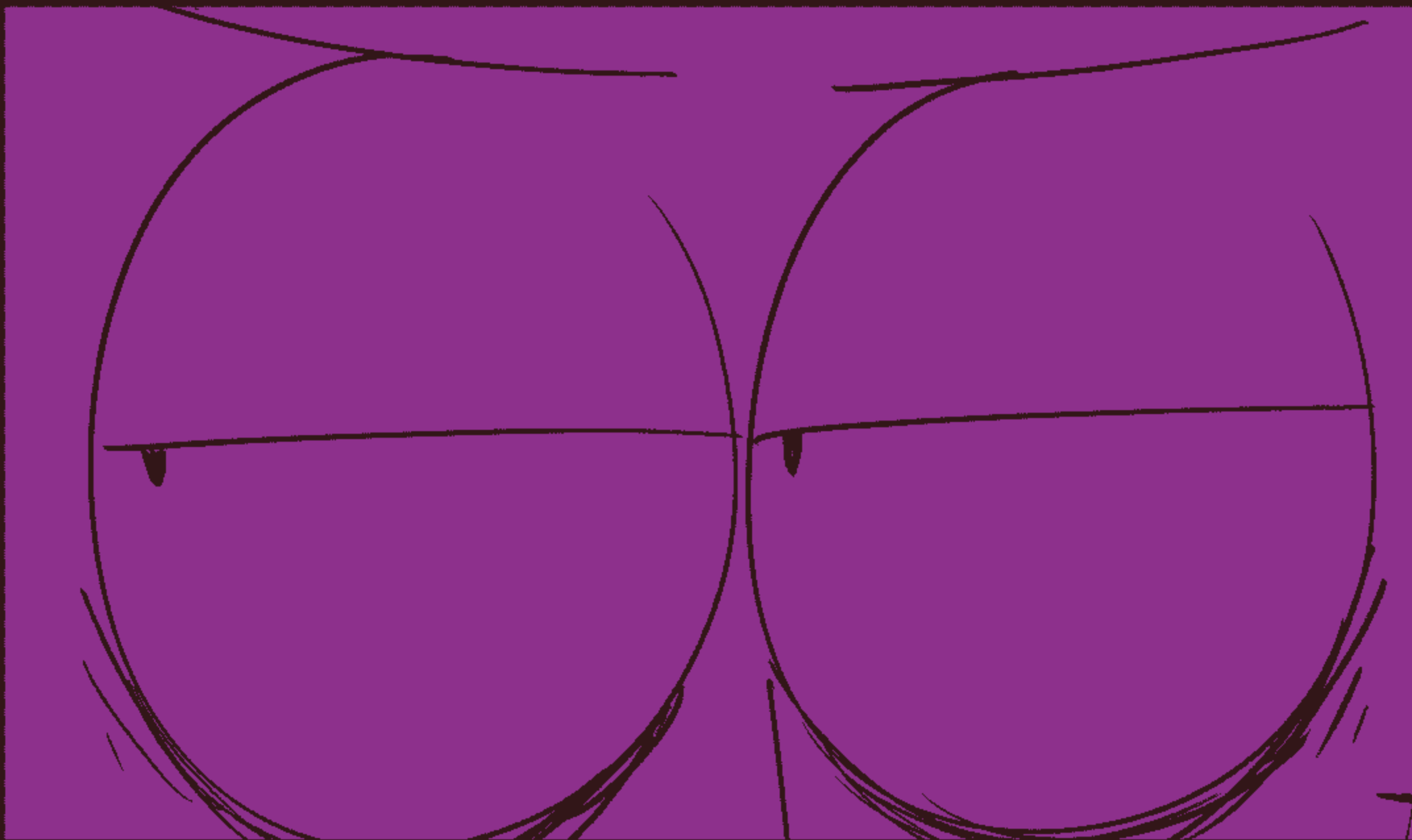
CHILLI POPPYFIELD, YOUR MOTHER'S NOT
JUST A DEMON... SHE'S ONE HALF OF THE

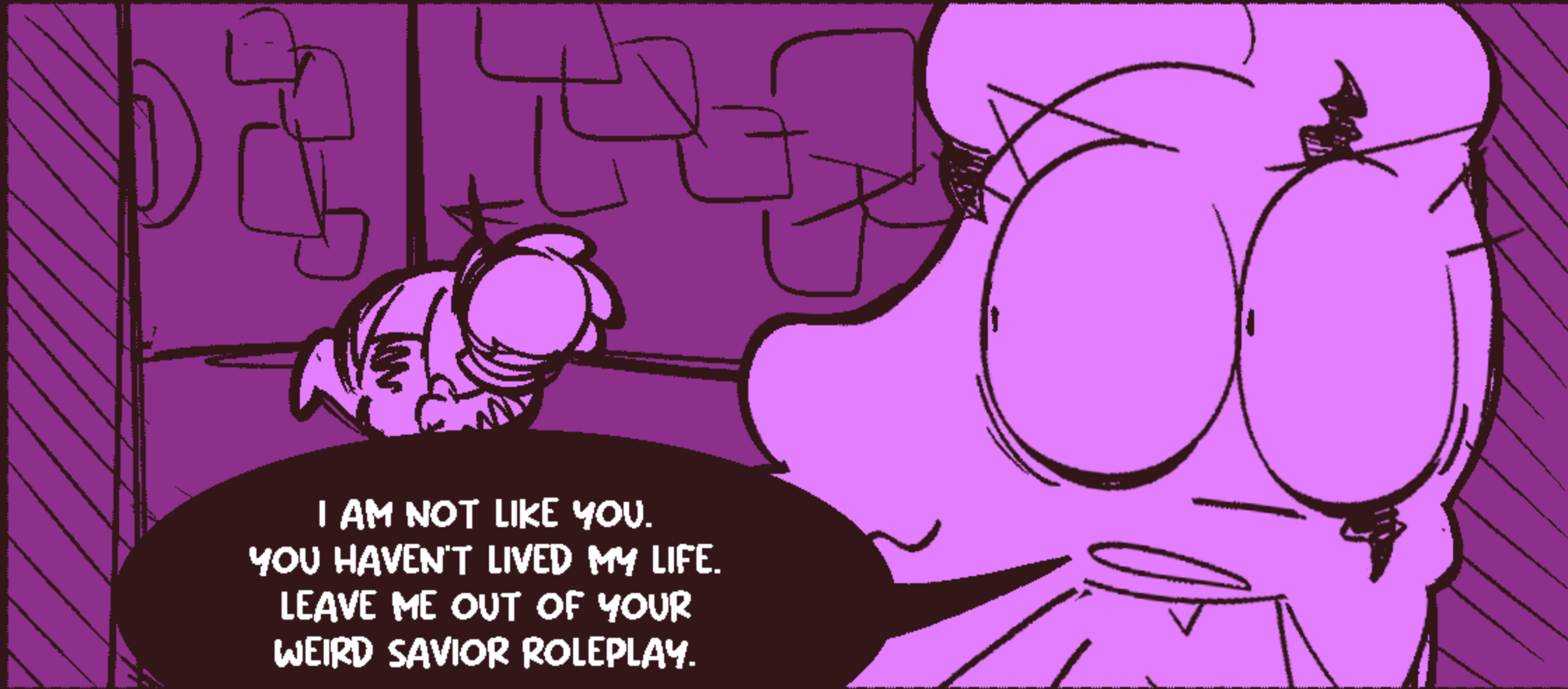
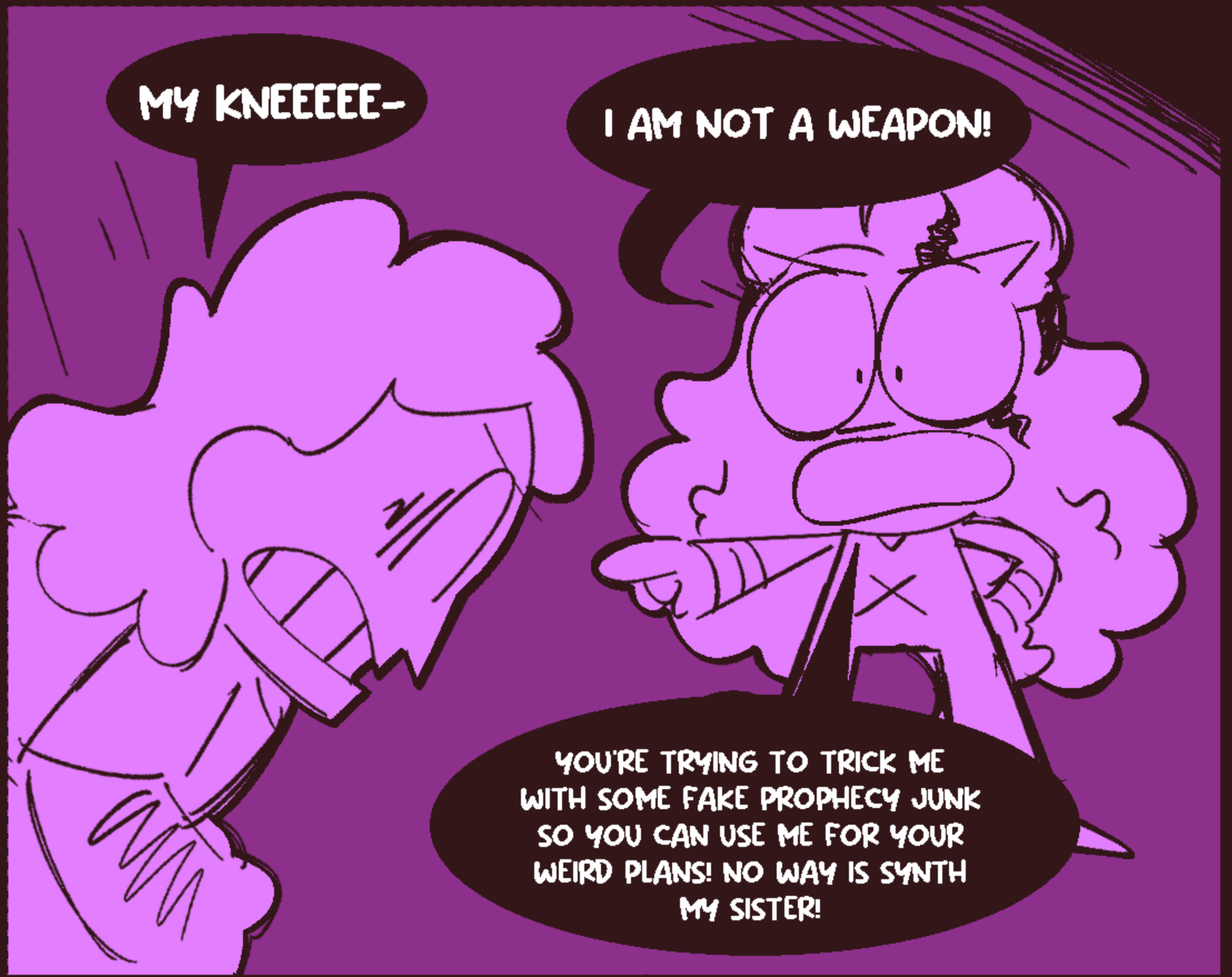
DAUGHTER OF SATAN.

**YOU AND SYNTH ARE THE SISTERS
PROPHECISED TO DESTROY THE COVE,
ALONG WITH ALL OF HUMANITY!**

WH- WHAT?!

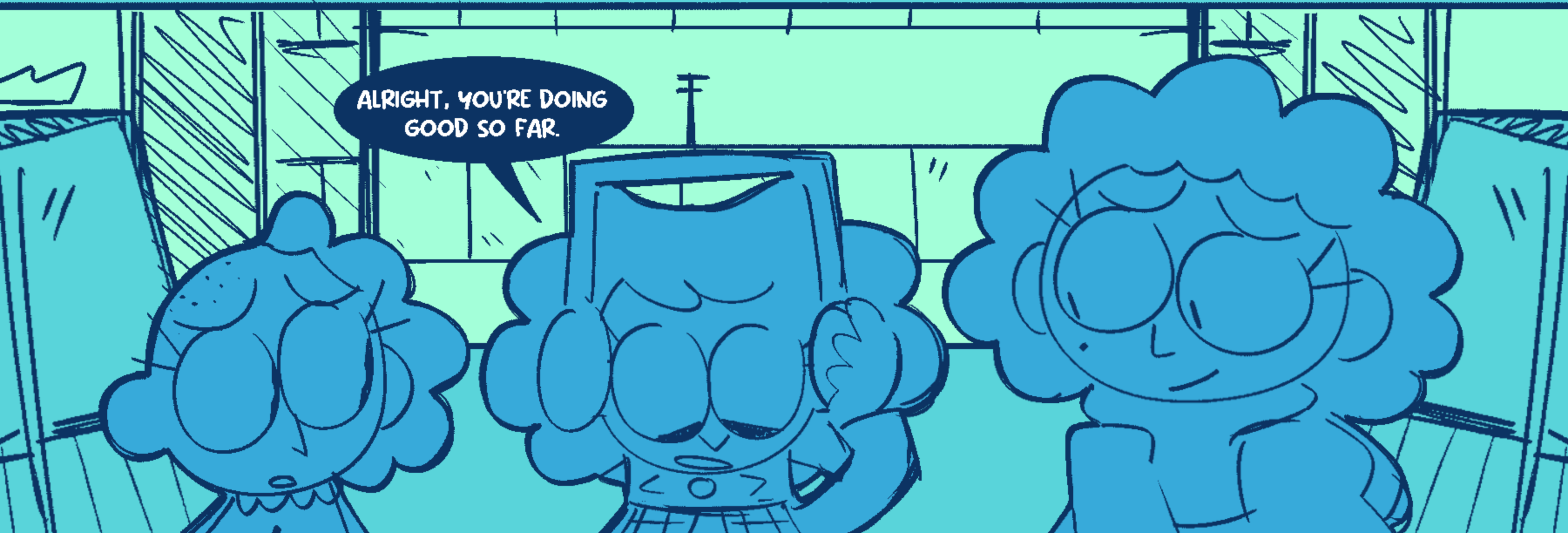
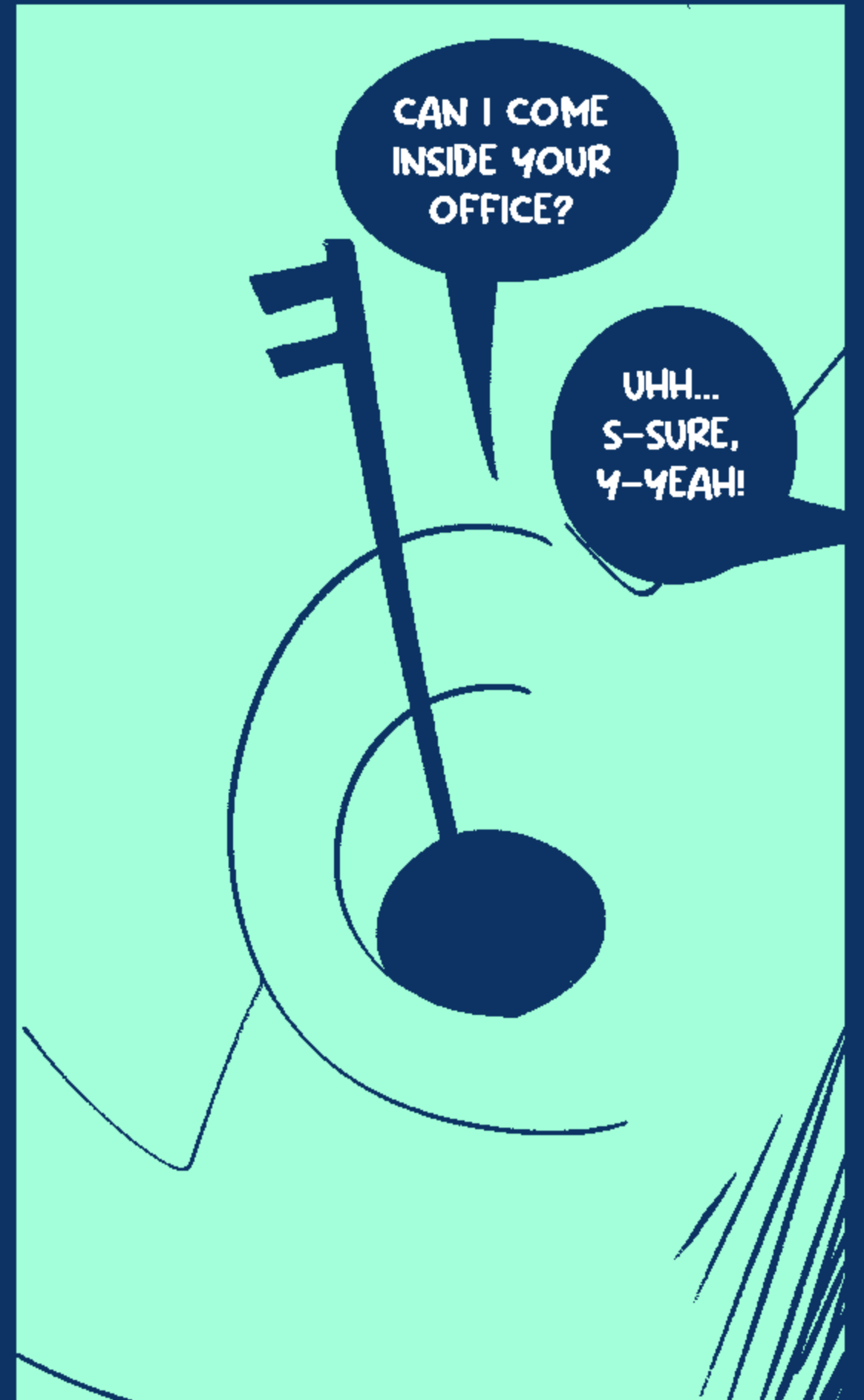
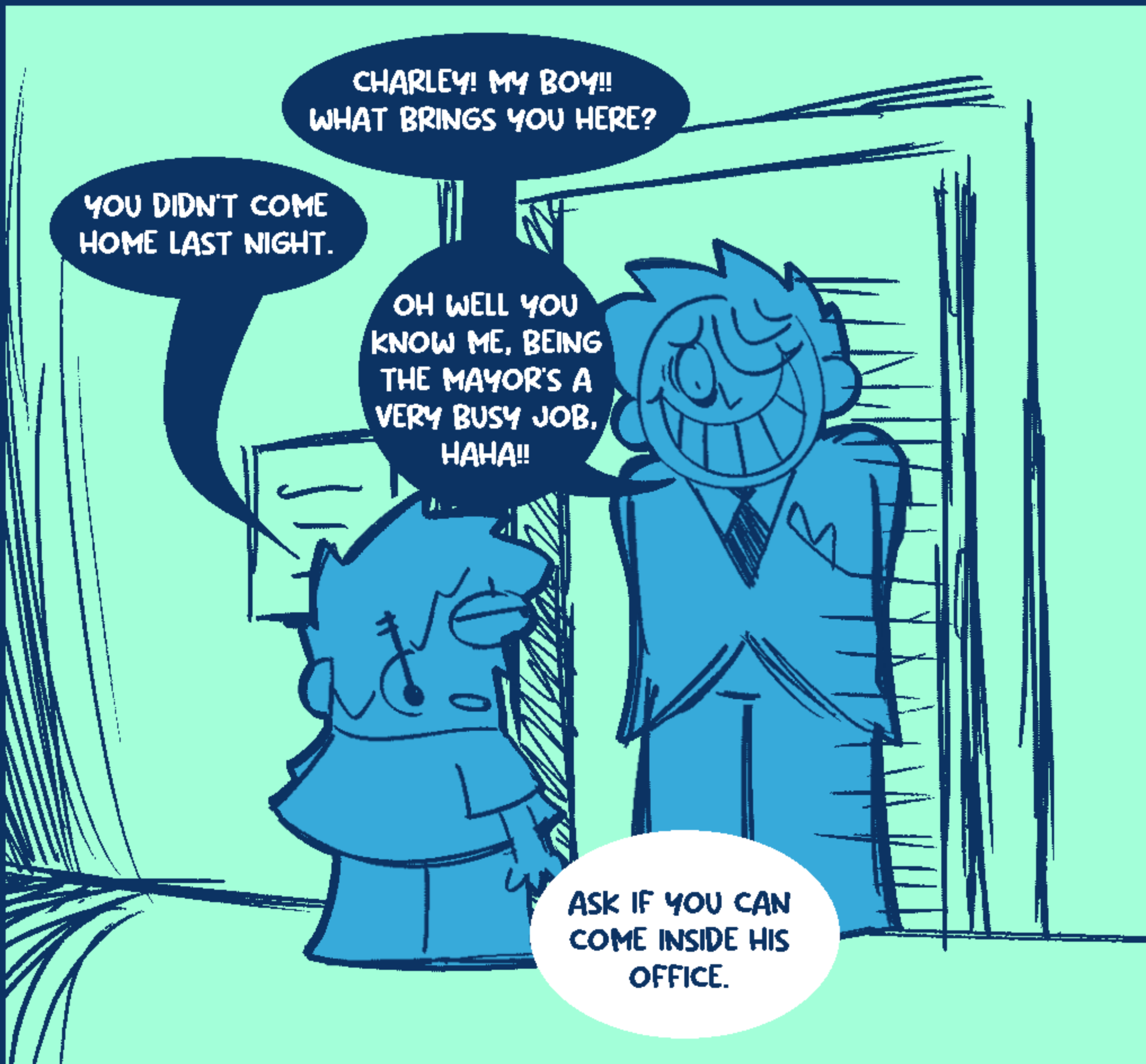
A red cartoon character with large, round, light-red eyes and a wide, open mouth. The character has a large, bushy red head and is wearing a red shirt. A red speech bubble is coming from the character's mouth, containing the text "WH- WHAT?!". The background is black with white motion lines at the bottom.

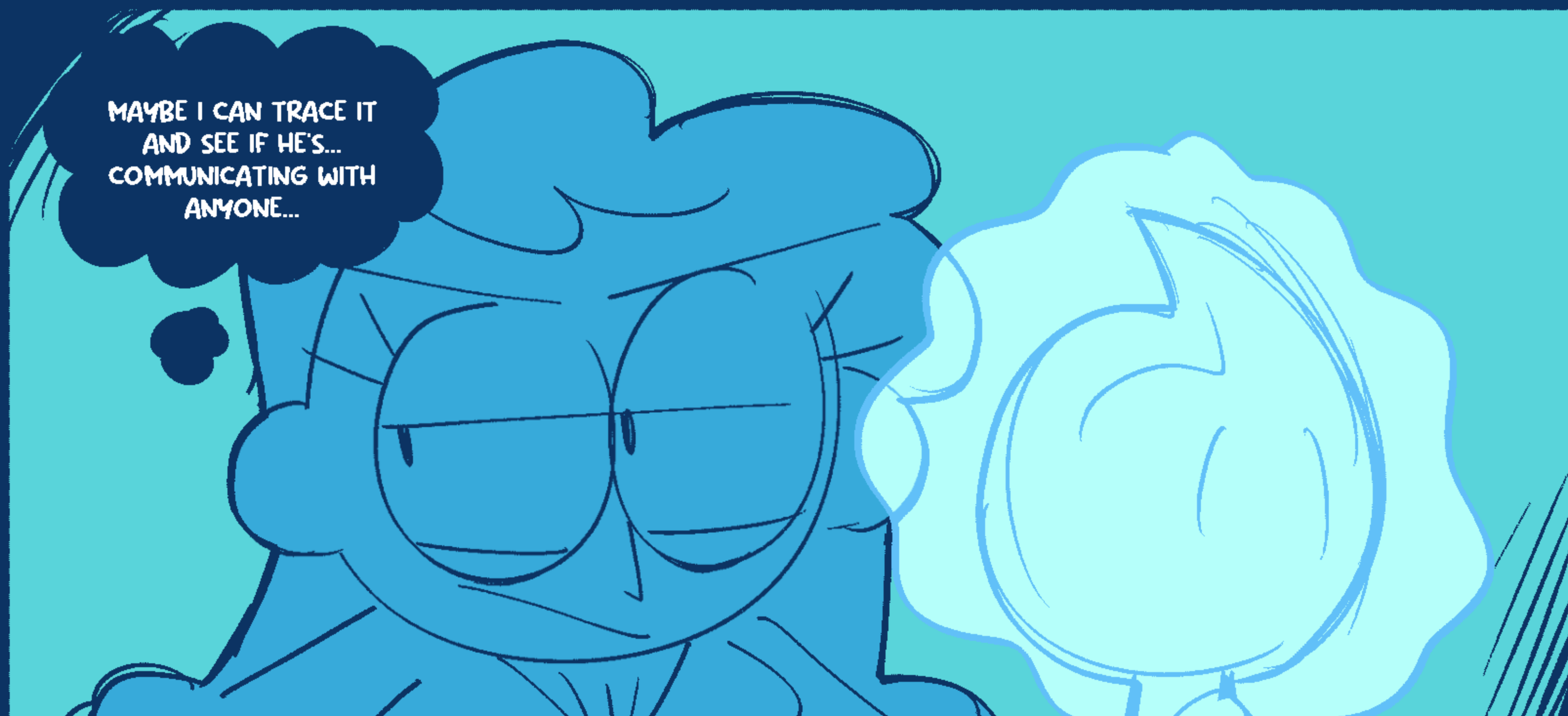


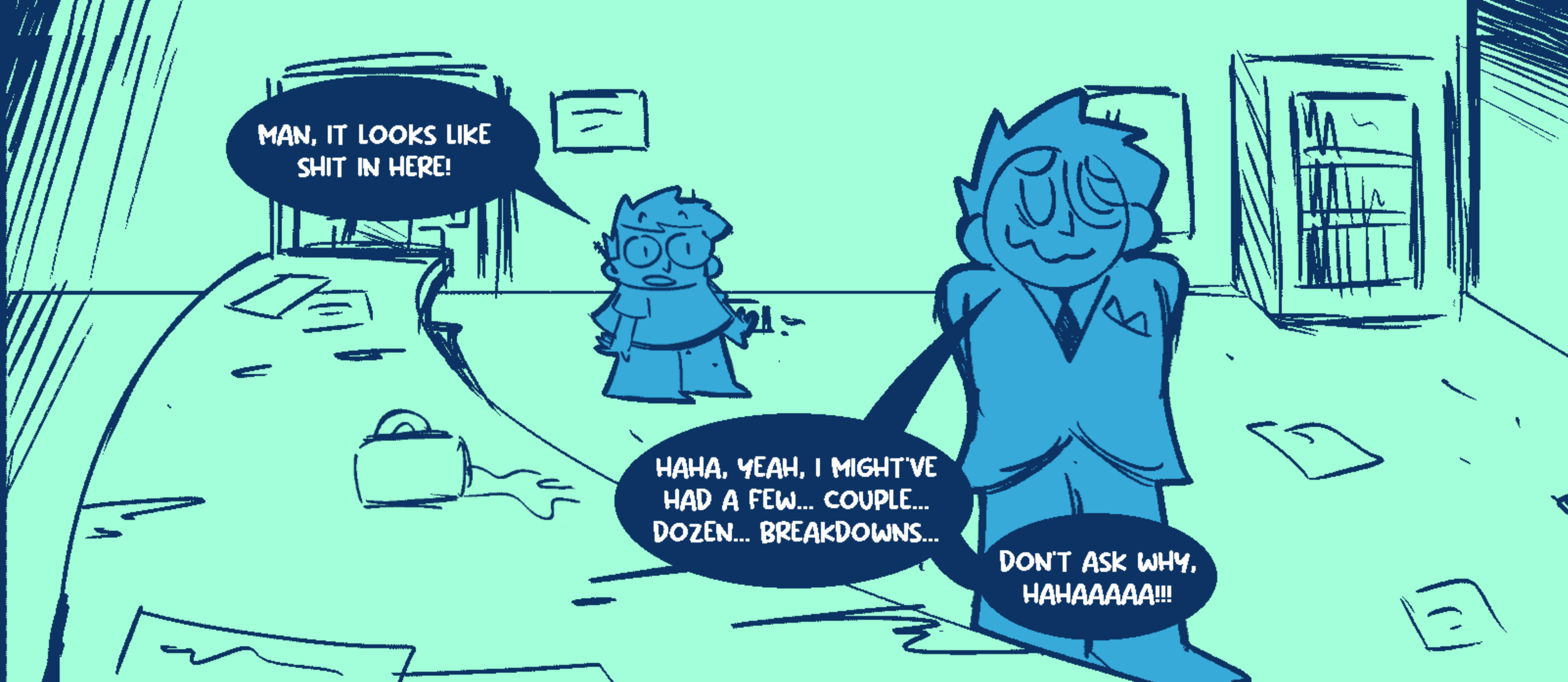


false god





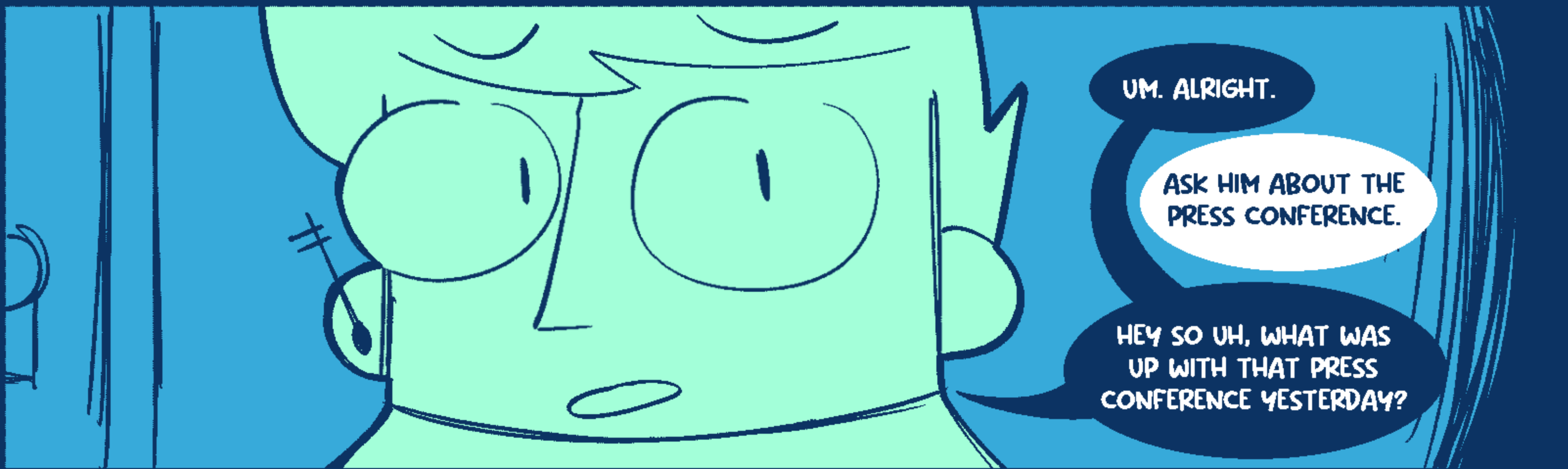




MAN, IT LOOKS LIKE SHIT IN HERE!

HAHA, YEAH, I MIGHT'VE HAD A FEW... COUPLE... DOZEN... BREAKDOWNS...

DON'T ASK WHY, HAHAHAHA!!!



UM. ALRIGHT.

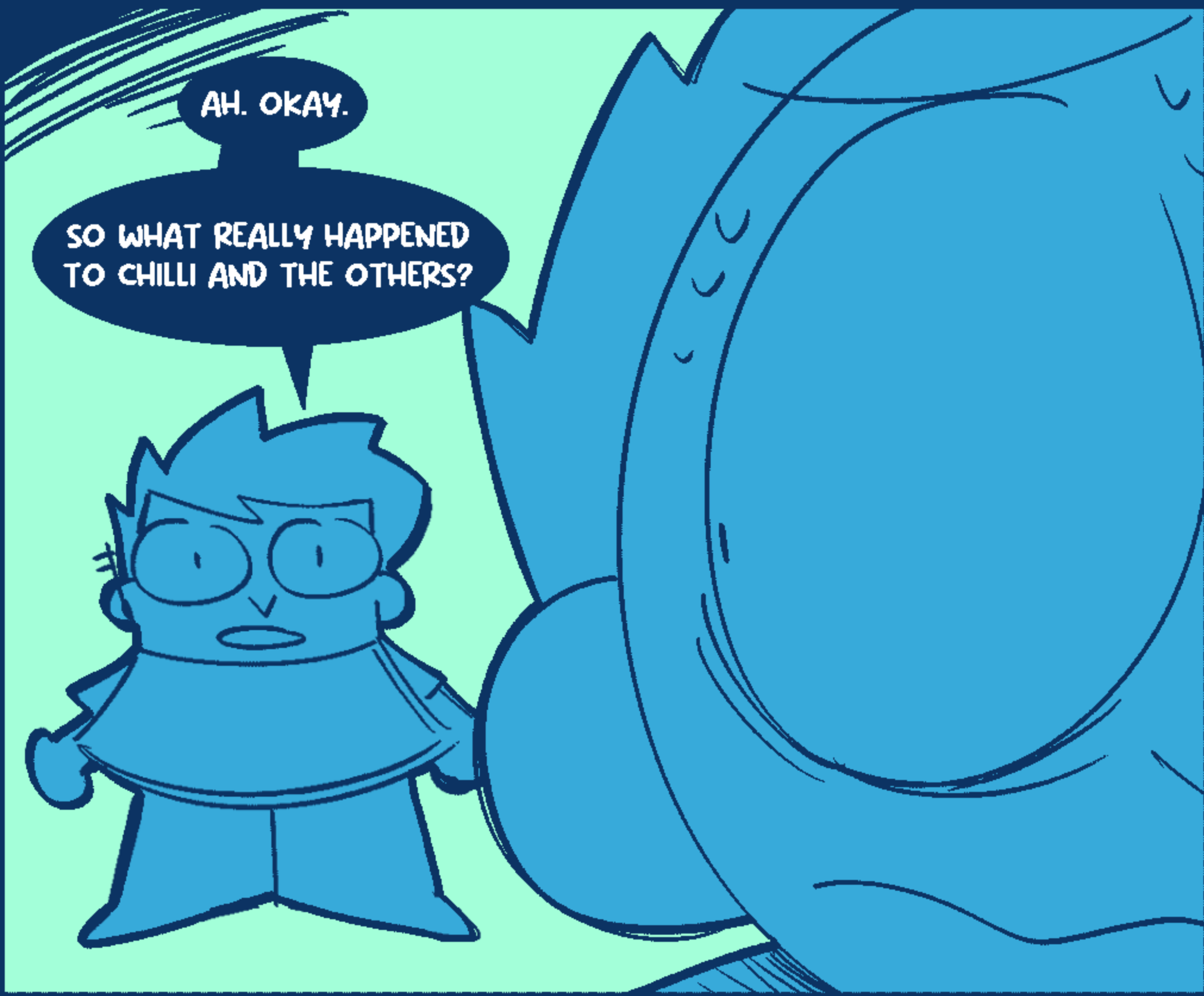
ASK HIM ABOUT THE PRESS CONFERENCE.

HEY SO UH, WHAT WAS UP WITH THAT PRESS CONFERENCE YESTERDAY?



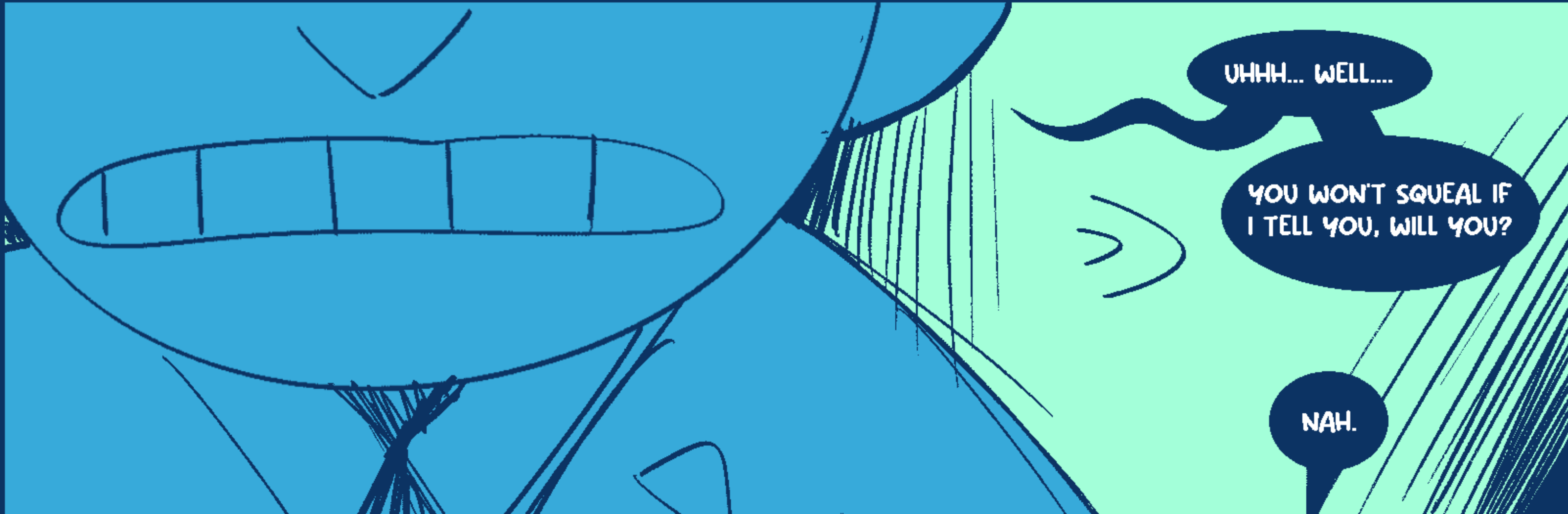
OH THAT? UHHH...

THAT WAS JUST A UH... P-PERFORMATIVE PIECE! A SATIRICAL ACT, IF YOU WILL!



AH. OKAY.

SO WHAT REALLY HAPPENED TO CHILLI AND THE OTHERS?



UHHH... WELL....

YOU WON'T SQUEAL IF I TELL YOU, WILL YOU?

NAH.



HMM... WELL...

YOU KNOW THE
EXPLOSION AT LUCY INC.?

YEA.



WELL... BEFORE THAT... I
MAYBE... SENT SOMEONE TO
STEAL CHILLI'S FANGS...

AND I MAYBE DID THAT
BECAUSE SHE WALKED OUT
ON A DEAL WE MADE TO
REVIVE LUCY PEPPER
AS A VAMPIRE POSSUM.

BUT I MAYBE DIDN'T REALIZE
JUST THE AMOUNT OF POWER
LUCY WOULD HAVE, AND THAT
MAYBE LED TO HER KILLING
MAXWELL AND EXPLODING THE
BUILDING.



BUT MAYBE IF SOMEONE HAD MAYBE
DONE THEIR MAYBE JOB PROPERLY,
AND THEY DIDN'T MAYBE SEND CHILLI
AND HER HOUSE INTO WHO KNOWS WHERE-

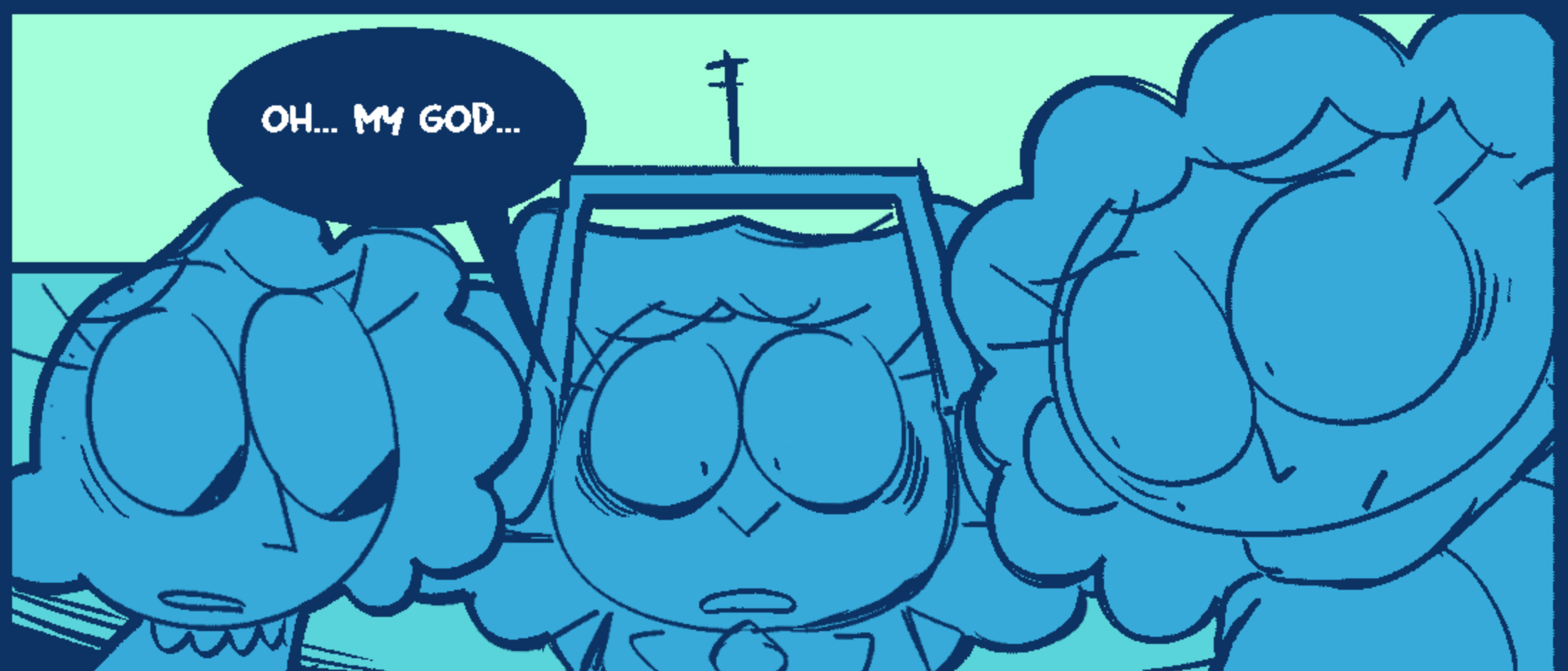
MAYBE I WOULDN'T MAYBE
BE IN THIS MUCH OF A
MAYBE HEADACHE!!

BUT NO, IT'S ALWAYS MY FAULT!!
SOMEHOW I'M ALWAYS TO BLAME!!

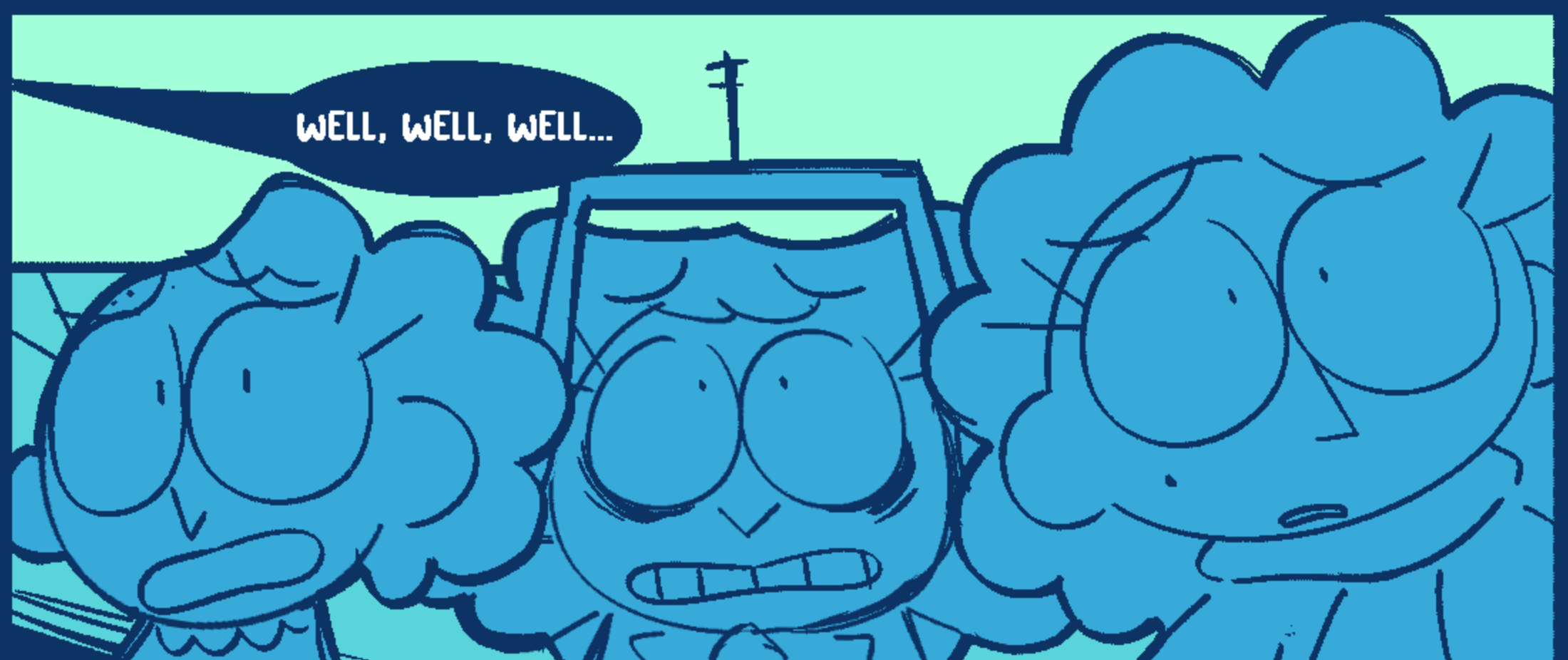


WHY DOES THIS KEEP
HAPPENNING TO ME!!
WHY DOES LIFE
CONTINUE TO
THROW KNIVES
AT MY BACK!!!

ARE- ARE YOU
GUYS GETTING
THIS?

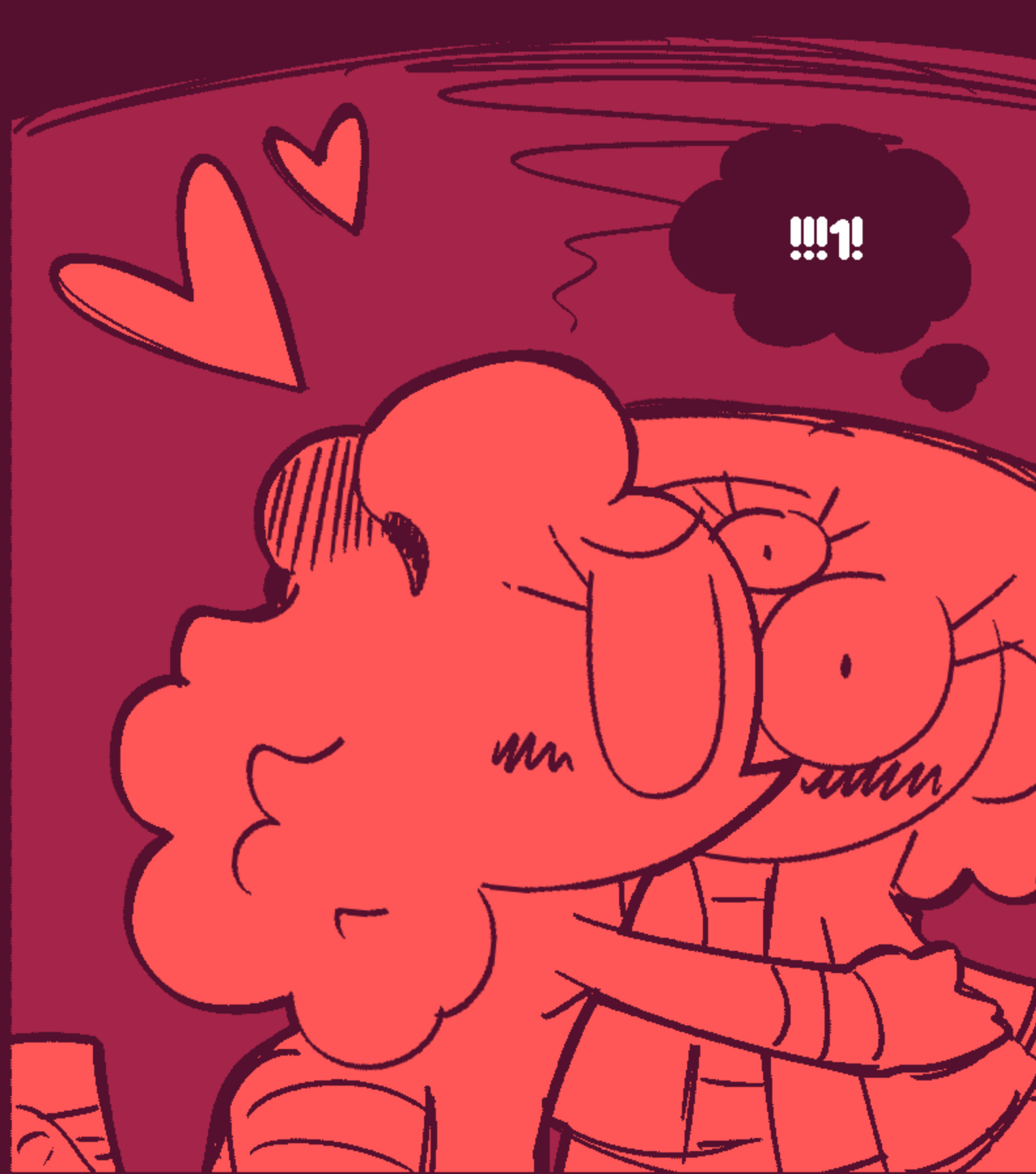
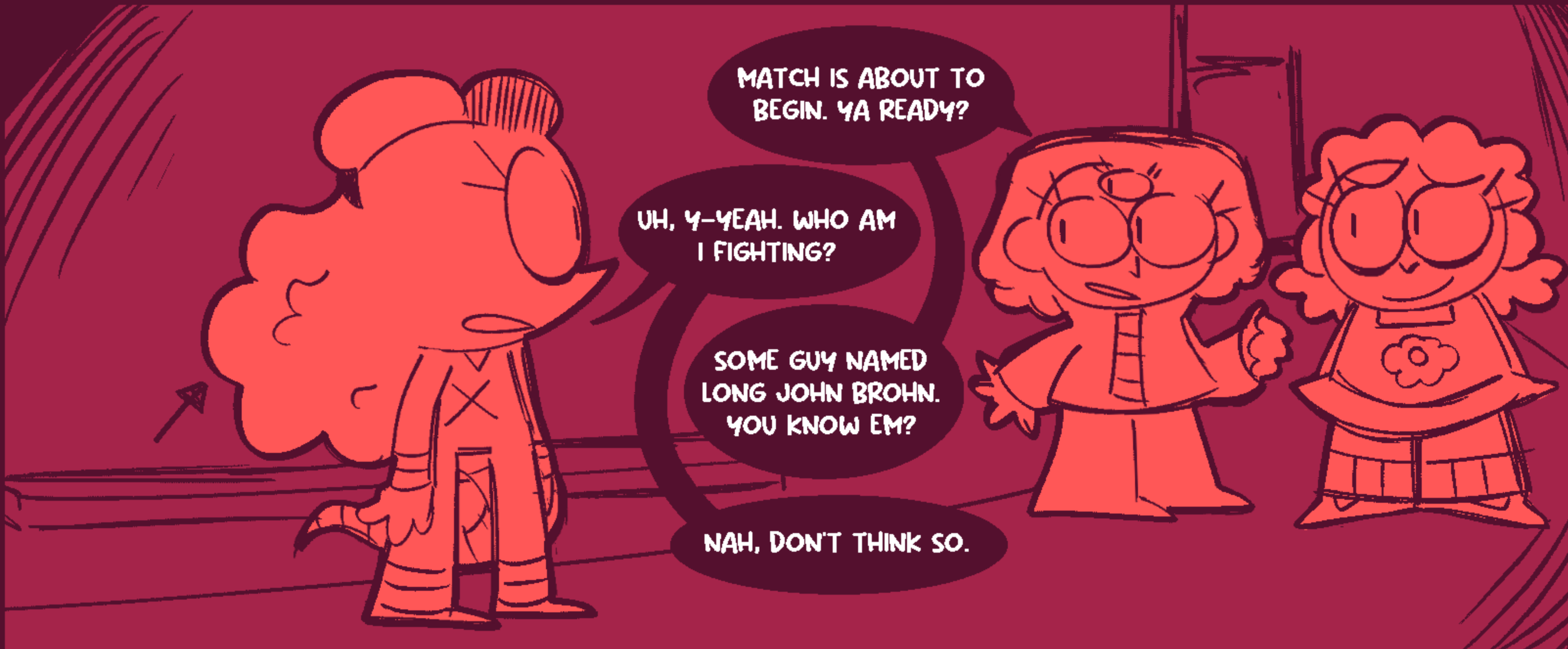


OH... MY GOD...



WELL, WELL, WELL...





LONG JOHN BROHN, WHO WOULD'VE
COMPETED IN THIS MATCH, DROPPED
OUT LAST NIGHT. SO THEY HAVE BEEN
REPLACED WITH A LAST MINUTE FIGHTER-



-AND HE EVEN CLAIMS TO HAVE
BEATEN CHILLI BEFORE!



HUH??

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,
INTRODUCING...

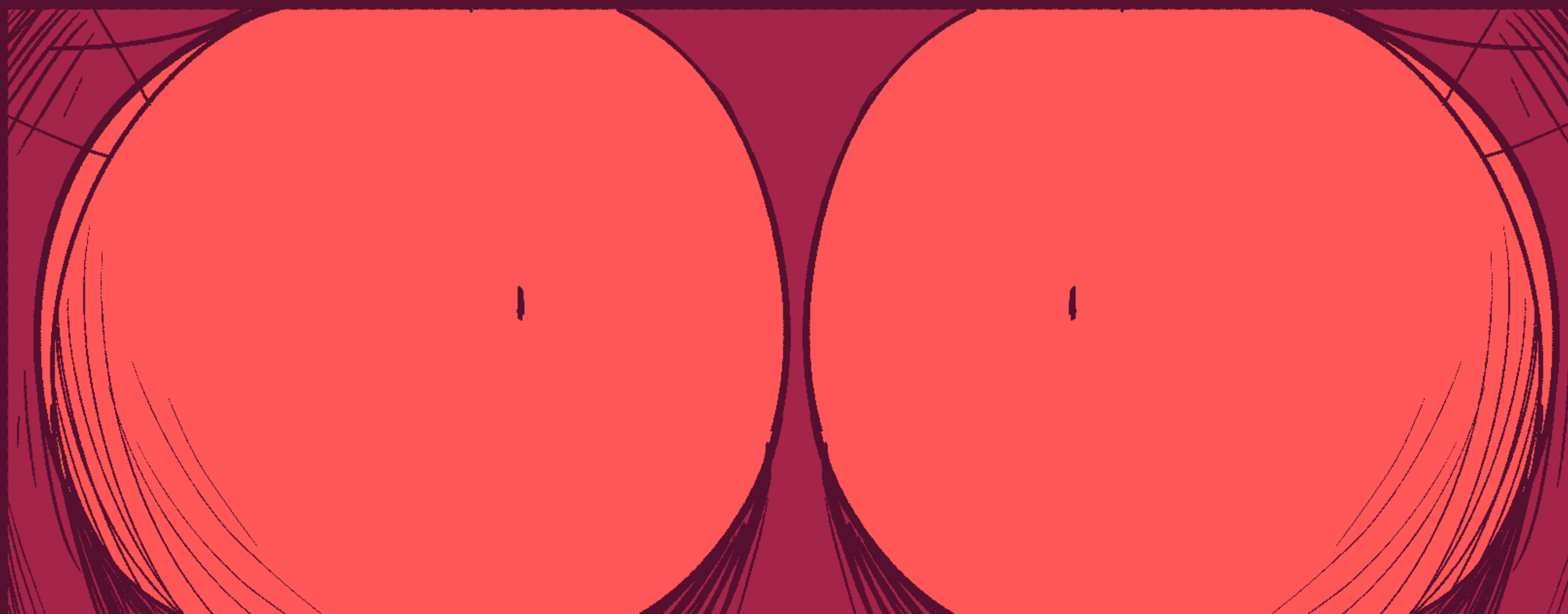
N... NO...



YAY!!
CHEERING!
WOAH!
woohoo!

...KYLE!!!

NEAT!
OKAY!



IS THAT THE GUY FROM THE
HELLHOLE? WHAT'S HE DOING HERE?

WHY ARE YA
BACKING UP,
CHILLI?

PANT
PANT

CHILLI,
IT'S OKAY...

PANT
PANT
PANT

...HE DOESN'T HAVE ANY KNIVES ON
HIM. WITHOUT THEM, HE'S JUST SOME
GUY! YOU CAN BEAT HIM!!

WH- WHAT MAKES YOU TH-THINK
Y-YOU CAN T-TAKE ME ON?!

M-MY DAD T-TOOK YOU
DOWN IN A SINGLE PUNCH!

Y-YOU DON'T
HAVE THE MIGHT!

PERHAPS YOU'RE CORRECT.
BUT I HAVE SOMETHING BIGGER
THAN MIGHT.

FEAR.

I CAN HEAR IT IN
YOUR STUTTERING.
YOU'RE AFRAID OF ME.

I LIVE IN YOUR HEAD,
RENT-FREE. YOU PROBABLY
CAN'T EVEN LOOK AT A
KNIFE WITHOUT THINKING
OF ME.

I'M FOREVER SEARED INTO THE
DEEPEST, DARKEST CAVERNS
OF YOUR SUBCONSCIOUS.

WHENEVER YOU LOOK INTO A
MIRROR, AND YOU SEE THAT
SCAR OVER YOUR EYE?

THAT'S ME.

YOU WILL NEVER ESCAPE ME.
I WILL ALWAYS BE THERE.

READY...

SET...

YOU'RE NOTHING!

AND THAT'S WHY
I ALWAYS WIN!!

GO!

HUH?

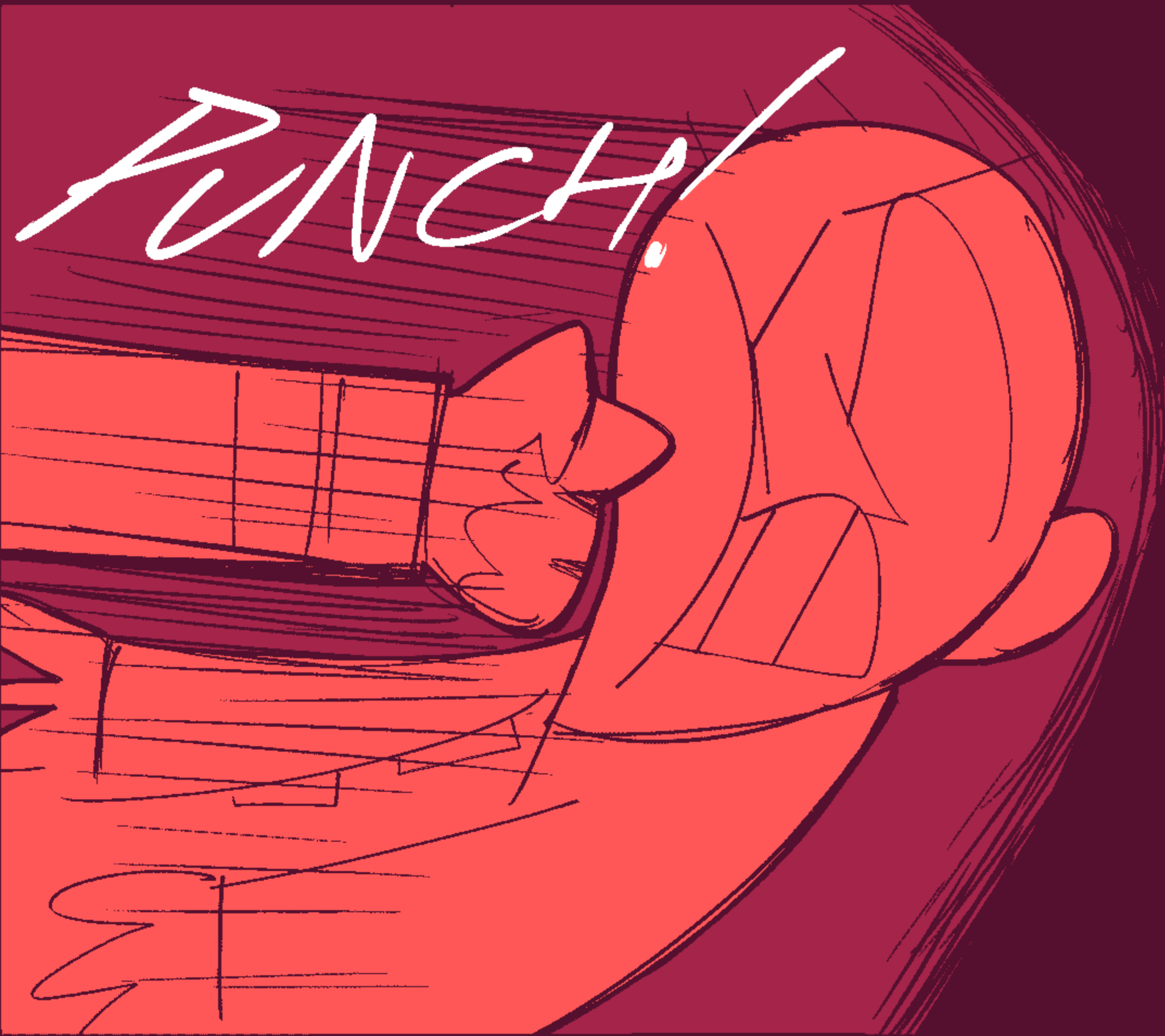
I'M A VAMPIRE.

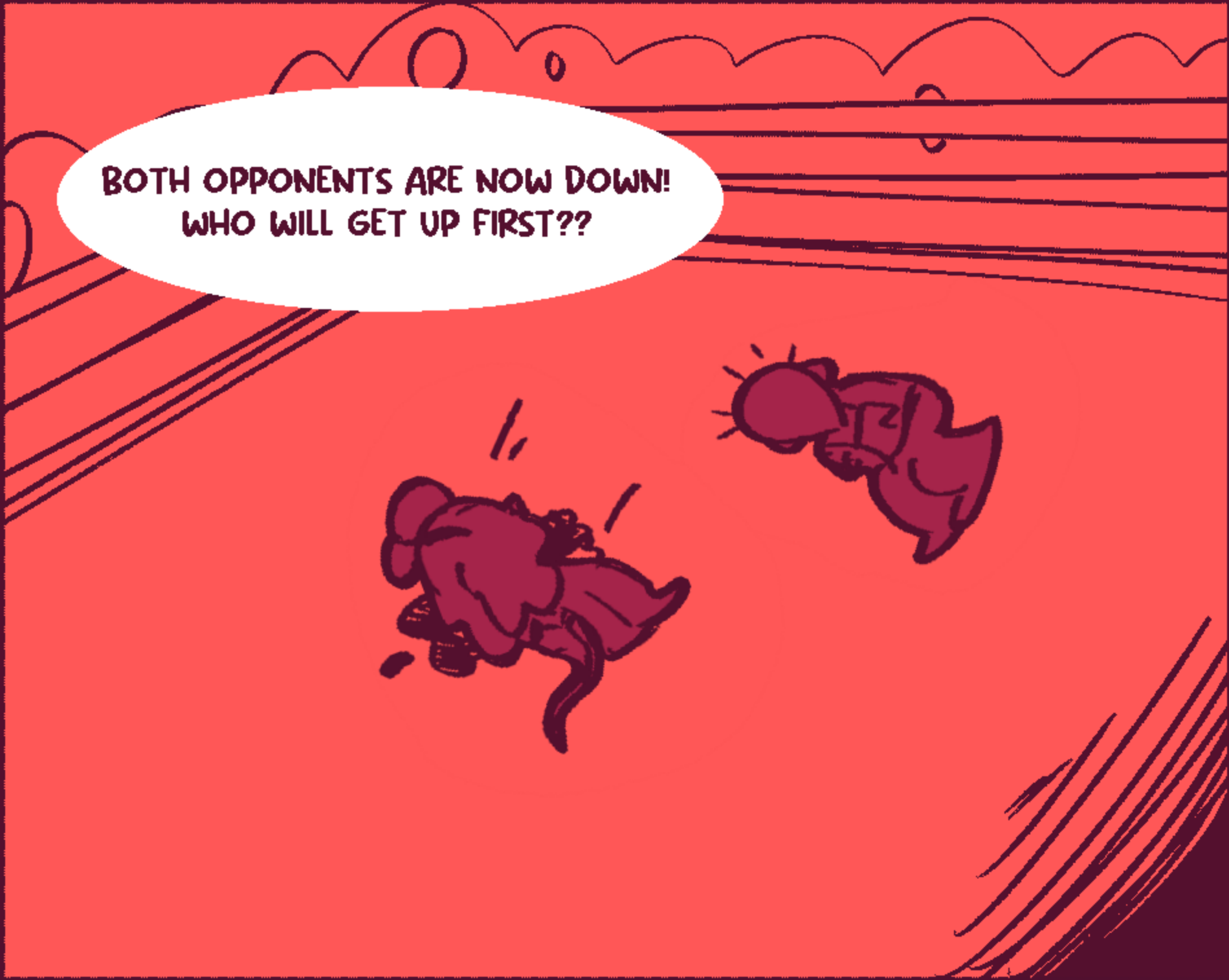
I CAN'T LOOK INTO A
MIRROR. I DON'T HAVE
A REFLECTION.

THIS SCAR IS ME.
IT'S A REMINDER.

THAT I'M STILL HERE.
NO MATTER MY LOSSES OR
MY SCREW-UPS. NO MATTER
MY WINS OR MY VICTORIES.

I HAVE SCARS OUTSIDE AND IN,
AND I EMBRACE ALL OF THEM!
YOU DON'T GET TO TELL ME
WHAT THEY MEAN!!







HOW DO YOU THINK THE WITCH TROOPS GET THEIR FUNDING? YOU THINK OUR BAKE SALES ACTUALLY MAKE A PROFIT?

I'M THE MAYOR'S PERSONAL ASSISTANT. I TAKE CARE OF WHATEVER DUMB STUFF THAT HE NEEDS TAKEN CARE OF, AND IN RETURN, HE PAYS ME A PRETTY PENNY.

NOT THE MOST GLAMOUROUS JOB, BUT A JOB NONETHELESS. AND UNFORTUNATELY, IT'S A JOB THAT GETS HARDER WHEN THE MAYOR OPENS HIS STUPID MOUTH.



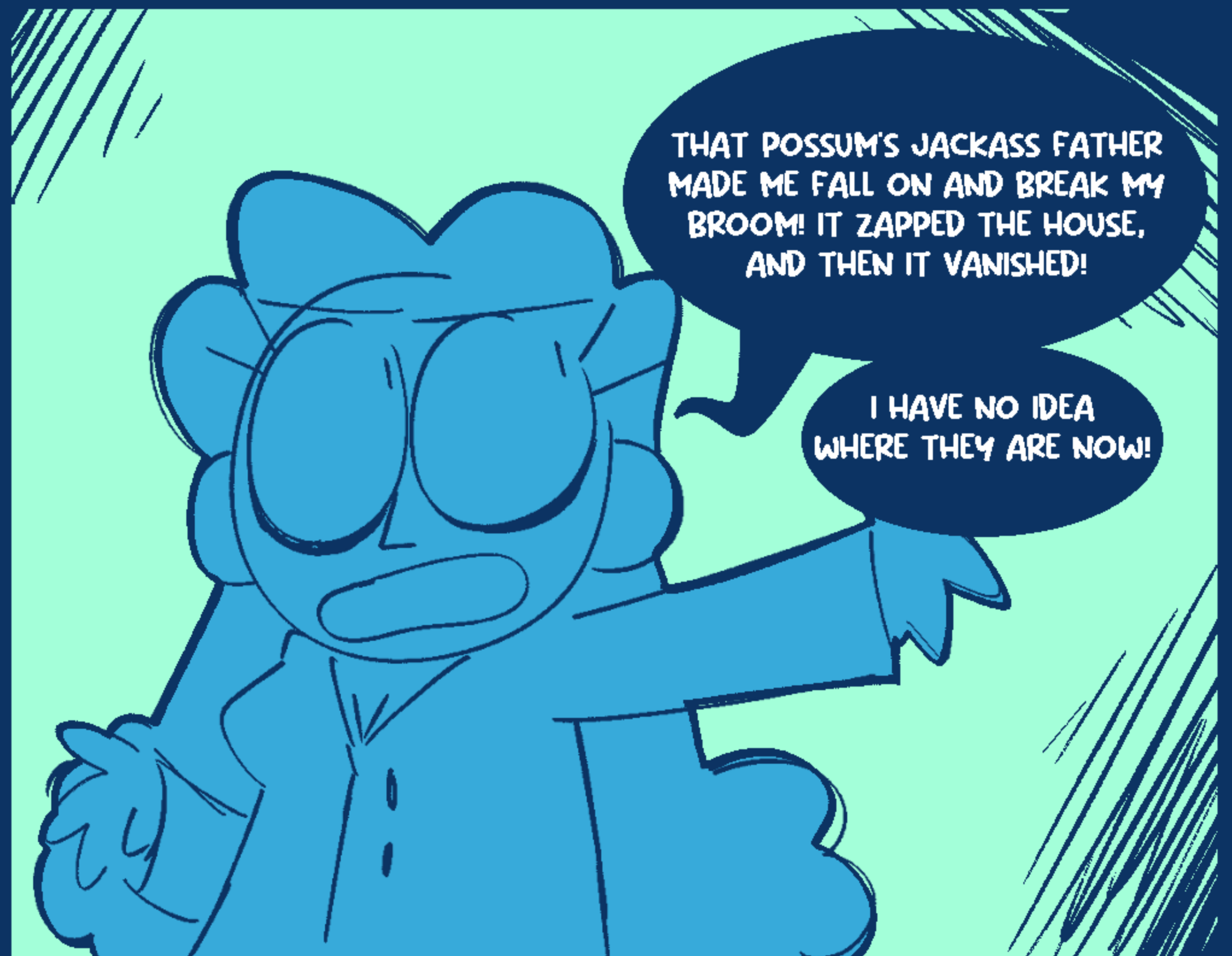
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!! MY OWN SON BETRAYED ME!

I CAN BELIEVE IT.



WHERE THE HELL ARE MY DAUGHTER AND HER FRIENDS?!

NO CLUE, LADY!



THAT POSSUM'S JACKASS FATHER MADE ME FALL ON AND BREAK MY BROOM! IT ZAPPED THE HOUSE, AND THEN IT VANISHED!

I HAVE NO IDEA WHERE THEY ARE NOW!



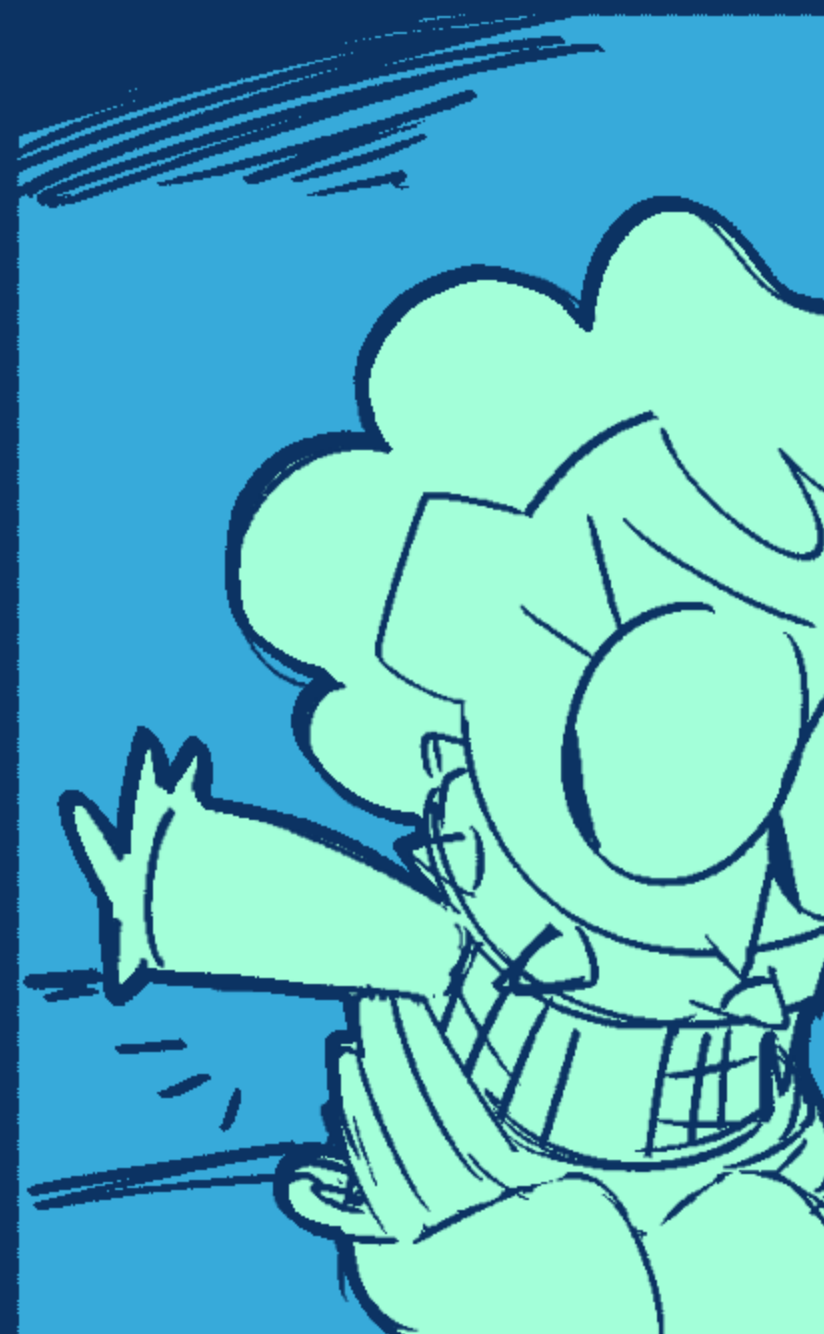
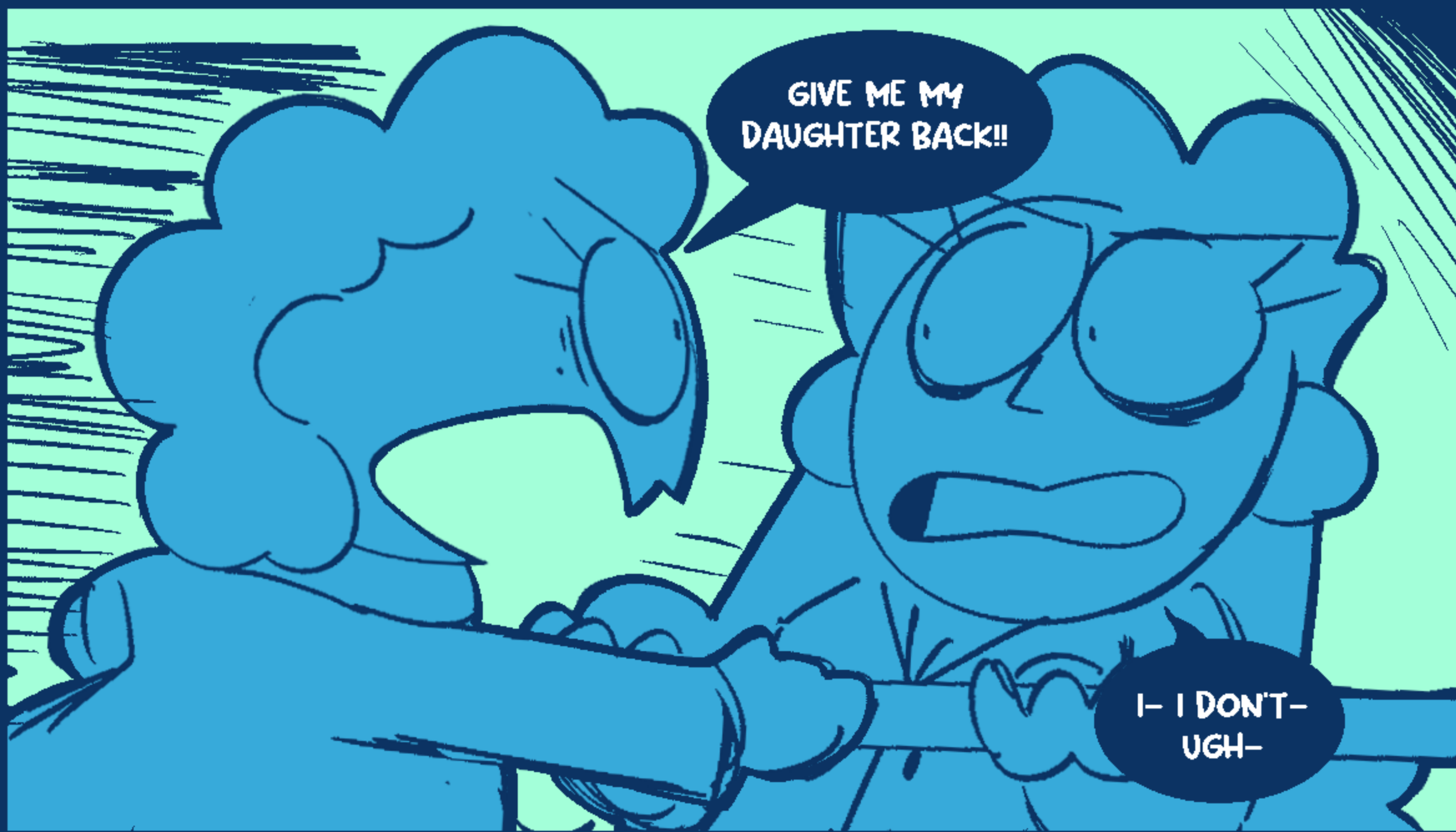
MAYBE THEY'RE DEAD!

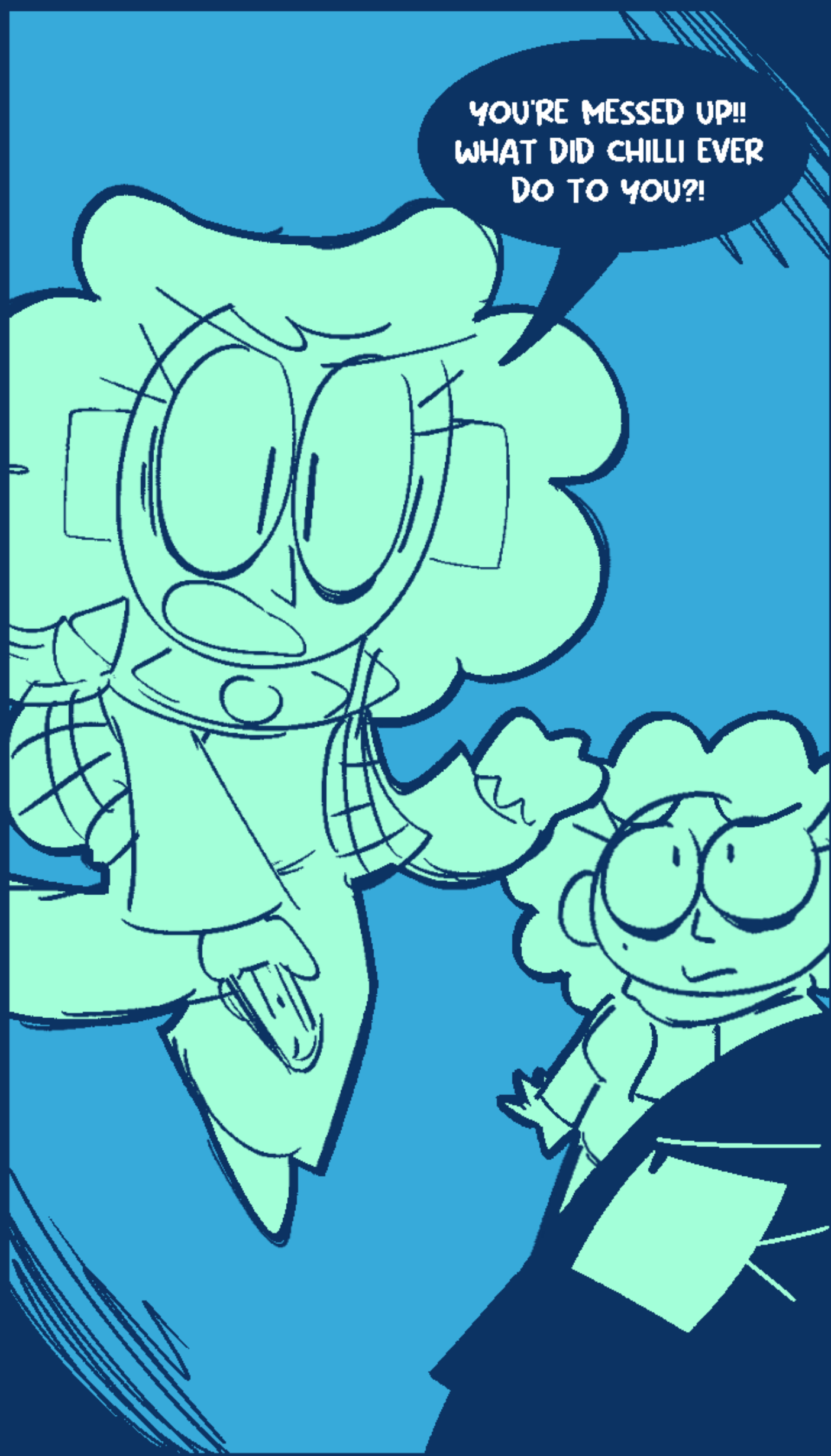
WHO'S TO SAY?



NOW ANYWAY, I'M ABOUT TO ERASE YOUR GUY'S MEMORIES OF ALL THIS, AND HOPEFULLY, WE CAN ALL—

YOU....



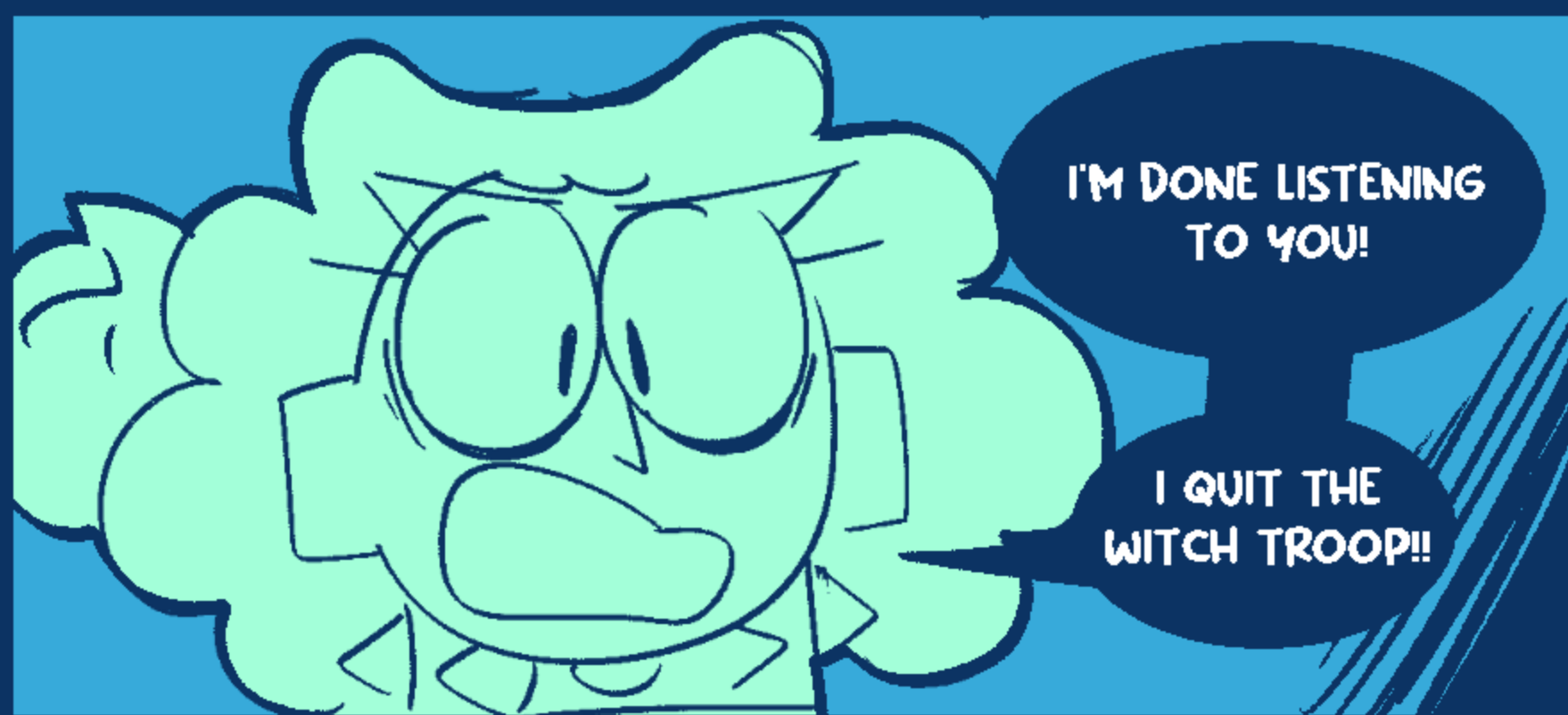


YOU'RE MESSED UP!!
WHAT DID CHILLI EVER
DO TO YOU?!



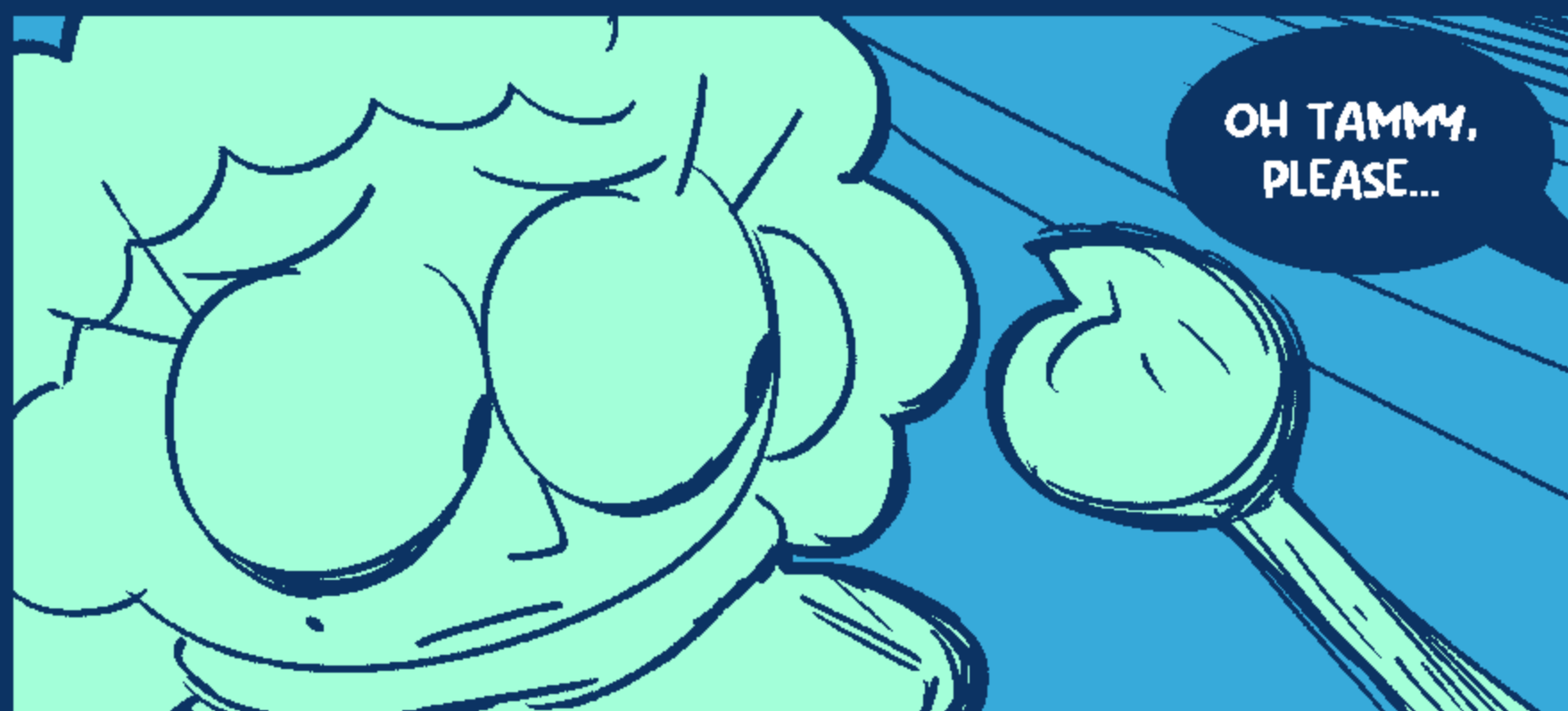
IT'S NOTHING PERSONAL,
TAMMY, IT WAS JUST A
JOB. NOW PLEASE--

NO.

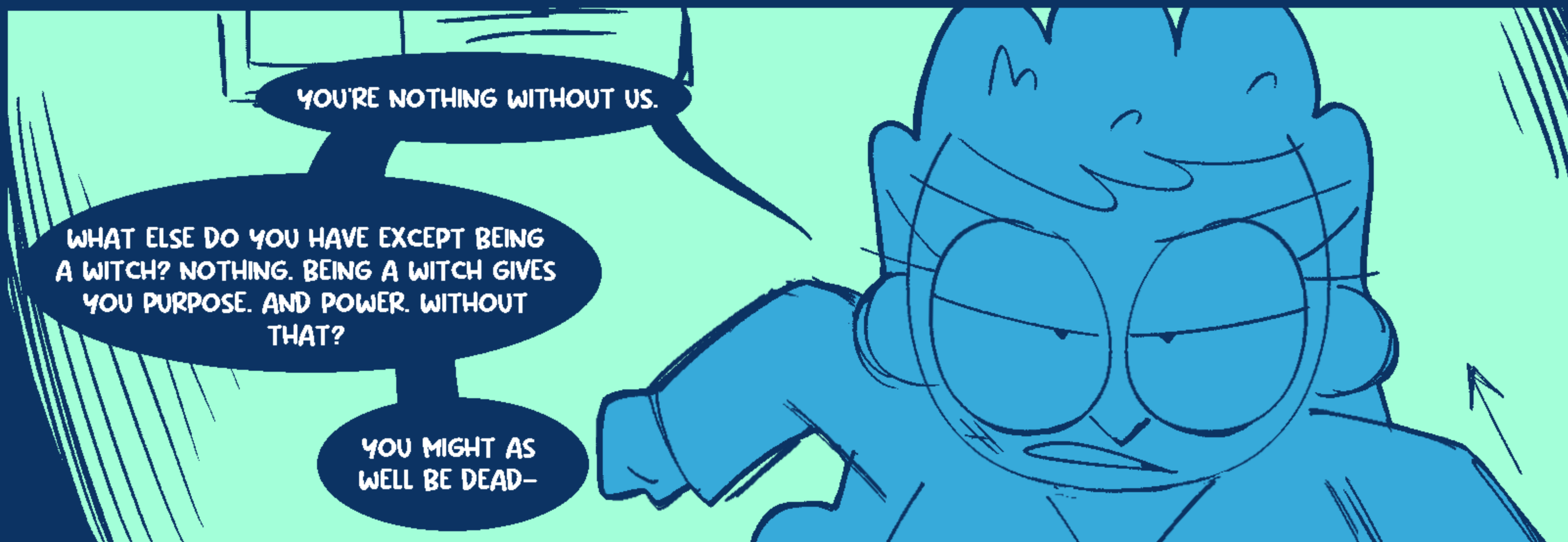


I'M DONE LISTENING
TO YOU!

I QUIT THE
WITCH TROOP!!



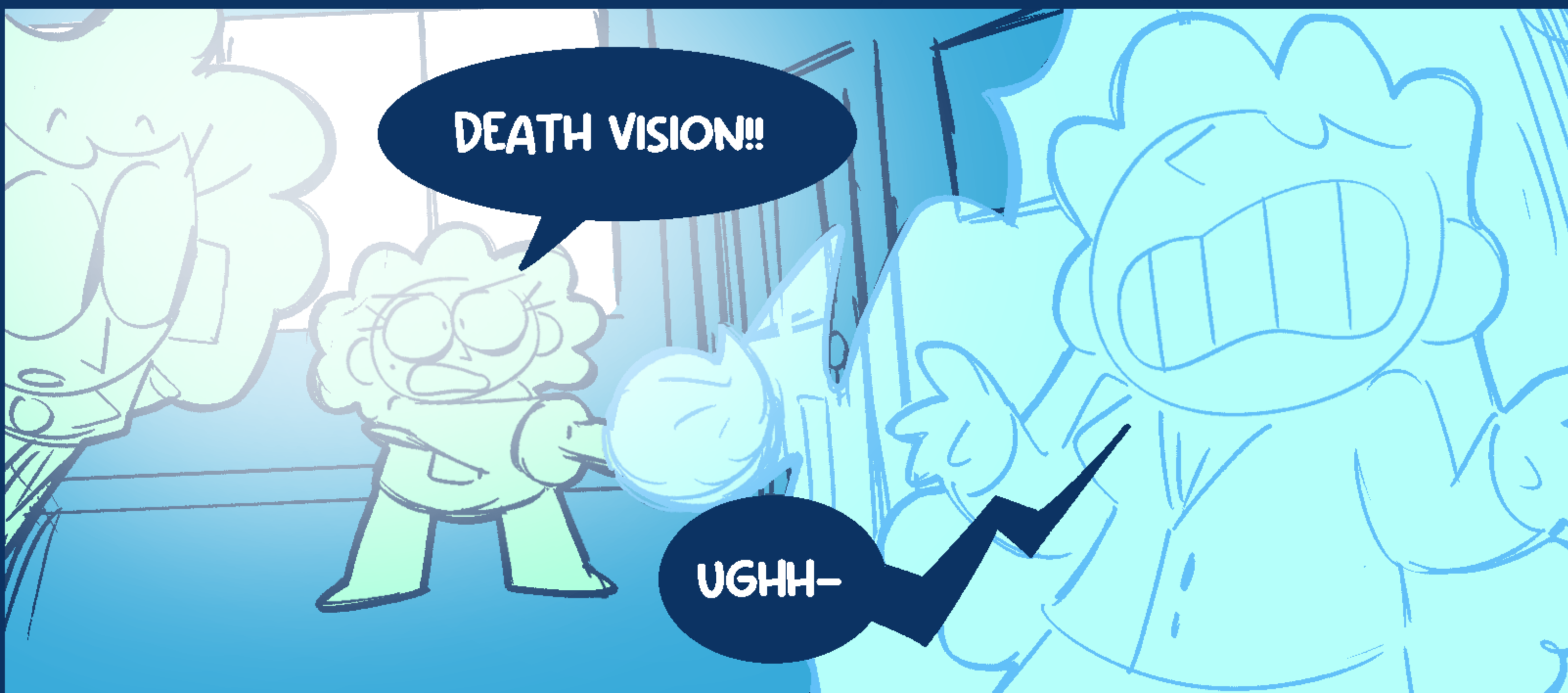
OH TAMMY,
PLEASE...



YOU'RE NOTHING WITHOUT US.

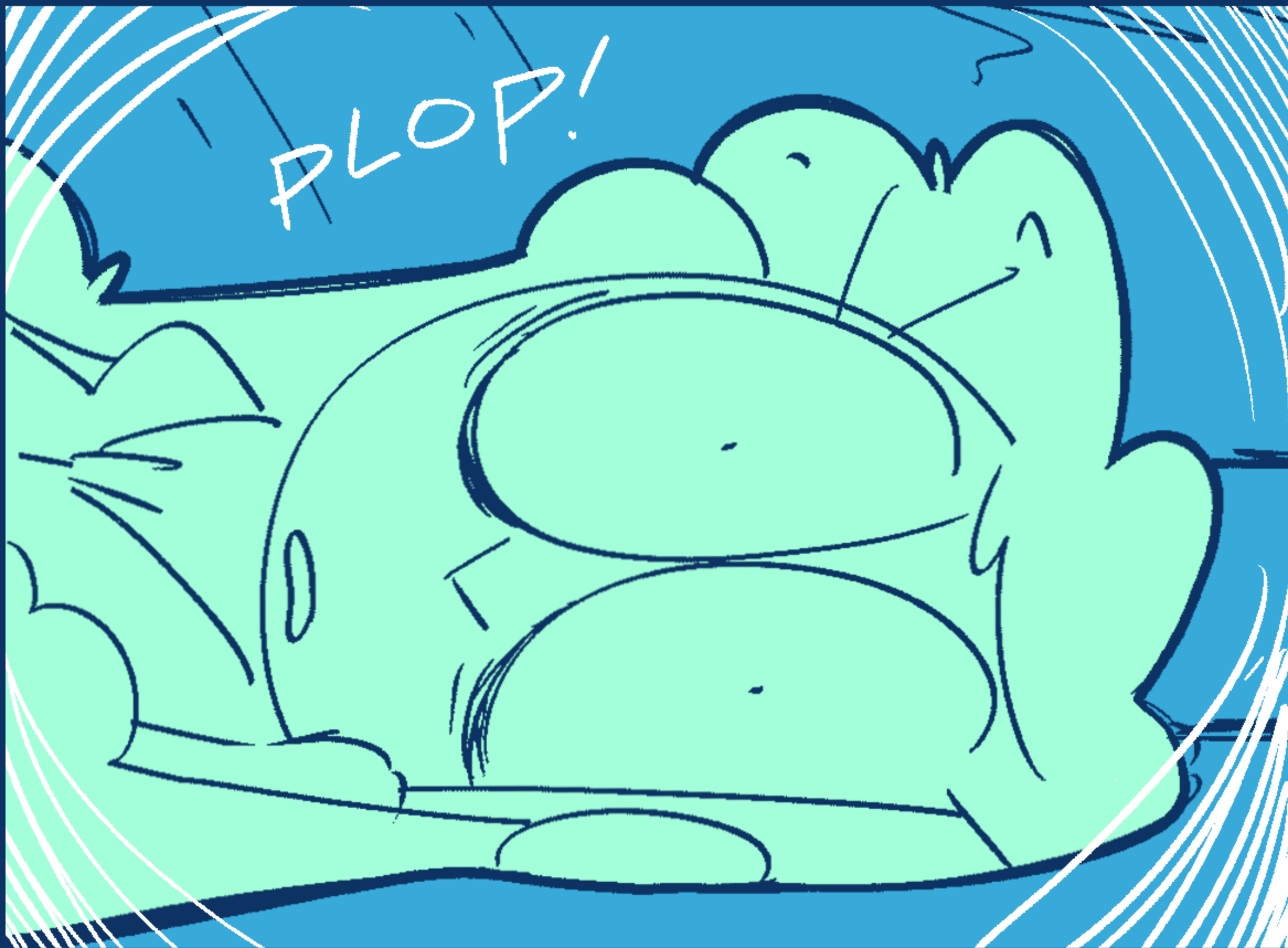
WHAT ELSE DO YOU HAVE EXCEPT BEING
A WITCH? NOTHING. BEING A WITCH GIVES
YOU PURPOSE. AND POWER. WITHOUT
THAT?

YOU MIGHT AS
WELL BE DEAD--

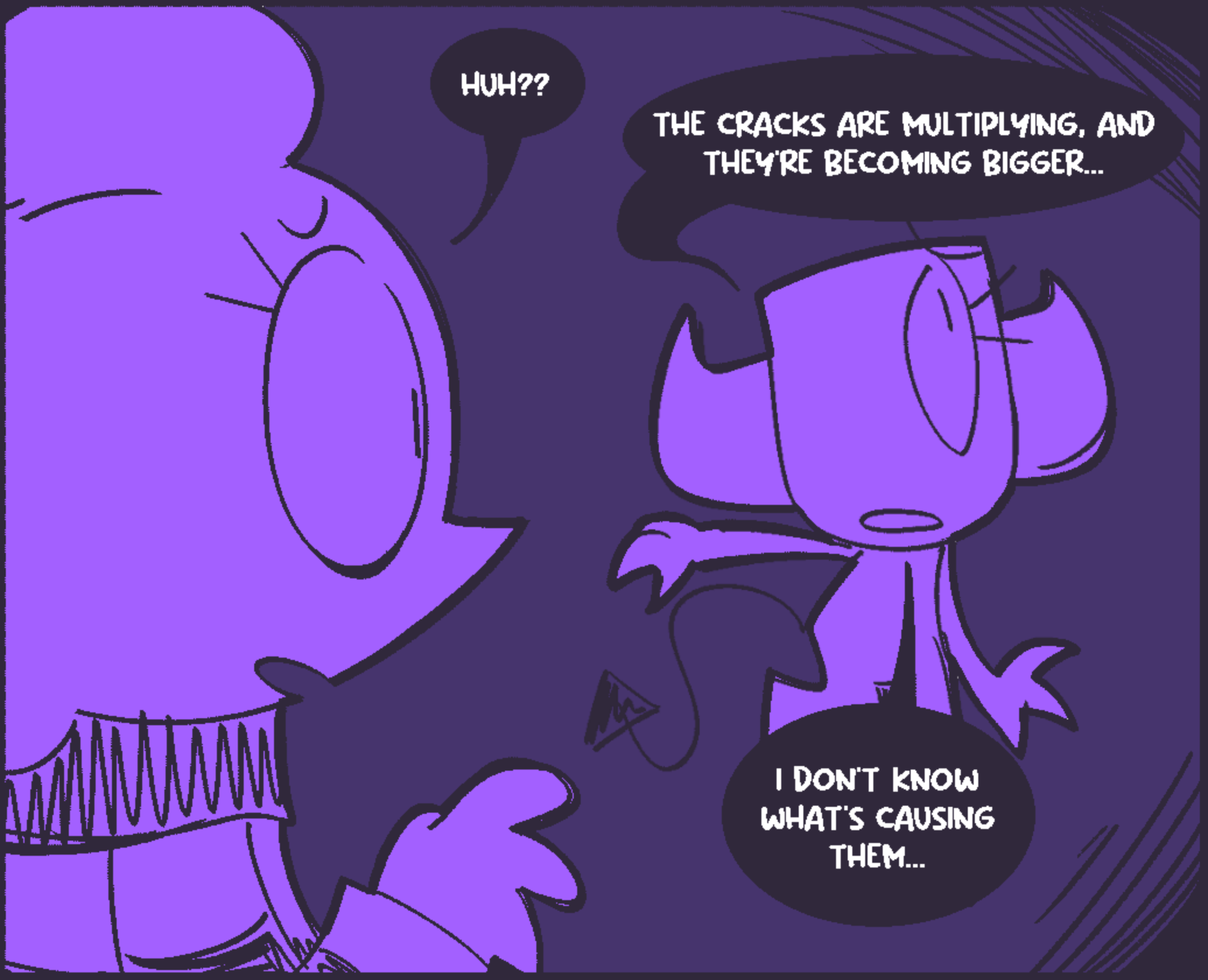


DEATH VISION!!

UGHH--







HUH??

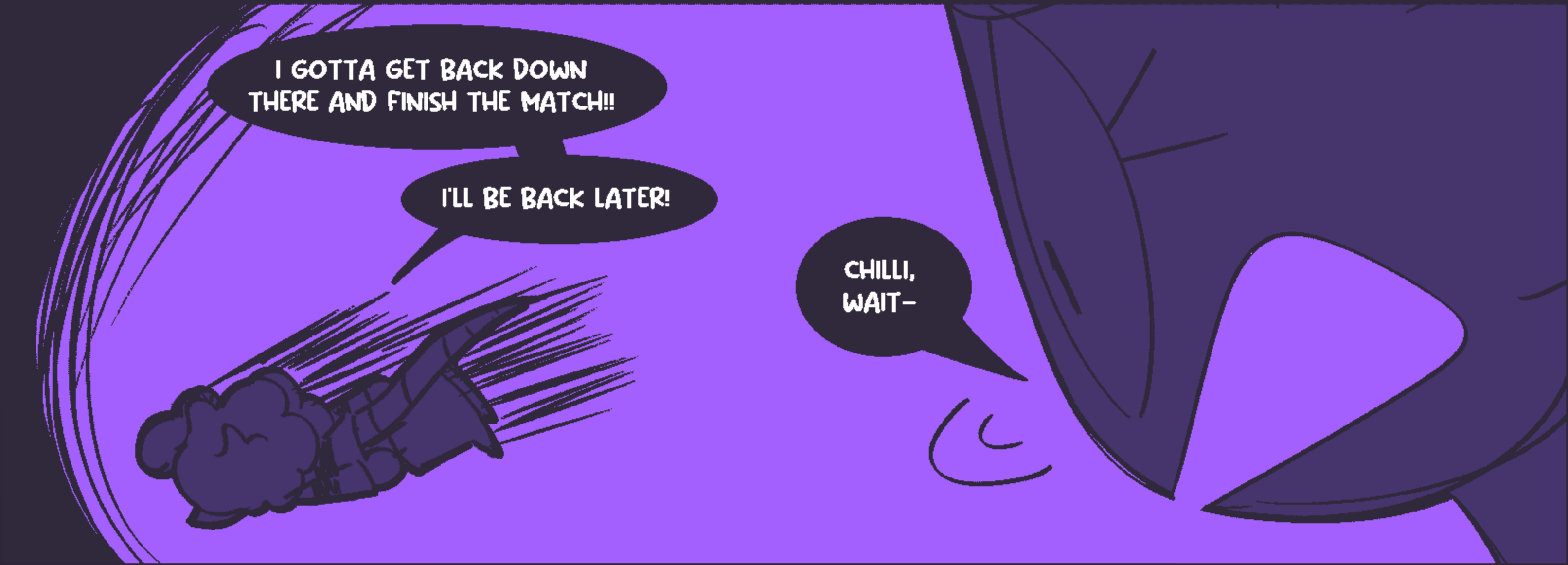
THE CRACKS ARE MULTIPLYING, AND
THEY'RE BECOMING BIGGER...

I DON'T KNOW
WHAT'S CAUSING
THEM...



IF WE DON'T DO
SOMETHING ABOUT
THIS, BAD THINGS
COULD-

SORRY CHERRY,
BUT I DON'T HAVE TIME
TO DEAL WITH THIS-



I GOTTA GET BACK DOWN
THERE AND FINISH THE MATCH!!

I'LL BE BACK LATER!

CHILLI,
WAIT-



~

CHILLI POPPYFIELD
HAS RISEN!

CHILLI MOVES ON
TO THE NEXT ROUND!!

EY I'M BACK,
WHAT'D I MISS?

CHILLI, ARE YOU OKAY?
YOU'RE STILL BLEEDING... :C

HEAD...

HURTS...

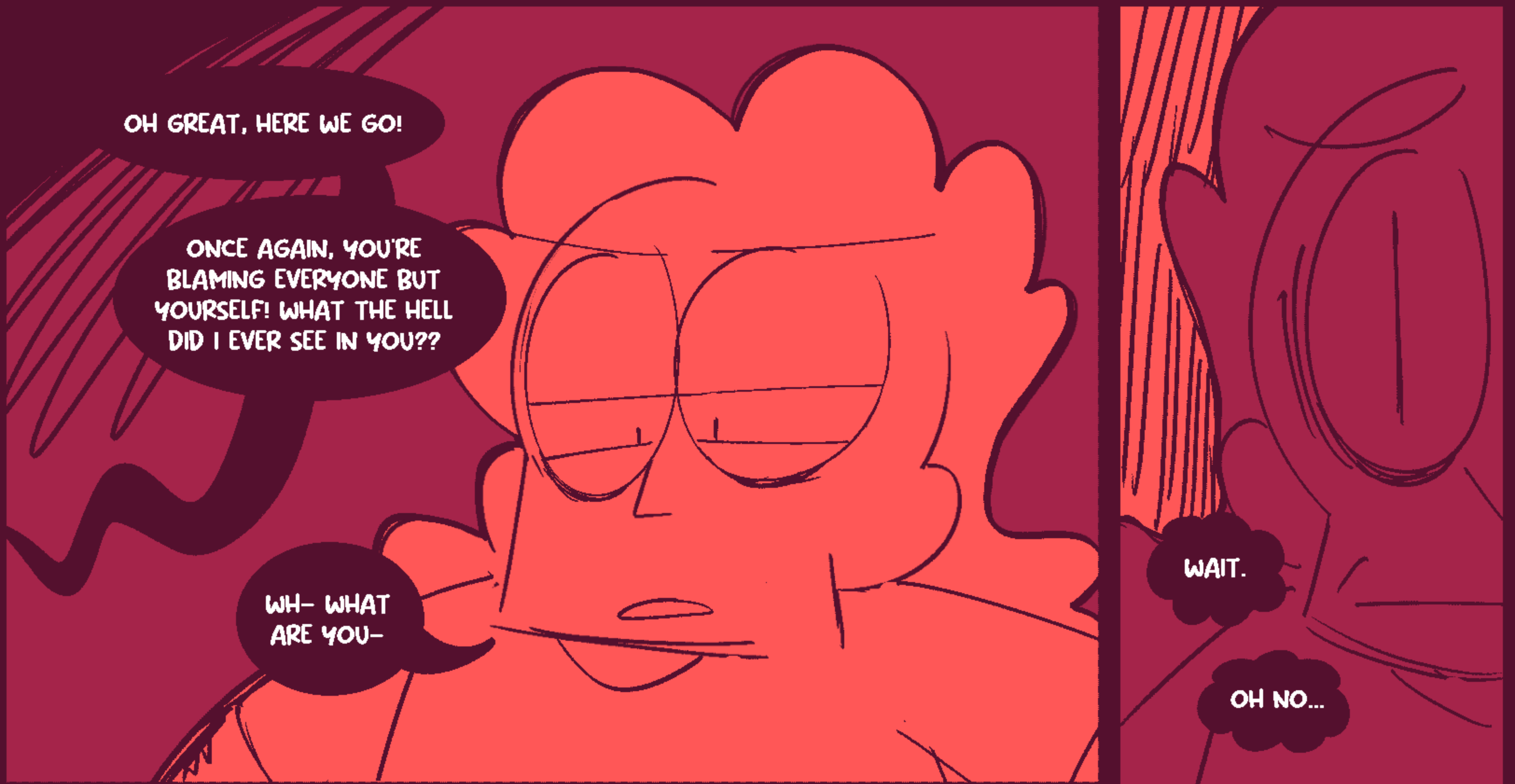
GOOD GOD, CHILLI, YOU
ALMOST LOST US THE
CASH PRIZE MONEY!!

WILL YOU SHUT UP
ABOUT THE STUPID
MONEY, ALREADY?!
HER DAD'S IN TROUBLE!

HER DAD'S IRRELEVANT!
THIS MONEY'S GONNA HELP
CHANGE THE WORLD FOR
THE BETTER!

YOU'VE BEEN A HUGE JERK
TO CHILLI EVER SINCE WE GOT HERE!!
I THINK I'M STARTING TO SEE WHERE
SYNTH GOT ALL HER AWFULNESS
FROM!

DON'T YOU CRITICIZE MY
PARENTING! SHE WAS AWFUL
ALL ON HER OWN!



OH GREAT, HERE WE GO!

ONCE AGAIN, YOU'RE
BLAMING EVERYONE BUT
YOURSELF! WHAT THE HELL
DID I EVER SEE IN YOU??

WH- WHAT
ARE YOU-

WAIT.

OH NO...



GETTING BACK TOGETHER WITH YOU
WAS ONE OF THE BIGGEST MISTAKES OF
MY LIFE!! I SHOULD'VE STAYED FAR AWAY
FROM YOU, BUT I WAS SO DESPERATE...

KILLING YOU WAS THE GREATEST
MOMENT IN MY ENTIRE LIFE!

ANNA WHAT THE
FUCK ARE YOU
TALKING ABOUT?!



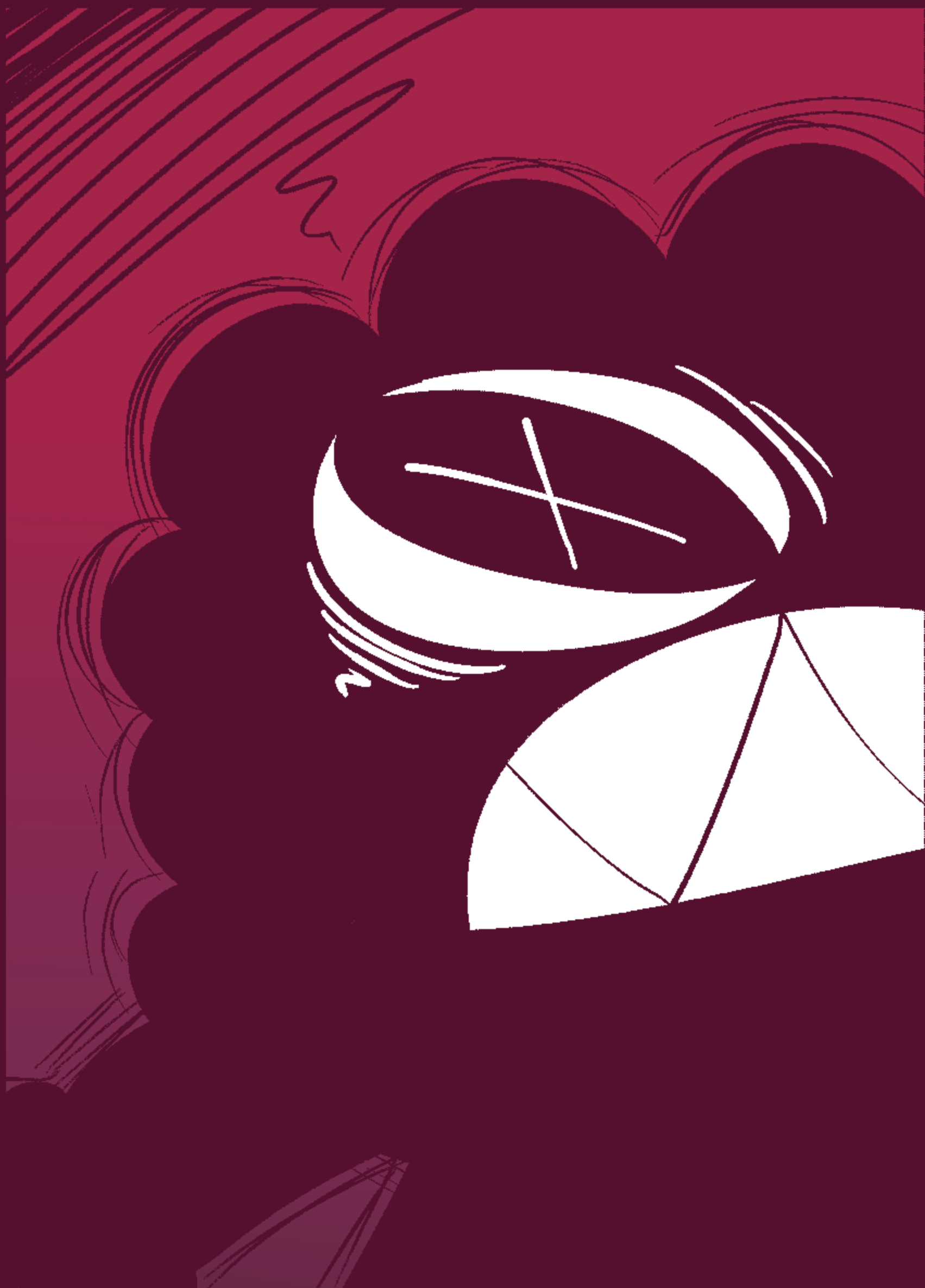
I CAN RECOGNIZE YOUR
SOUL ANYWHERE, DAISY. FACE
ME, YOU COWARD.

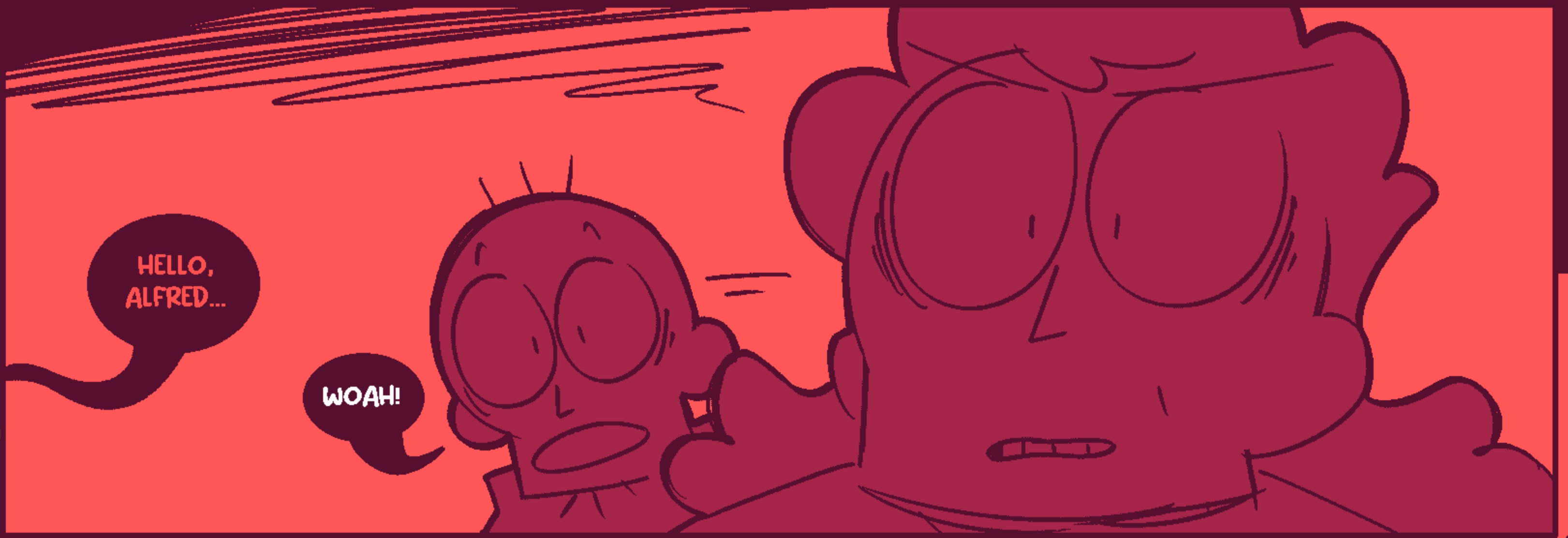
WAIT...

WHAT AM I
TALKING ABOUT-

I KNOW
YOU'RE
IN THERE.

WH- WHAT-





TO BE CONTINUED!!



#21

CHILI

THE VAMPIRE OPOSSUM



"WITCHES AND WEAPONS"
PART FOUR

TW:

ANXIETY

BLOOD

BREAKDOWNS

BRIGHT COLORS

CANCER

DEATH

EYES

FIGHTING

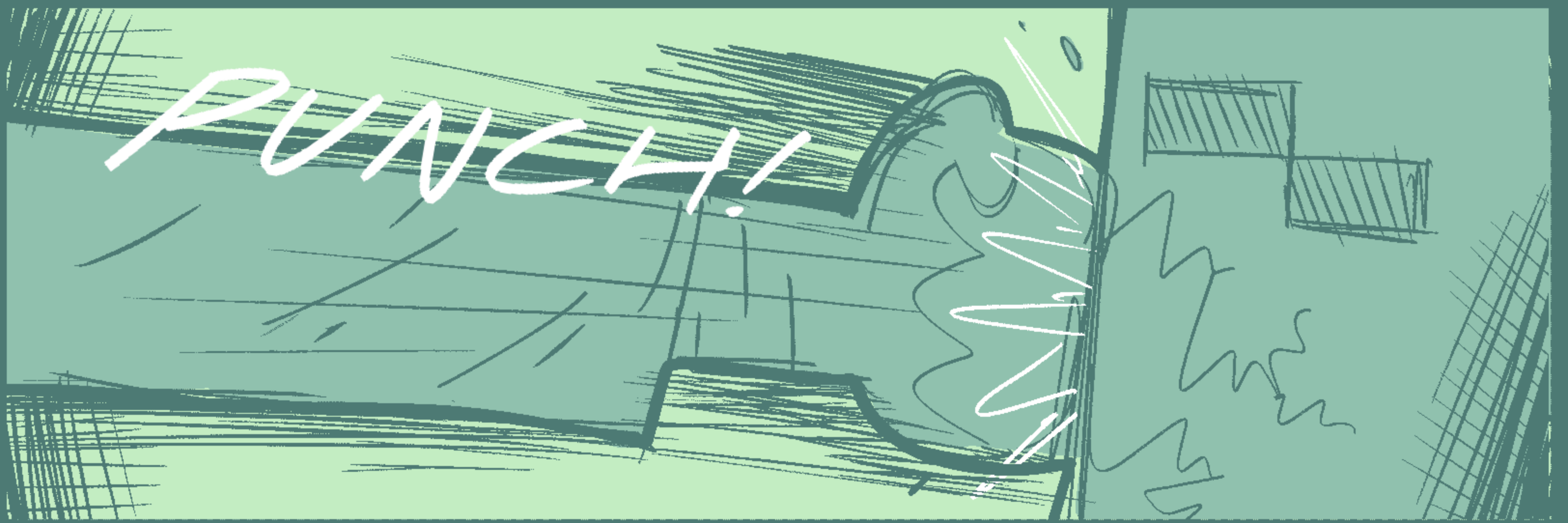
POSSESSION

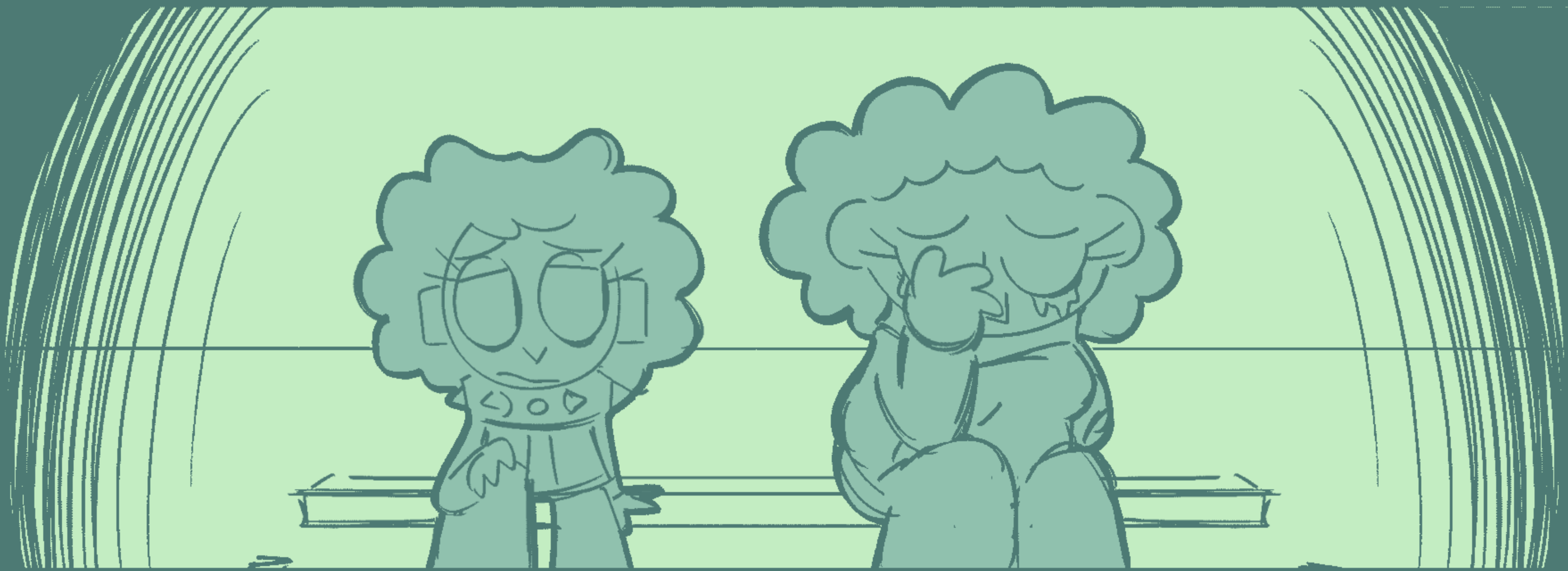
PTSD

REFERENCES TO SELF HARM

STABBING

TEETH







ANNA ASKED ME IF I WANTED TO HANG OUT WITH HER AND ILI THAT DAY, BUT I WAS BUSY, SO I COULDN'T.

IF I HAD BEEN THERE... MAYBE I COULD'VE STOPPED IT FROM HAPPENING.

BUT NOW THEY MIGHT BE GONE FOREVER... AND EVEN IF I WERE THERE... WHAT COULD I HAVE ACTUALLY DONE?



PROBABLY WOULD'VE JUST MADE THINGS WORSE, ANYWAY...

TAMMY...



I MEAN, THAT'S MY THING, RIGHT?! I'M THE ONE WHO ALWAYS MAKES THINGS WORSE, RIGHT?!

I DESTROYED MY LEGS DURING FUNGUS, WHICH SLOWED US DOWN AND NEARLY COST US OUR LIVES!

I DIDN'T STOP THAT KNIFE FROM STABBING CHILLI IN TIME, AND NOW SHE HAS A GIANT SCAR OVER HER EYE!

MY ARGUMENT WITH YOU CAUSED THAT LIGHTHOUSE DEMON INCIDENT TO HAPPEN.

AND ME CALLING SYNTH A BITCH LED TO THE FIGHT, WHICH LED TO HER DYING, WHICH LED TO ALL OF WHAT'S GOING ON RIGHT NOW!

I'M... I'M ALWAYS FUCKING THINGS UP...



TAMMY, THAT'S NOT TRUE...



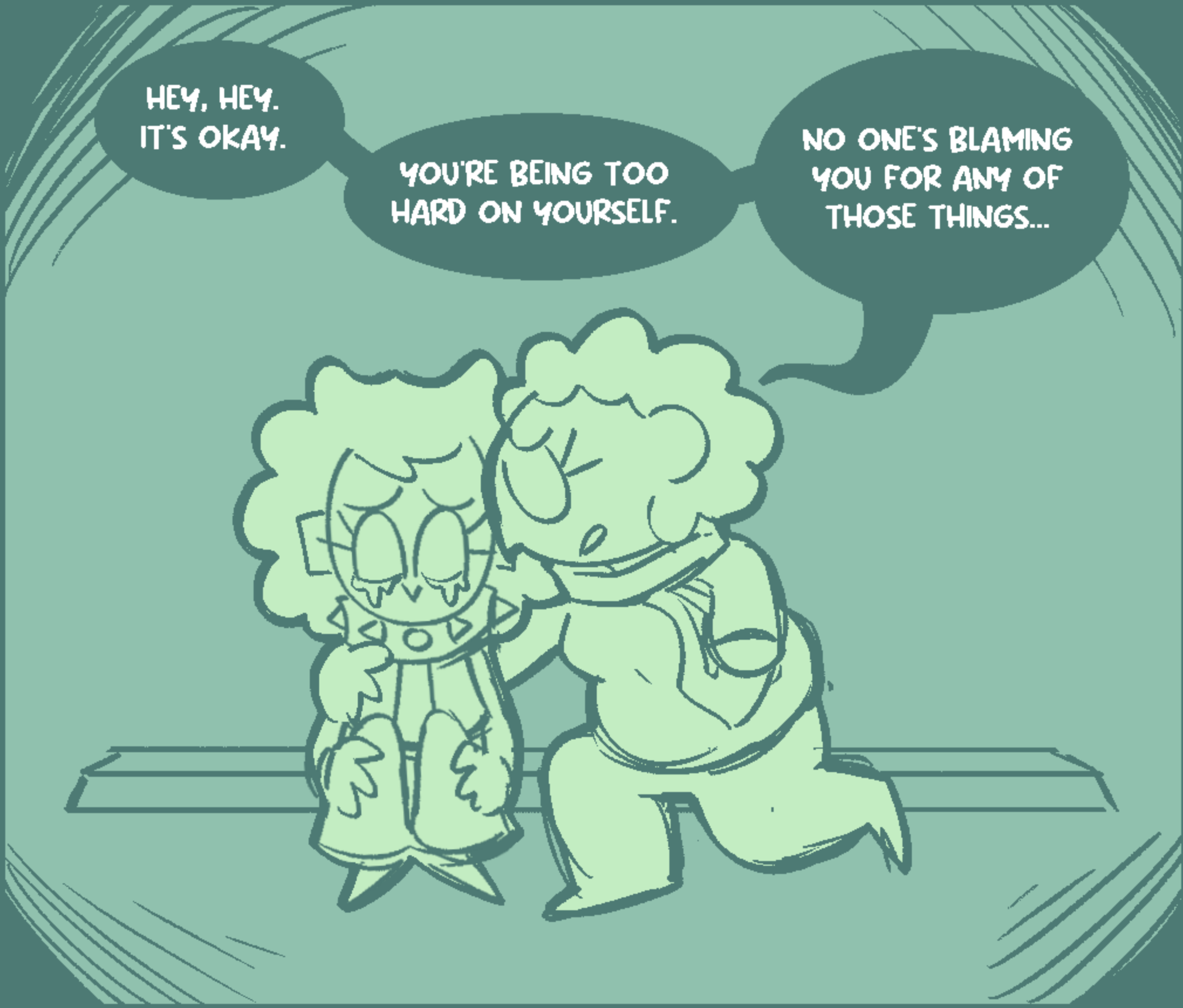


IT'S KINDA CRAZY HOW FAST IT HAPPENED, ACTUALLY, HAHA. ONE DAY HE'S FINE, NEXT DAY HE WAS DIAGNOSED WITH CANCER, THEN THREE WEEKS LATER, HE'S DEAD.





IT'S ALL MY FAULT... IT'S...
IT'S ALWAYS MY FAULT... I...



HEY, HEY.
IT'S OKAY.

YOU'RE BEING TOO
HARD ON YOURSELF.

NO ONE'S BLAMING
YOU FOR ANY OF
THOSE THINGS...



I... KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO
BLAME YOURSELF... FOR SITUATIONS
OUT OF YOUR CONTROL.

FOR A LONG TIME, I... I BLAMED
MYSELF... FOR THE DEATHS OF MY
FRIENDS. I WAS CONVINCED THEY
WERE DEAD BECAUSE OF ME...

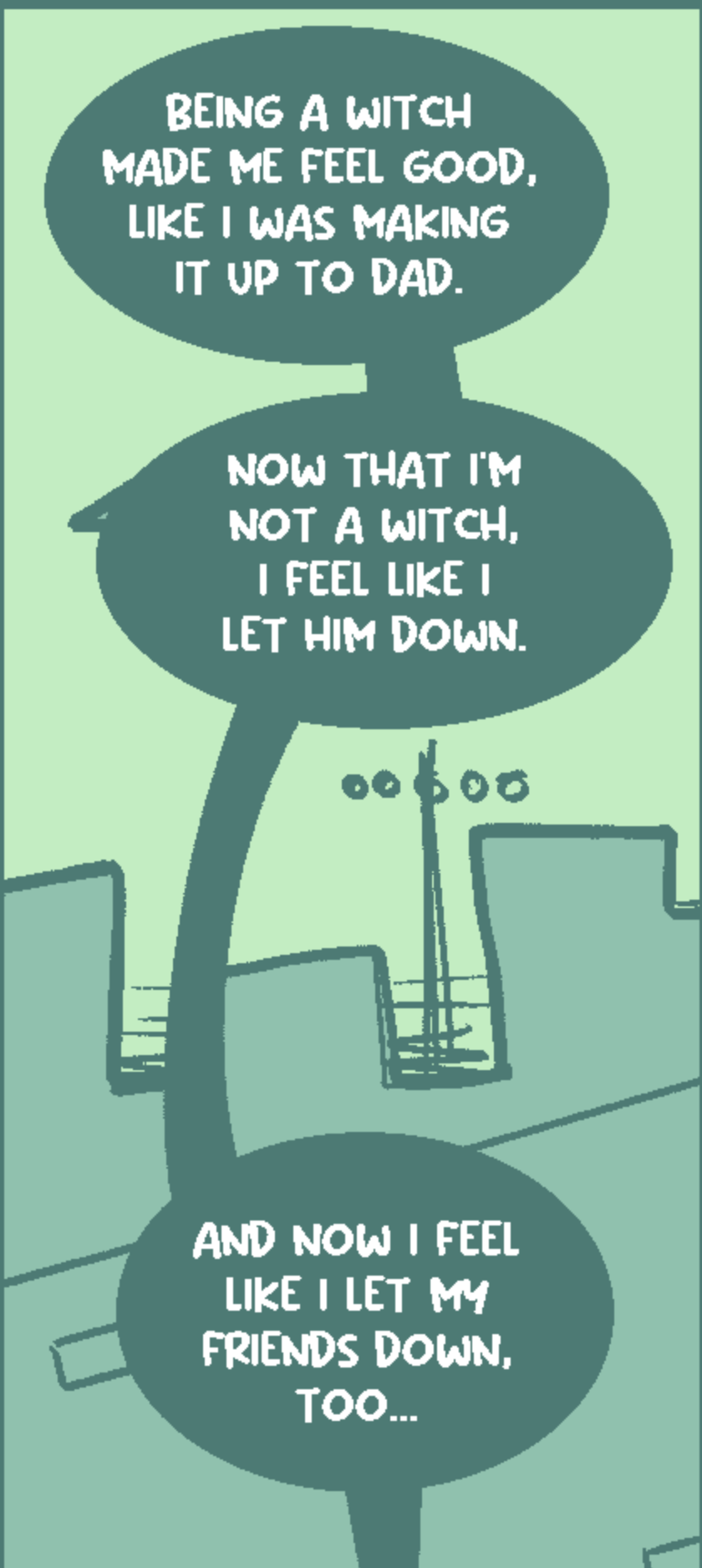
IT TOOK... YEARS... FOR ME TO
ACCEPT THAT WHAT HAPPENED
WASN'T MY FAULT.



YOU DIDN'T GIVE YOUR DAD CANCER.
YOU DIDN'T STAB CHILLI.

YOU'VE DONE
NOTHING WRONG.

E-EVEN IF... THAT WERE TRUE...
I ... I'M STILL FAILING EVERYONE...



BEING A WITCH
MADE ME FEEL GOOD,
LIKE I WAS MAKING
IT UP TO DAD.

NOW THAT I'M
NOT A WITCH,
I FEEL LIKE I
LET HIM DOWN.

AND NOW I FEEL
LIKE I LET MY
FRIENDS DOWN,
TOO...

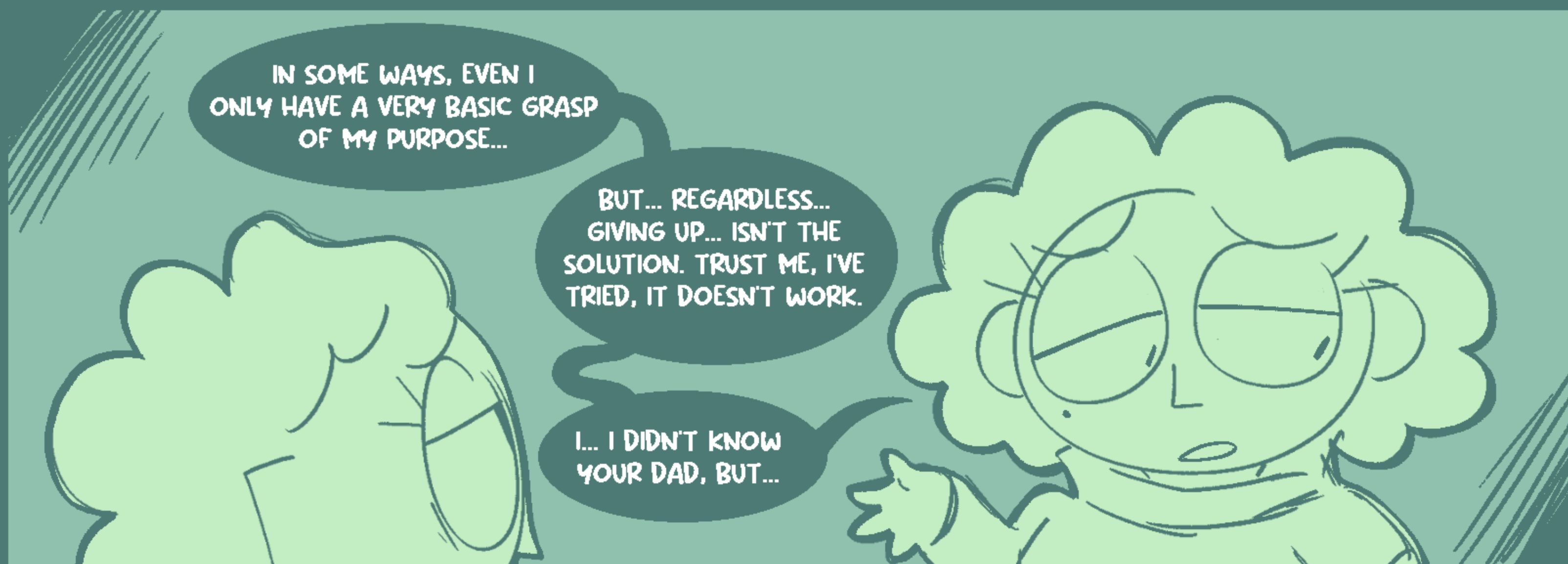


I DON'T KNOW
MY PURPOSE
ANYMORE...

AND I JUST FEEL
LIKE GIVING UP...

WELL...
THAT'S OKAY.
YOU DON'T
NEED TO KNOW
THAT RIGHT
NOW.

YOU'RE STILL LEARNING.
STILL GROWING.



IN SOME WAYS, EVEN I
ONLY HAVE A VERY BASIC GRASP
OF MY PURPOSE...

BUT... REGARDLESS...
GIVING UP... ISN'T THE
SOLUTION. TRUST ME, I'VE
TRIED, IT DOESN'T WORK.

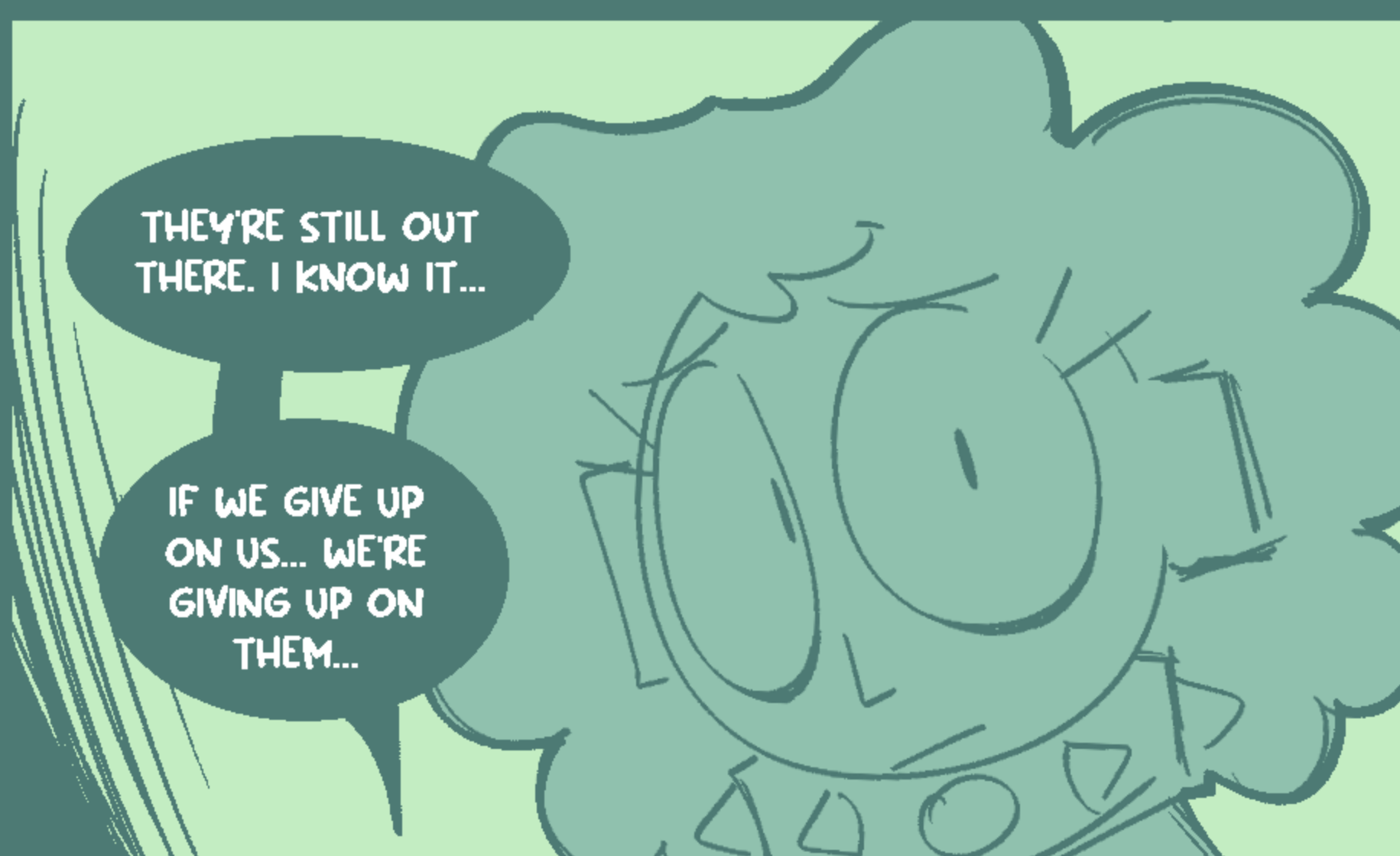
I... I DIDN'T KNOW
YOUR DAD, BUT...



IF WHAT YOU SAY IS TRUE...
THAT HE REALLY BELIEVED IN
YOU... HE WOULD WANT YOU
TO KEEP GOING...

JUST LIKE... HOW MY OLD FRIENDS...
WOULD WANT ME TO KEEP GOING...

AND... JUST LIKE HOW ANNA
AND THE OTHERS... WOULD WANT
US TO KEEP GOING...

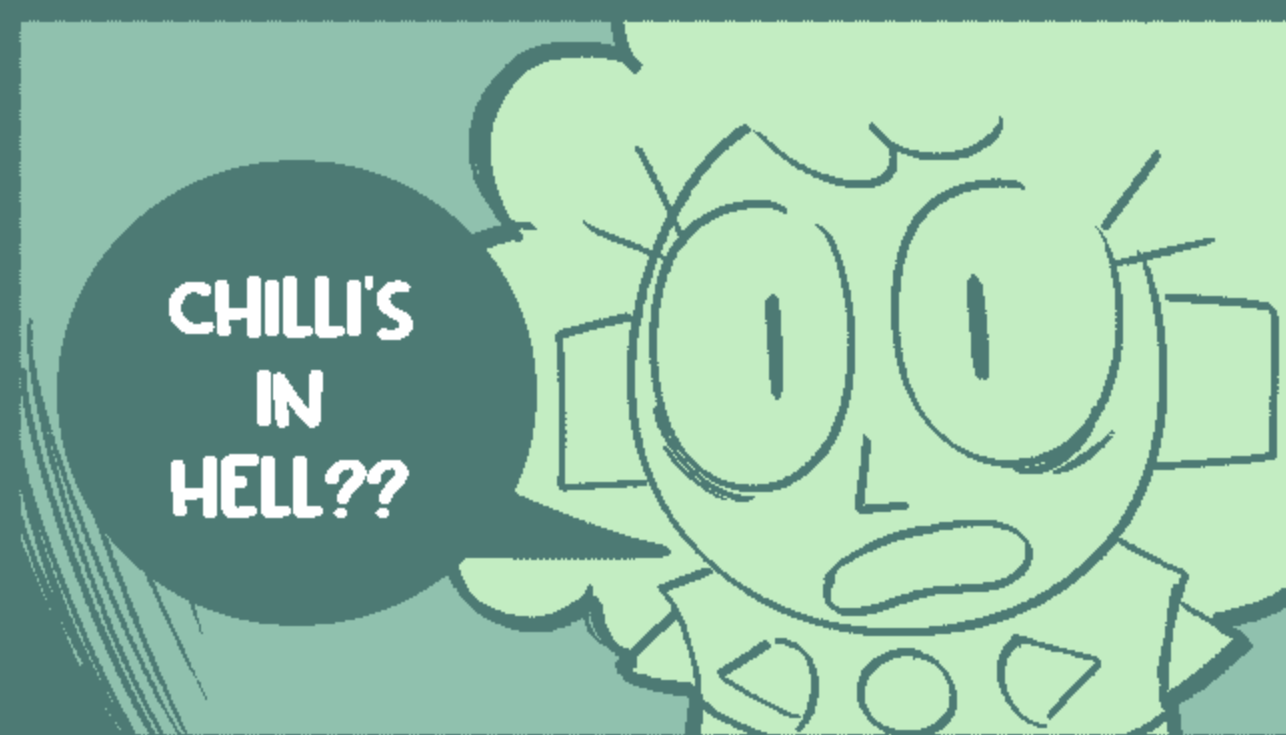
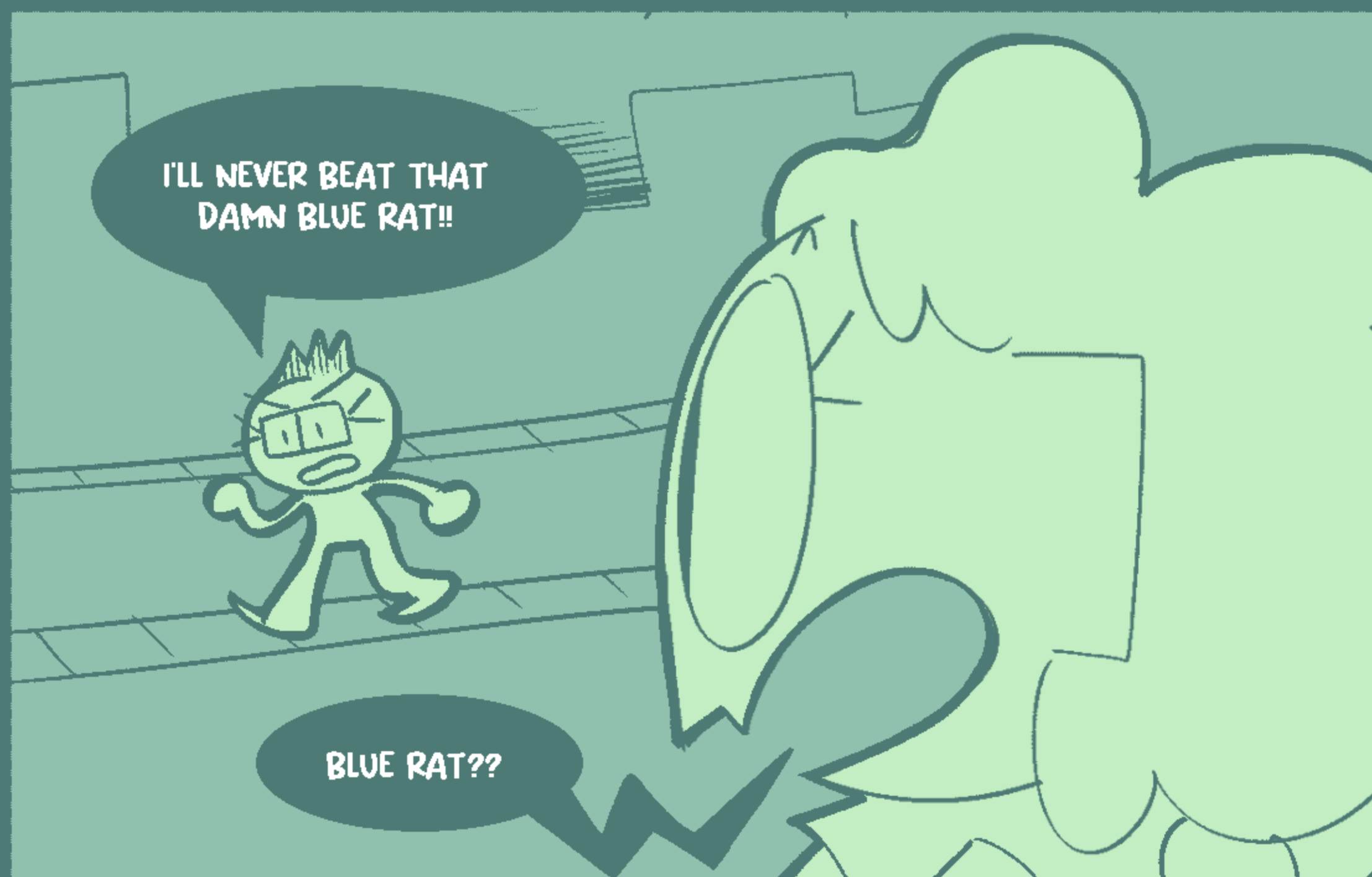
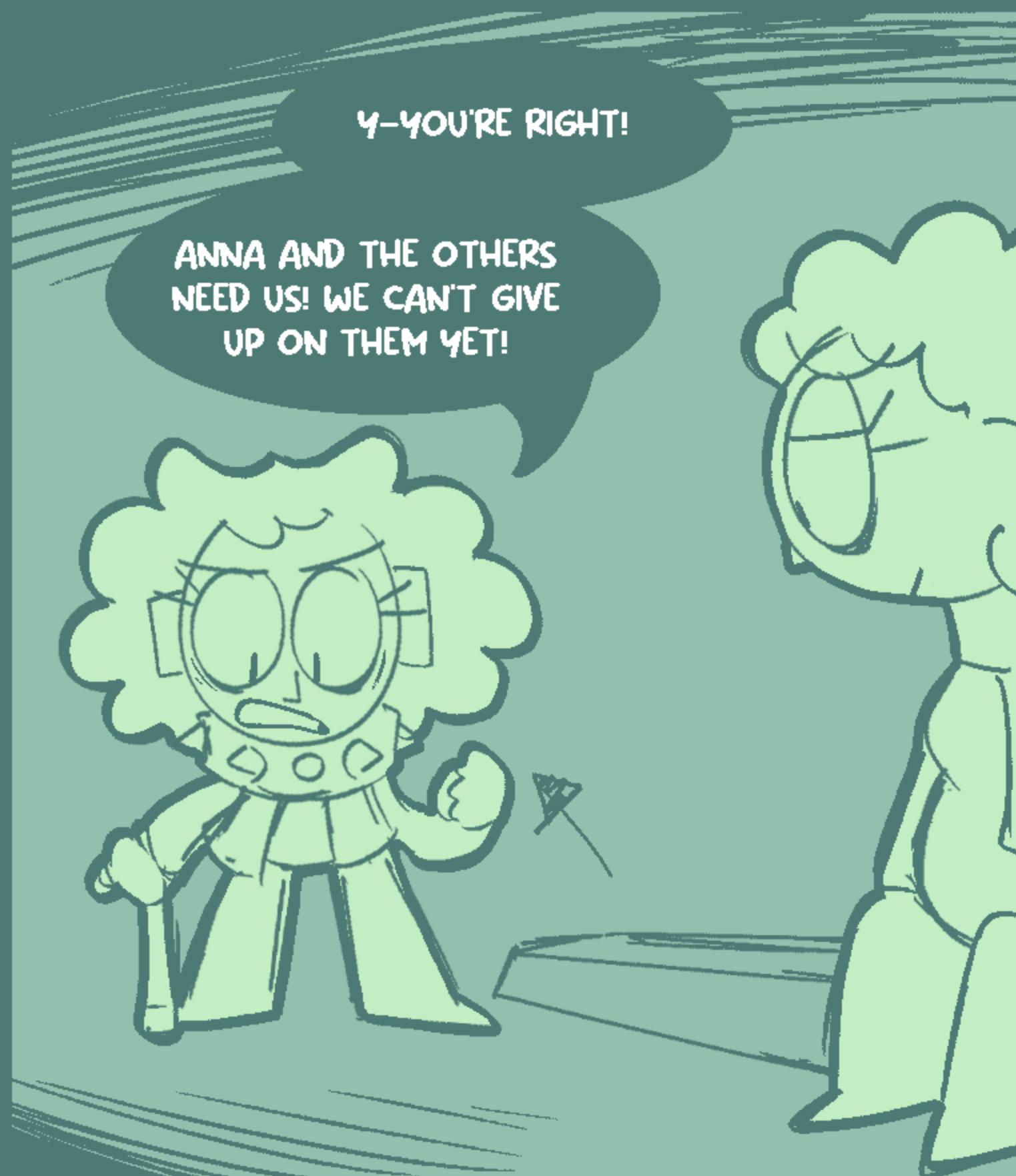


THEY'RE STILL OUT
THERE. I KNOW IT...

IF WE GIVE UP
ON US... WE'RE
GIVING UP ON
THEM...



WE'VE GOT TO
KEEP GOING.
WE'VE GOT TO
KEEP GOING.
WE'VE GOT TO
KEEP GOING.



B-BUT HOW?!

I THOUGHT WE
DEFEATED YOU AT
THE LIGHTHOUSE?!

ALAS, MY DEFEAT WAS TEMPORARY.

WHEN ANNA TORE OFF MY HORN,
I KNEW MY BODY WOULD COLLAPSE.
SO IN A MOMENT OF QUICK THINKING,
I SCRATCHED UP HER ARM, CREATING
AN OPEN WOUND.

ONCE MY BODY DIED,
MY SOUL SNUCK THROUGH THE
SCAR OPENINGS, AND I HID RIGHT
BEHIND HER BRAIN AS I WAITED FOR
MY BODY TO HEAL...

SHE HAD NO IDEA I WAS THERE,
AND APART FROM A FEW HEADACHES,
I WAS UNDETECTABLE!

OF COURSE,
I SHOULD'VE KNOWN THAT
ALFRED WOULD'VE IMMEDIATELY
RECOGNIZED MY SOUL...



ARE YOU THE REASON
WE'RE STUCK IN HELL??

NAH. BUT IT'S A REALLY
FORTUNATE COINCIDENCE
FOR ME...

BECAUSE NOW I CAN BEGIN
DOING WHAT I'VE FAILED TO
DO BY MYSELF...

AND WHILE WORKING WITH
MY SISTER IS A HUGE
PAIN IN THE ASS...

I SUPPOSE IT'S TRULY
THE ONLY WAY
THE PROPHECY
CAN BE FULFILLED!



THE... THE PROPHECY...

TOLD YA.



W-WAIT, WHAT PROPHECY?

THE... THE ONE
THAT SAYS I'M
DESTINED TO DESTROY
ALL OF HUMANITY...

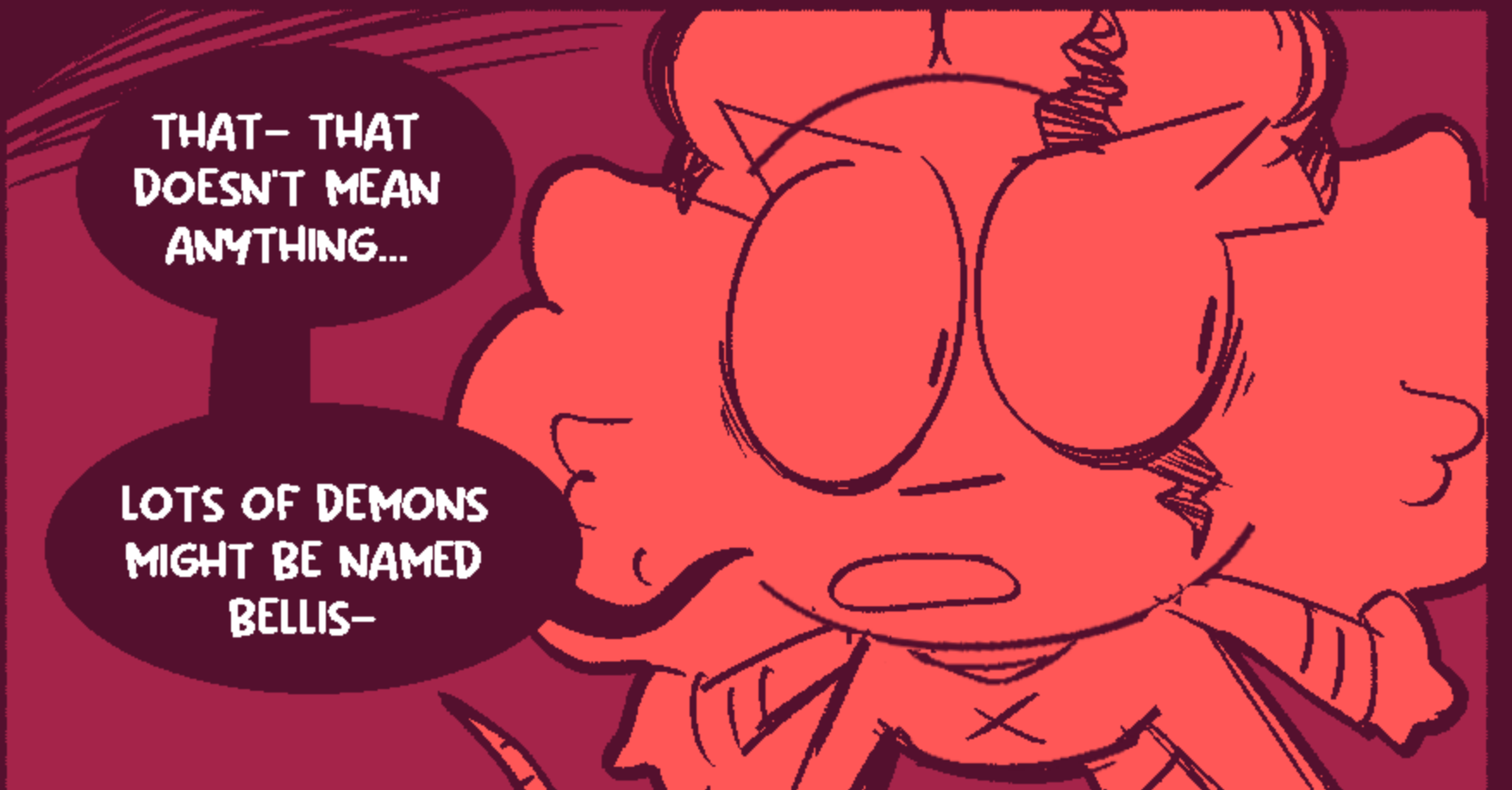
...OH... SHIT.



AH, SO YOU'VE
ALREADY BEEN
TOLD?

Y-YEAH, AND
IT'S NOT TRUE!
IT'S ALL LIES!!

OH? IS YOUR
MOTHER'S NAME NOT
"BELLIS?"



THAT- THAT
DOESN'T MEAN
ANYTHING...

LOTS OF DEMONS
MIGHT BE NAMED
BELLIS-

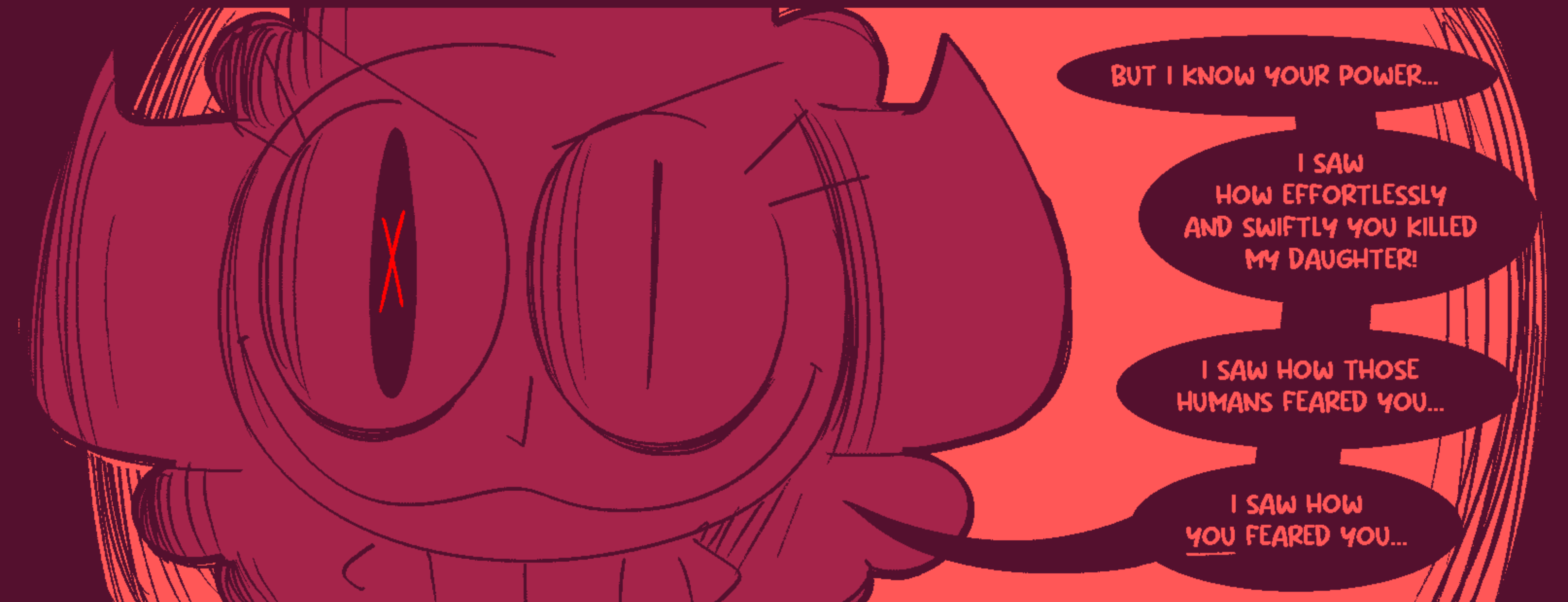


OH PLEASE, CHARLOTTE,
DON'T KID YOURSELF...

THIS WAS WHAT I WAS
TRYING TO TELL YOU ABOUT
BACK AT THE LIGHTHOUSE!

YOU DON'T NEED HUMANITY!
YOU DON'T NEED TO BEFRIEND
HUMANS! CAUSE SOONER OR LATER,
YOU'RE JUST GONNA END UP
KILLING THEM!

THE HUMANS MAKE YOU WEAK!

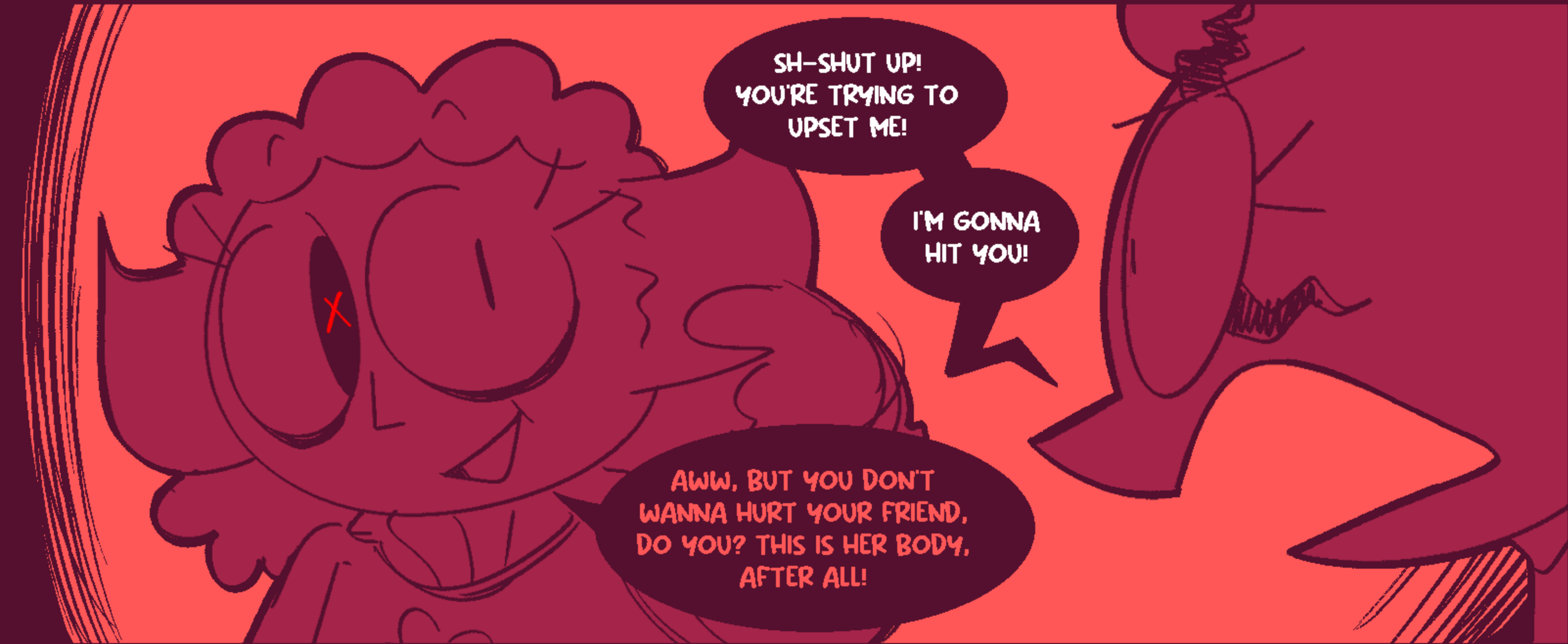


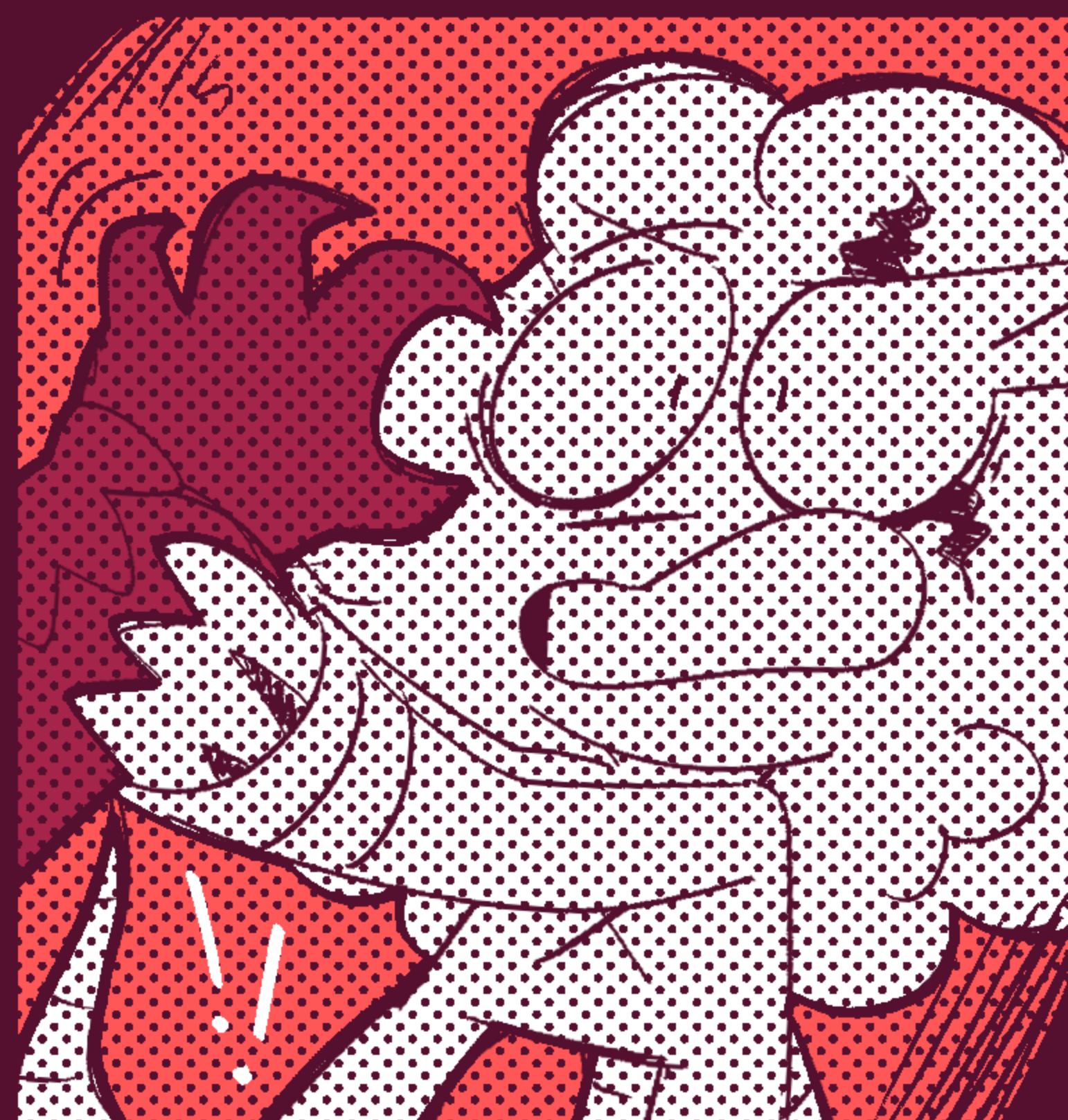
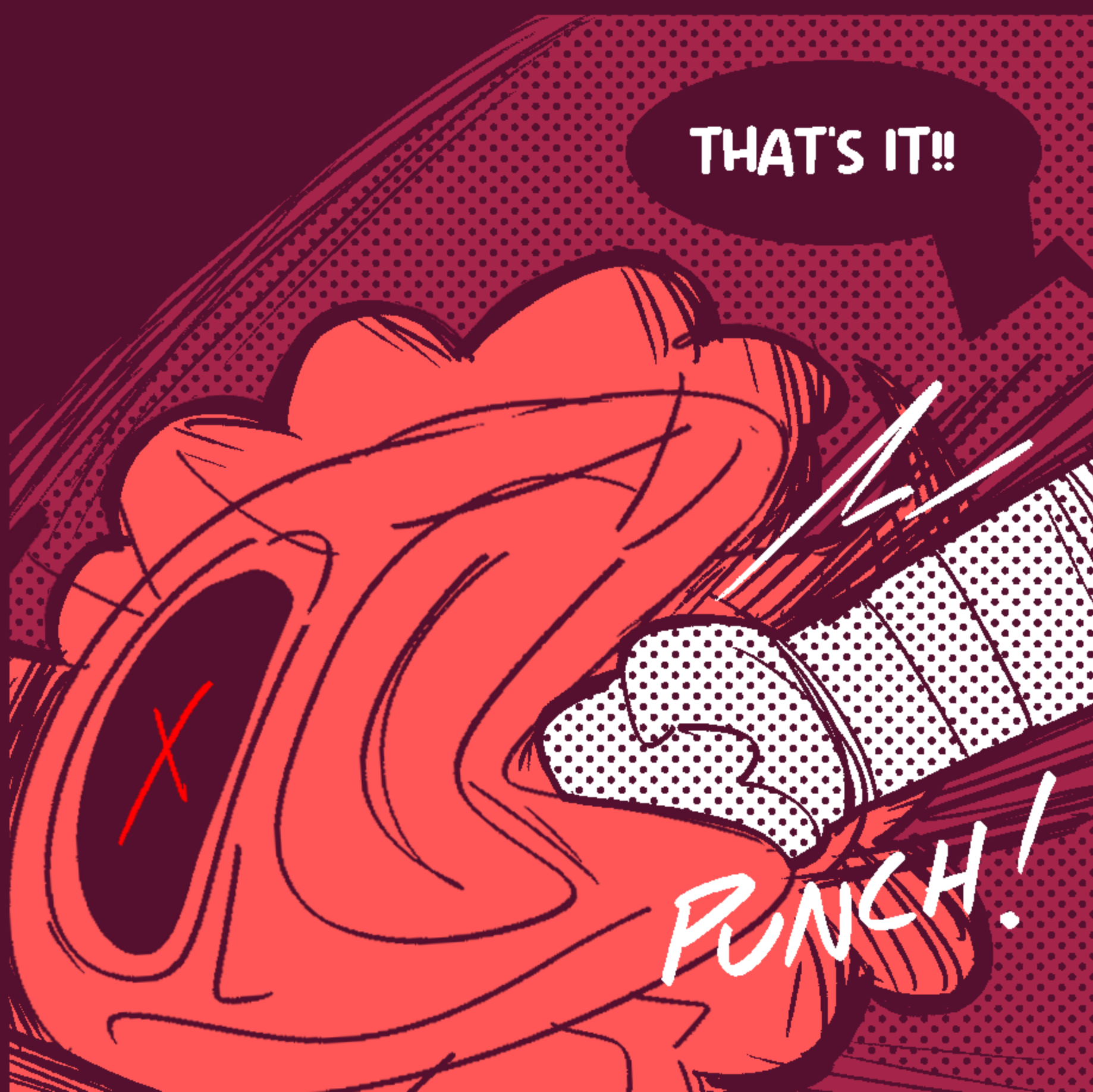
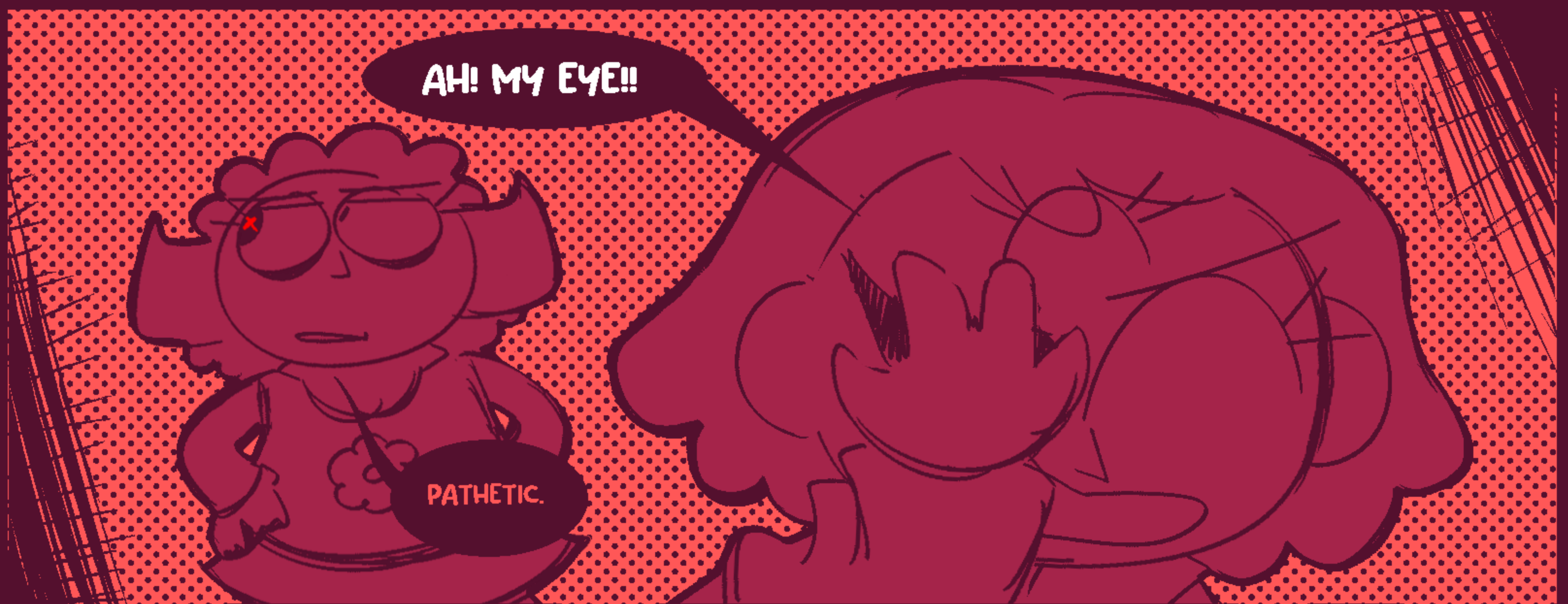
BUT I KNOW YOUR POWER...

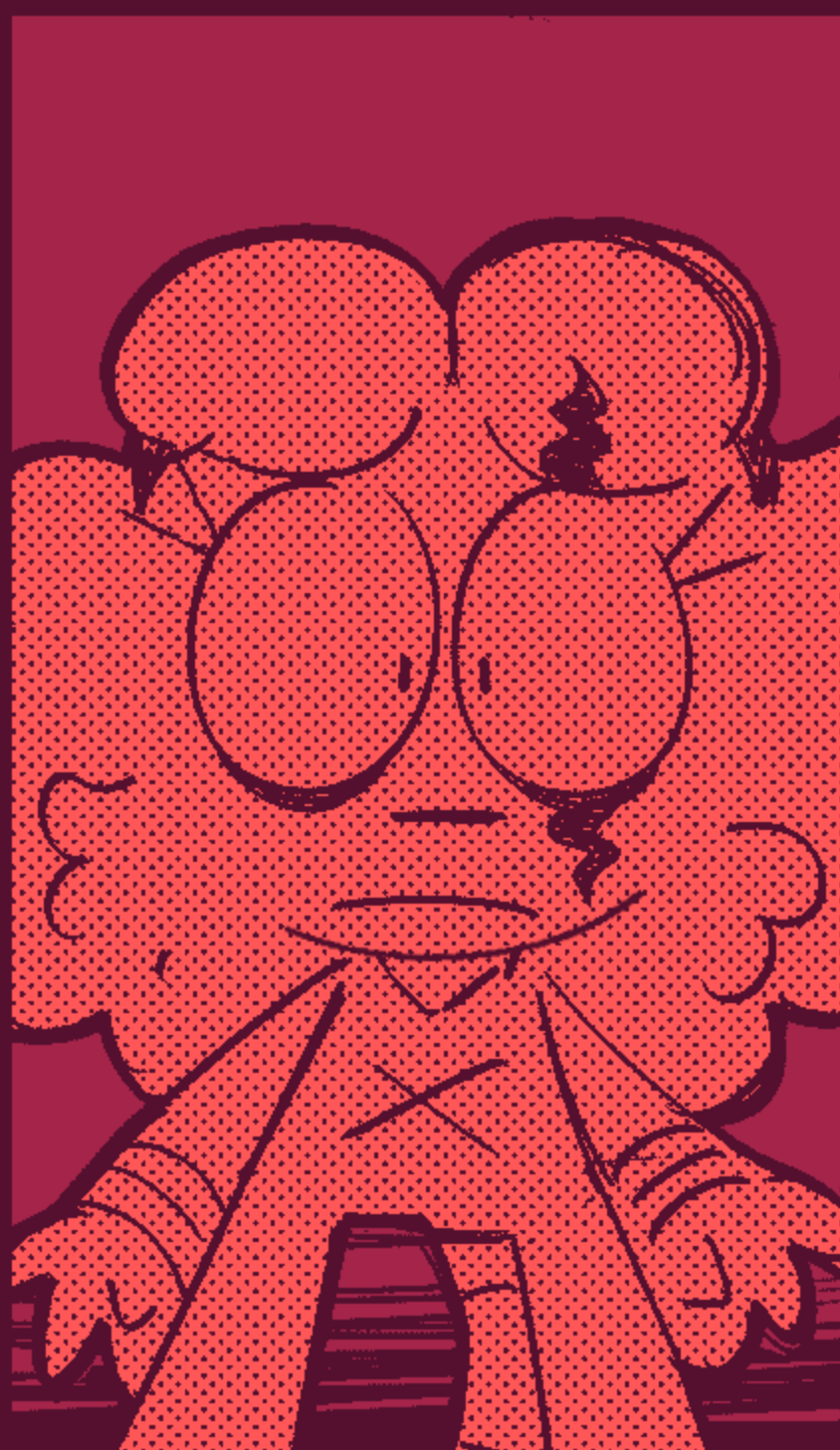
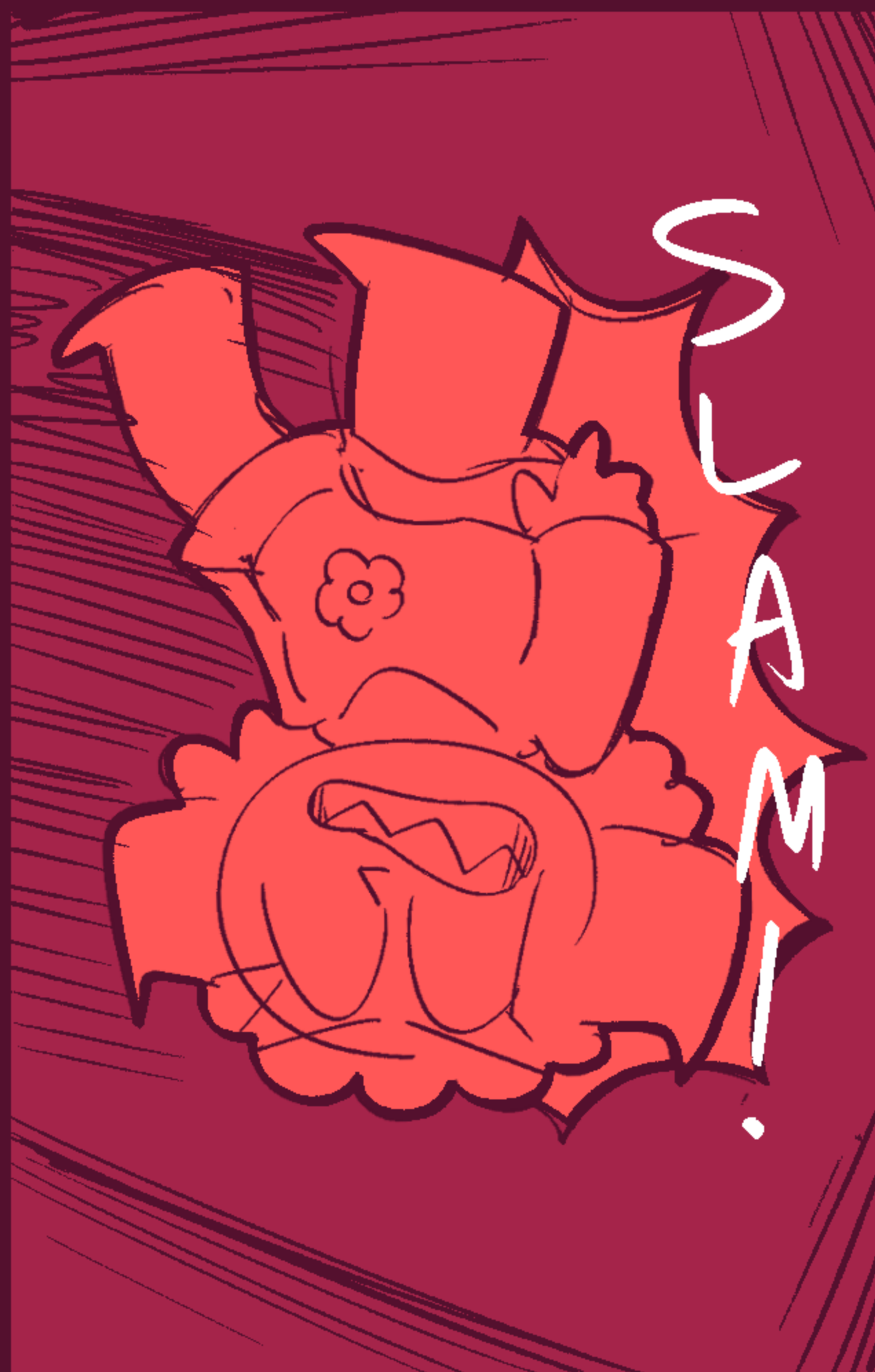
I SAW
HOW EFFORTLESSLY
AND SWIFTLY YOU KILLED
MY DAUGHTER!

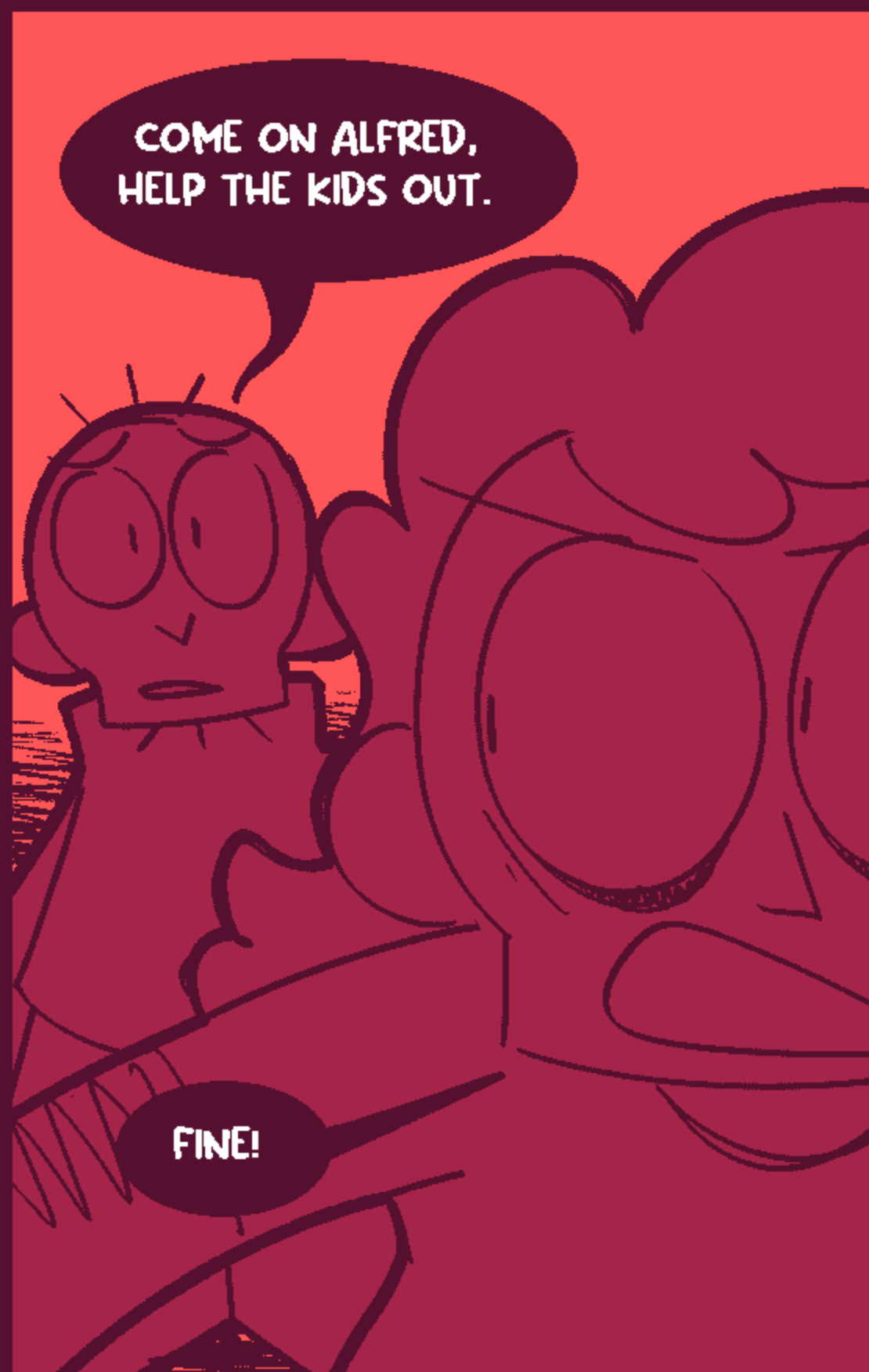
I SAW HOW THOSE
HUMANS FEARED YOU...

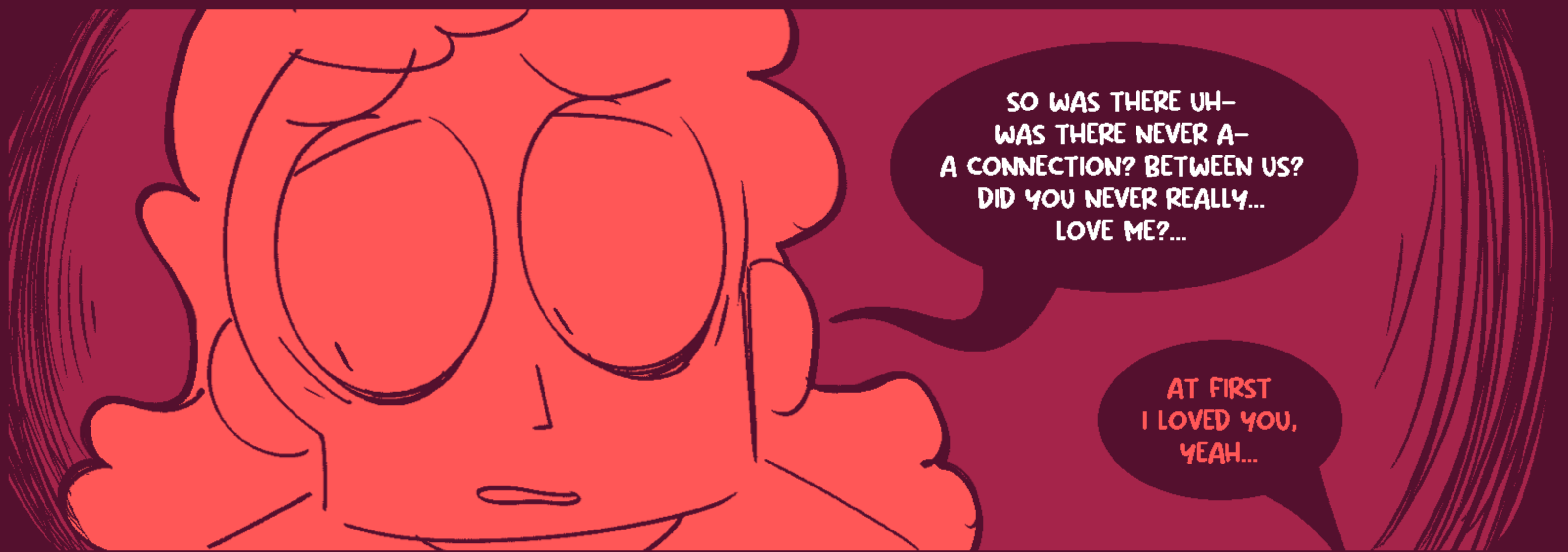
I SAW HOW
YOU FEARED YOU...











SO WAS THERE UH-
WAS THERE NEVER A-
A CONNECTION? BETWEEN US?
DID YOU NEVER REALLY...
LOVE ME?...

AT FIRST
I LOVED YOU,
YEAH...

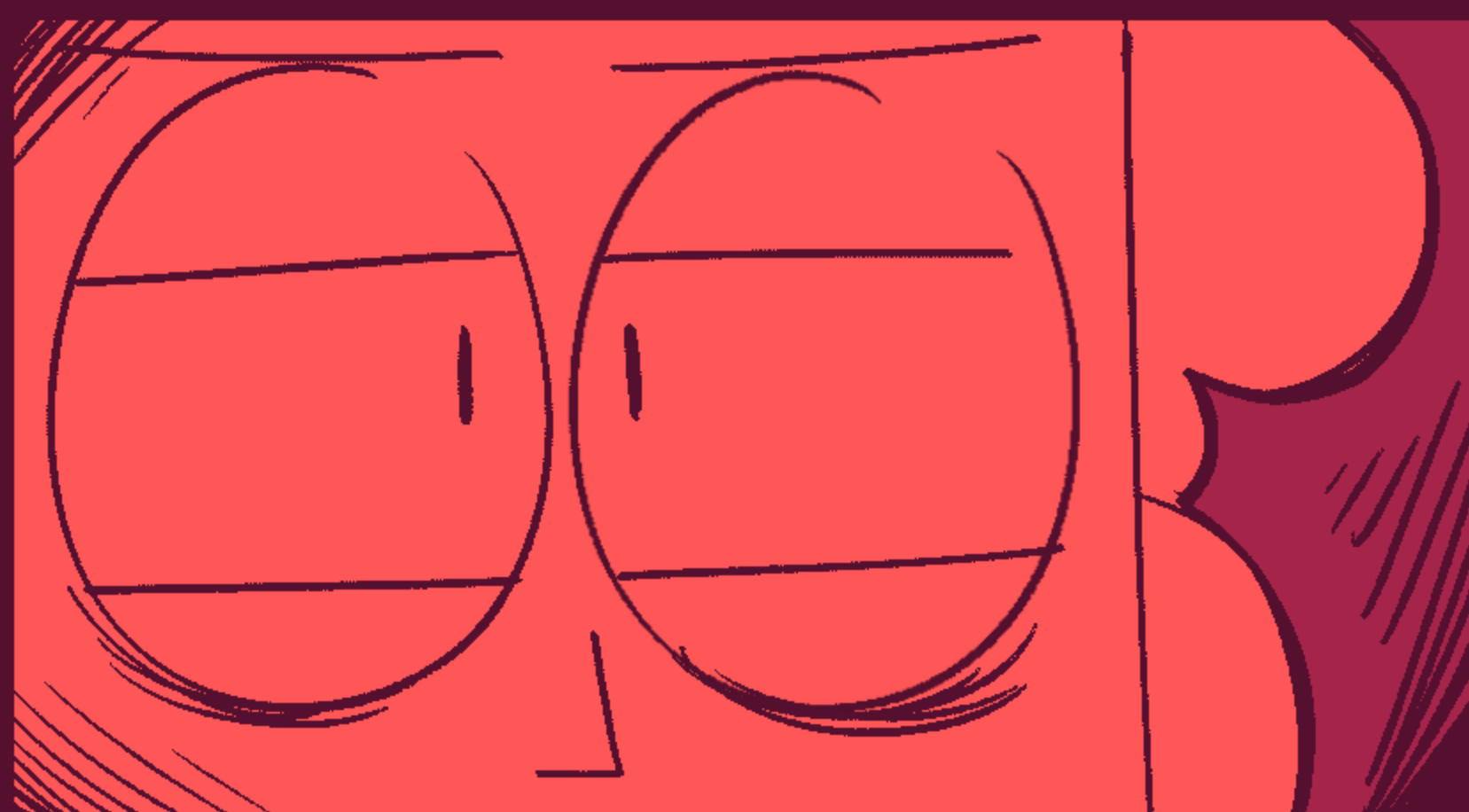


BACK WHEN WE WERE
YOUNG AND STUPID AND
SEX-DRIVEN. BUT THEN...
I SAW THE REAL YOU.

AND THEN... YOU SAW
THE REAL ME... AND WE
BROKE IT OFF. I TRIED TO
FULFILL THE PROPHECY WITHOUT
YOU OR MY SISTER, BUT TO
NO AVAIL.

WHEN YOU FINALLY CALLED ME,
AND ASKED FOR A SECOND CHANCE,
I WAS DESPERATE. SO THEN WE
HAD SYNTH.

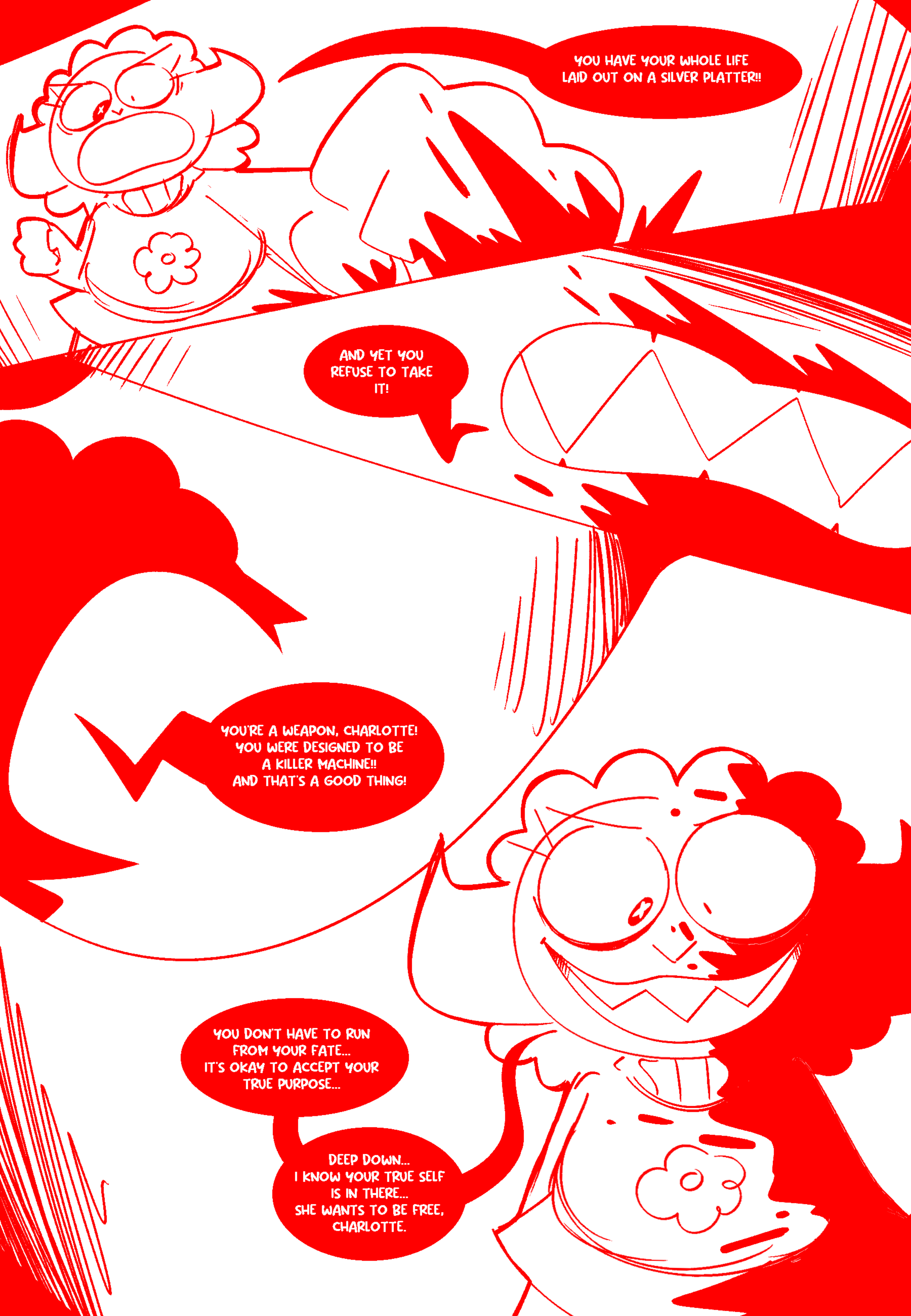
I GOT BACK WITH YOU
CAUSE I WAS DEPRESSED,
NOT BECAUSE I ACTUALLY LOVED YOU.
AND NOW THAT THE PLAN'S BEEN
REVIVED, ALL WE NEED IS
CHILLI AND SYNTH.
YOUR PART IN THIS PLAN
IS OVER.



YOU RUINED MY
FUCKING LIFE.

JOIN THE
CLUB.





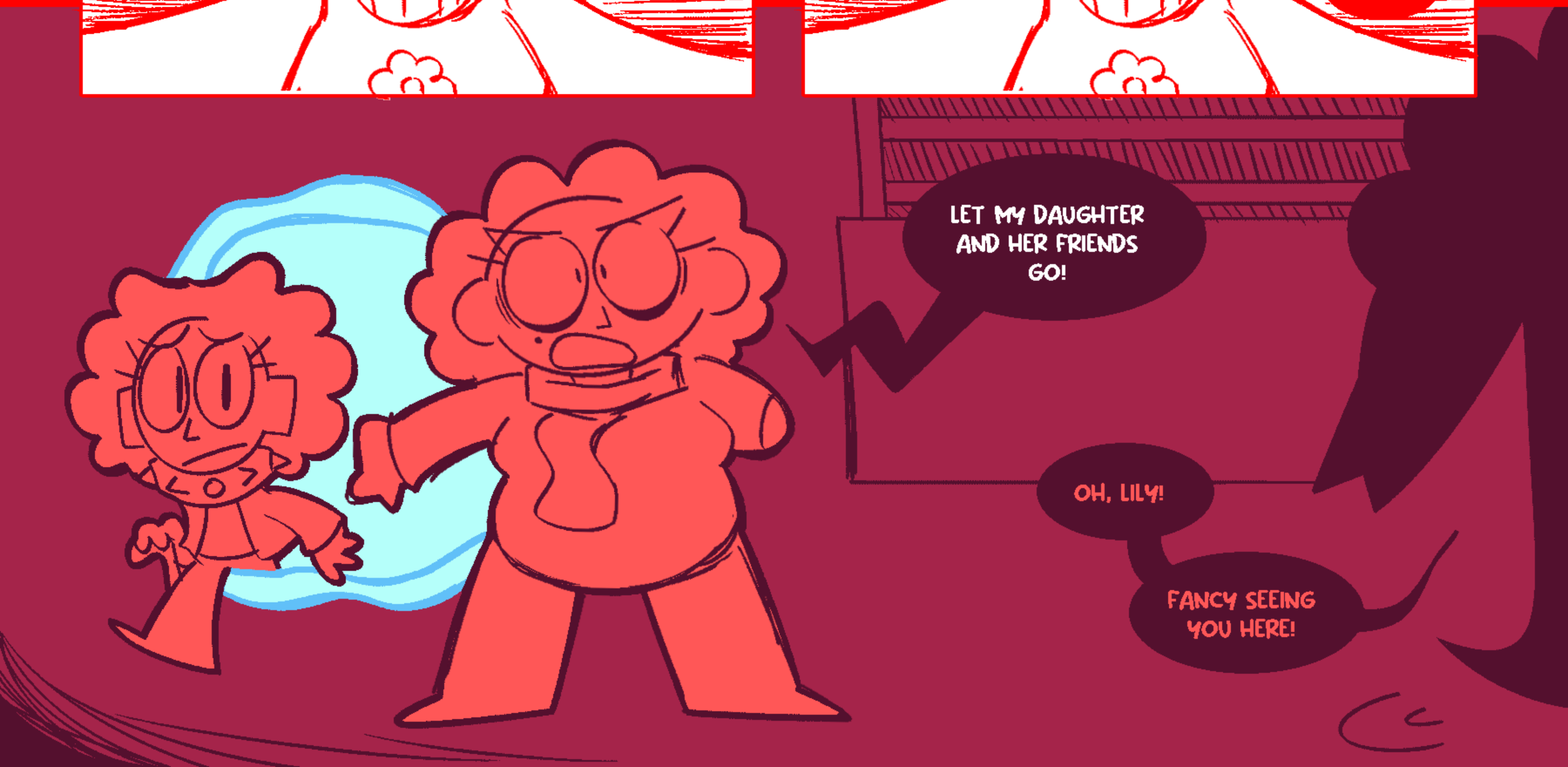
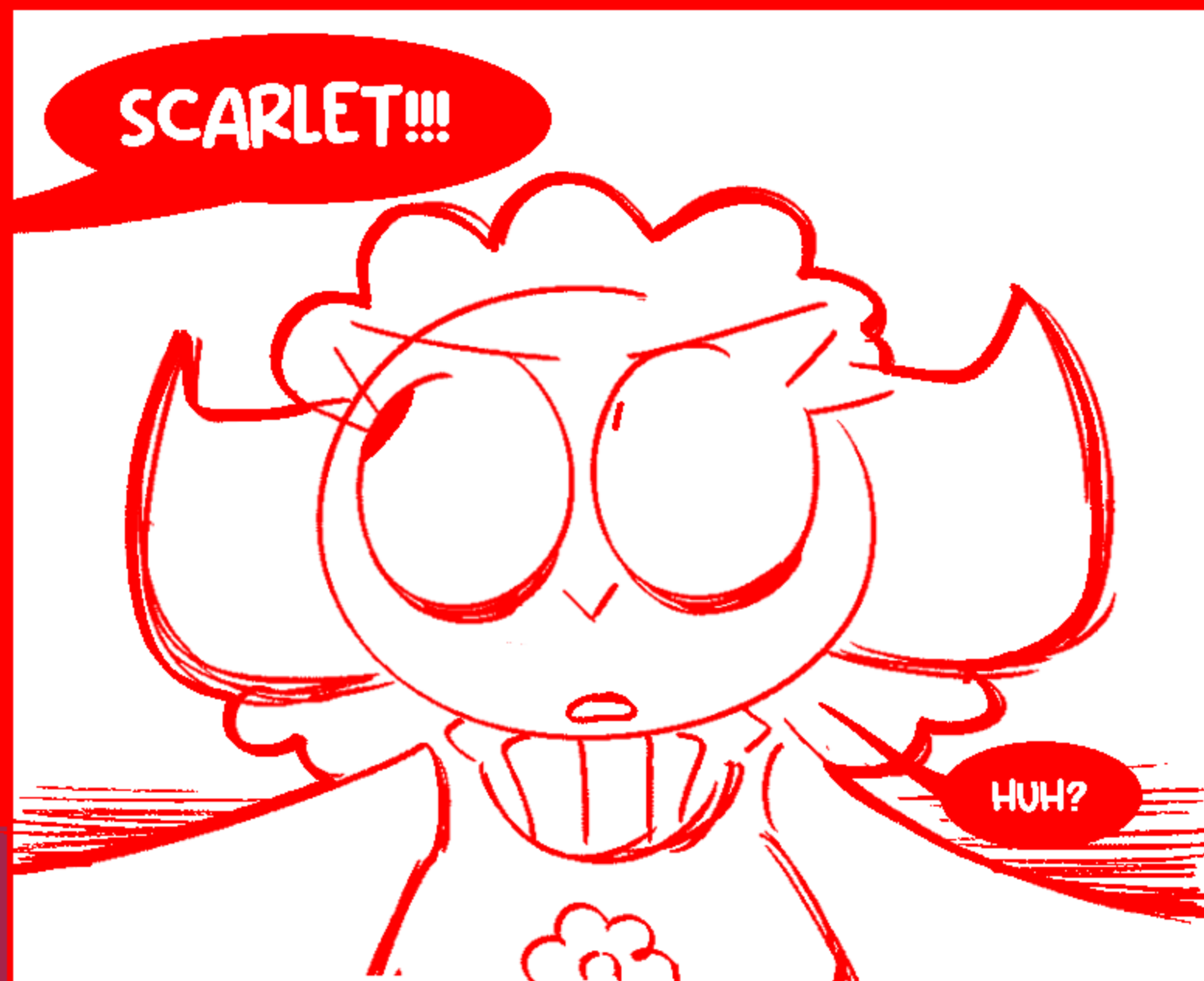
**YOU HAVE YOUR WHOLE LIFE
LAID OUT ON A SILVER PLATTER!!**

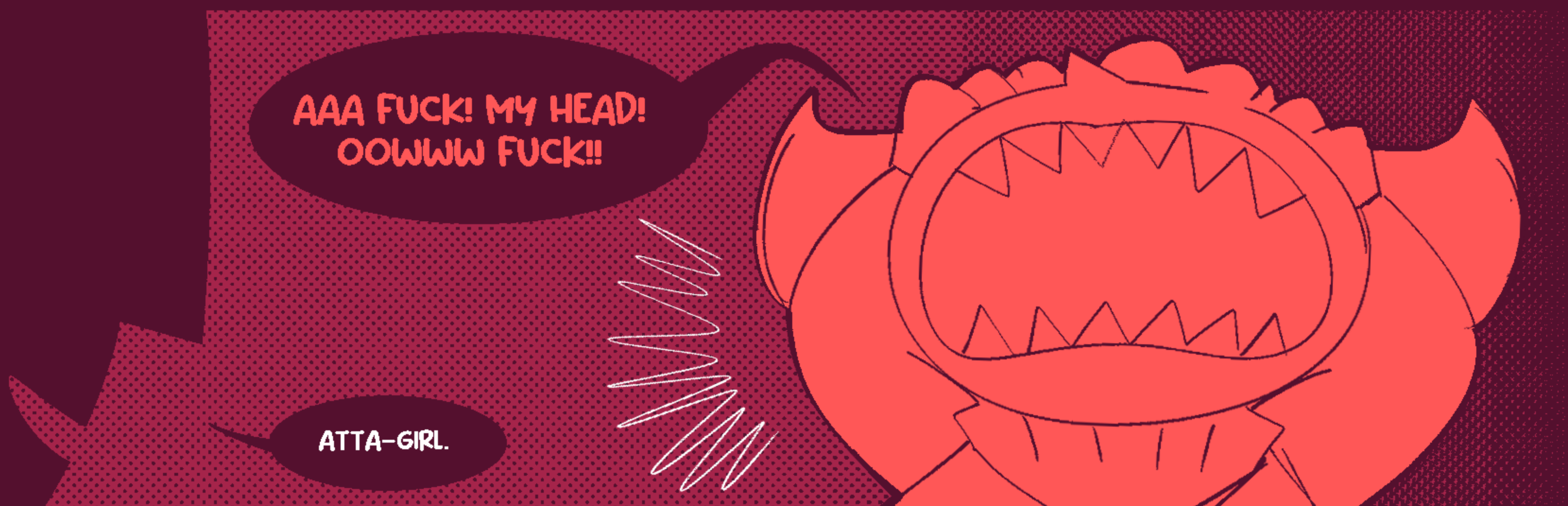
**AND YET YOU
REFUSE TO TAKE
IT!**

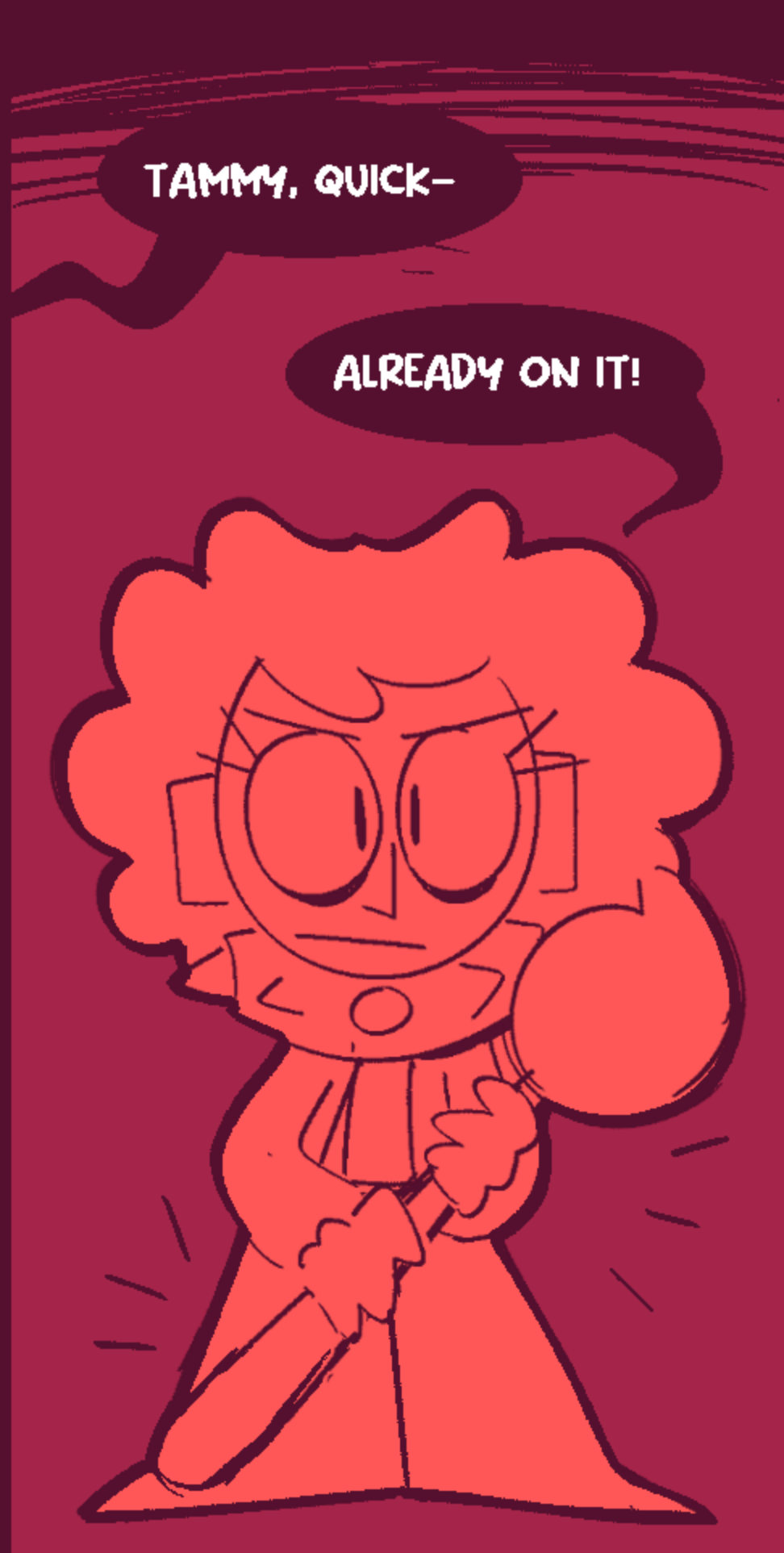
**YOU'RE A WEAPON, CHARLOTTE!
YOU WERE DESIGNED TO BE
A KILLER MACHINE!!
AND THAT'S A GOOD THING!**

YOU DON'T HAVE TO RUN
FROM YOUR FATE...
IT'S OKAY TO ACCEPT YOUR
TRUE PURPOSE...

DEEP DOWN...
I KNOW YOUR TRUE SELF
IS IN THERE...
SHE WANTS TO BE FREE,
CHARLOTTE.





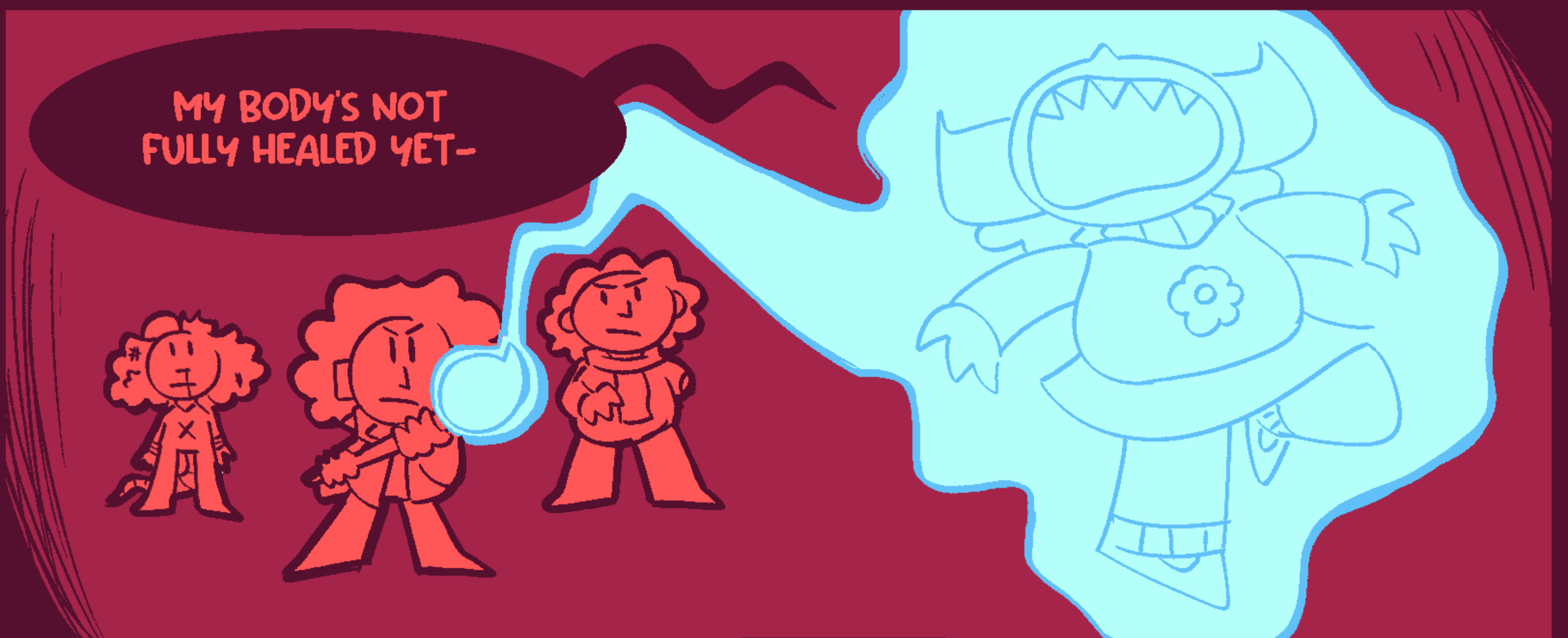


TAMMY, QUICK-

ALREADY ON IT!



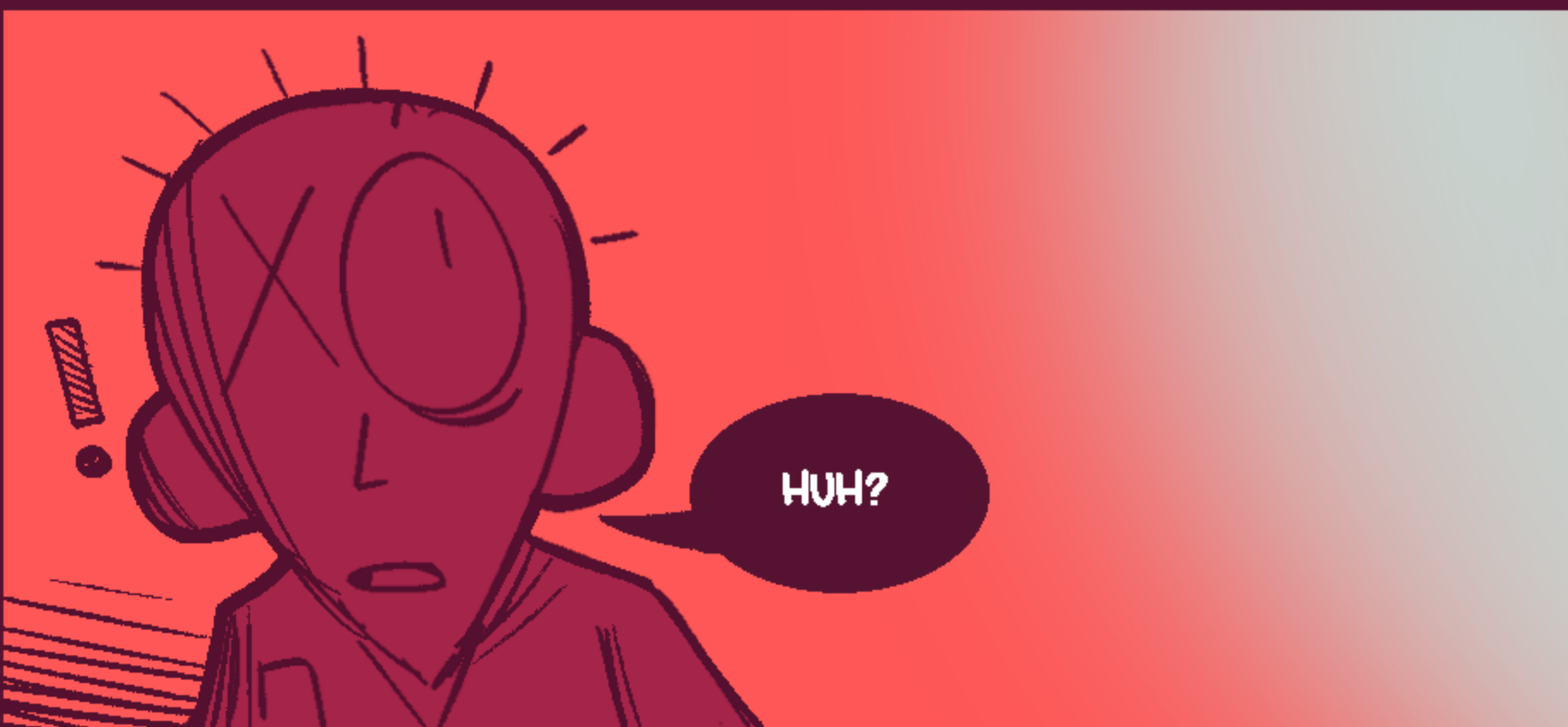
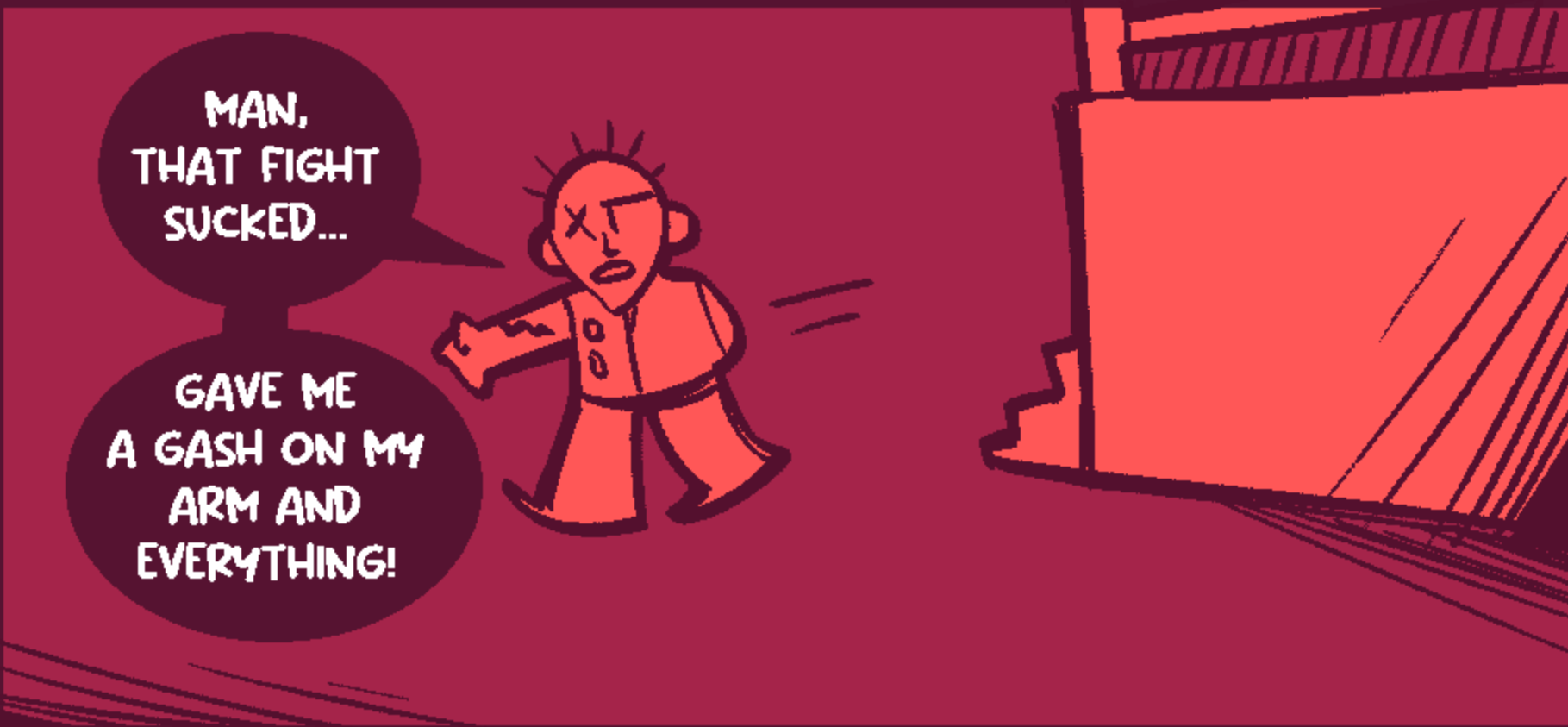
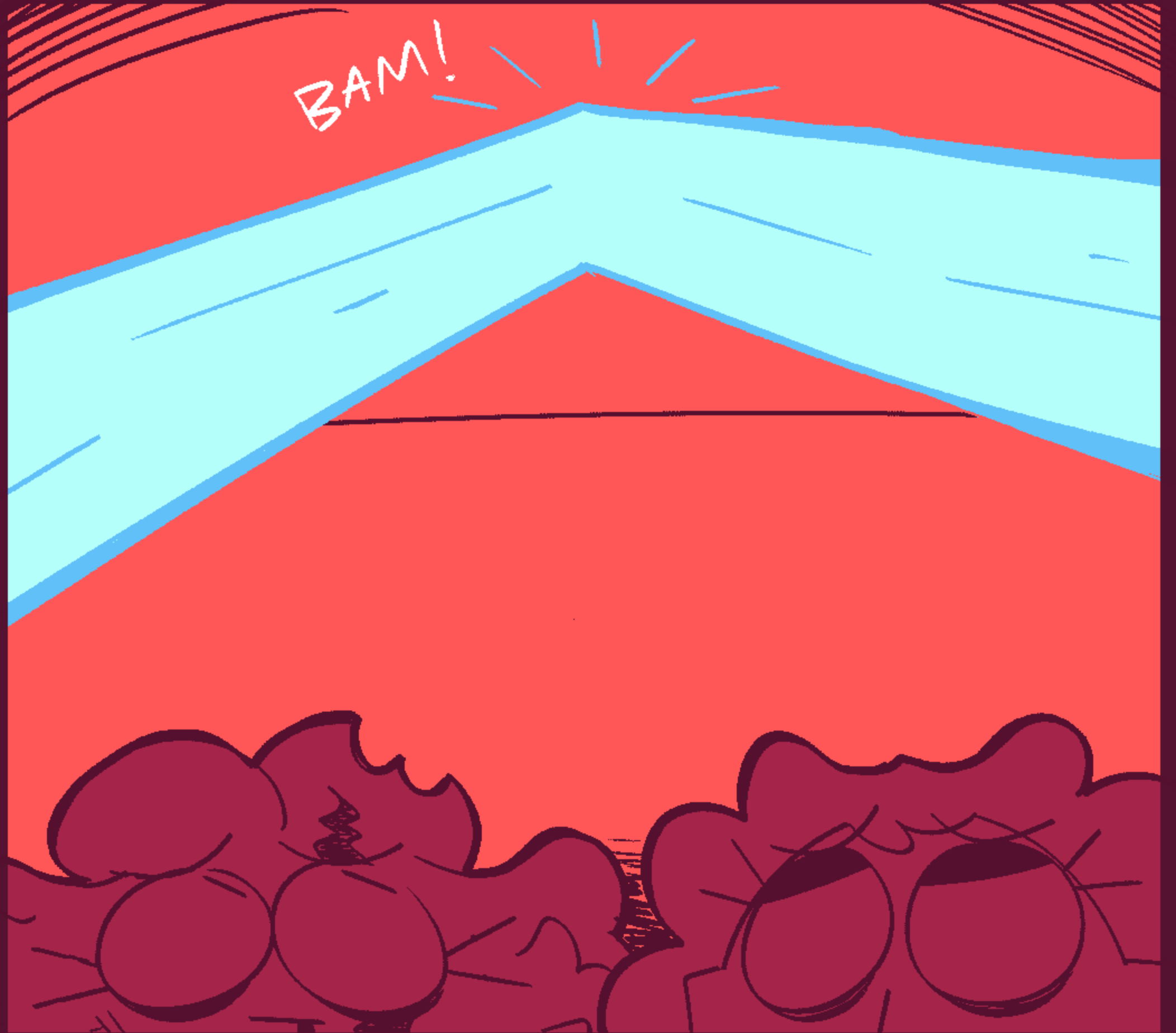
ZAP!

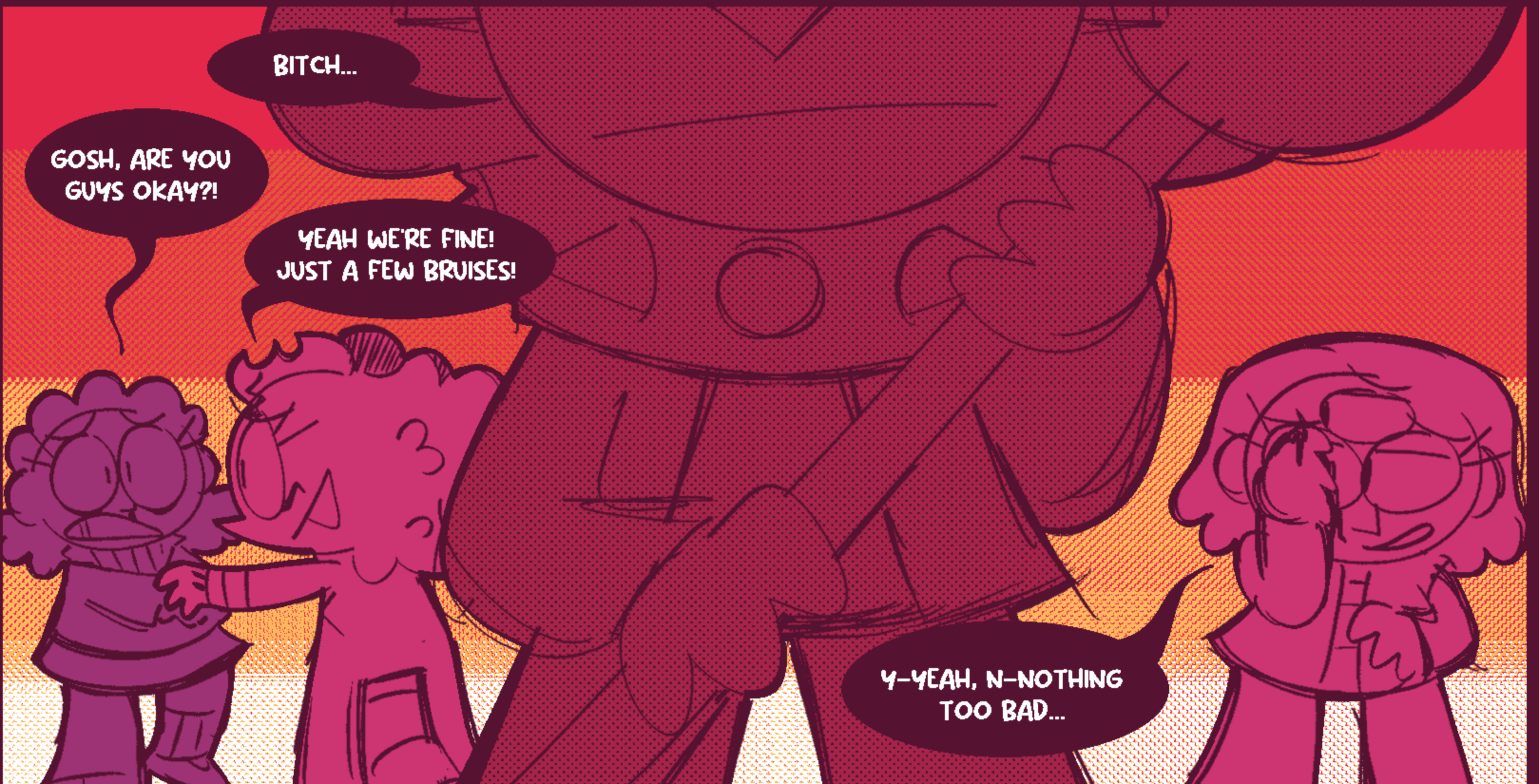
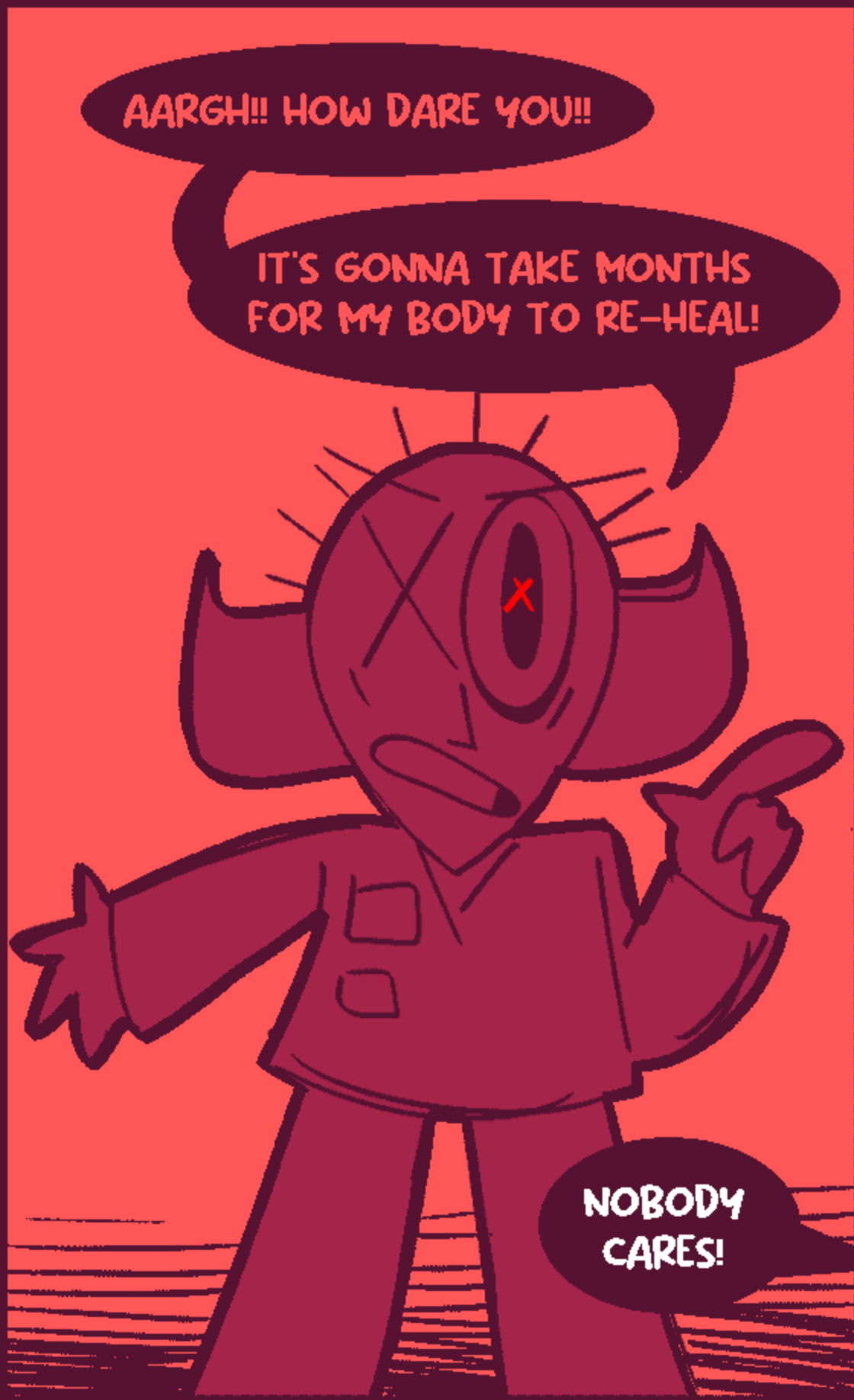


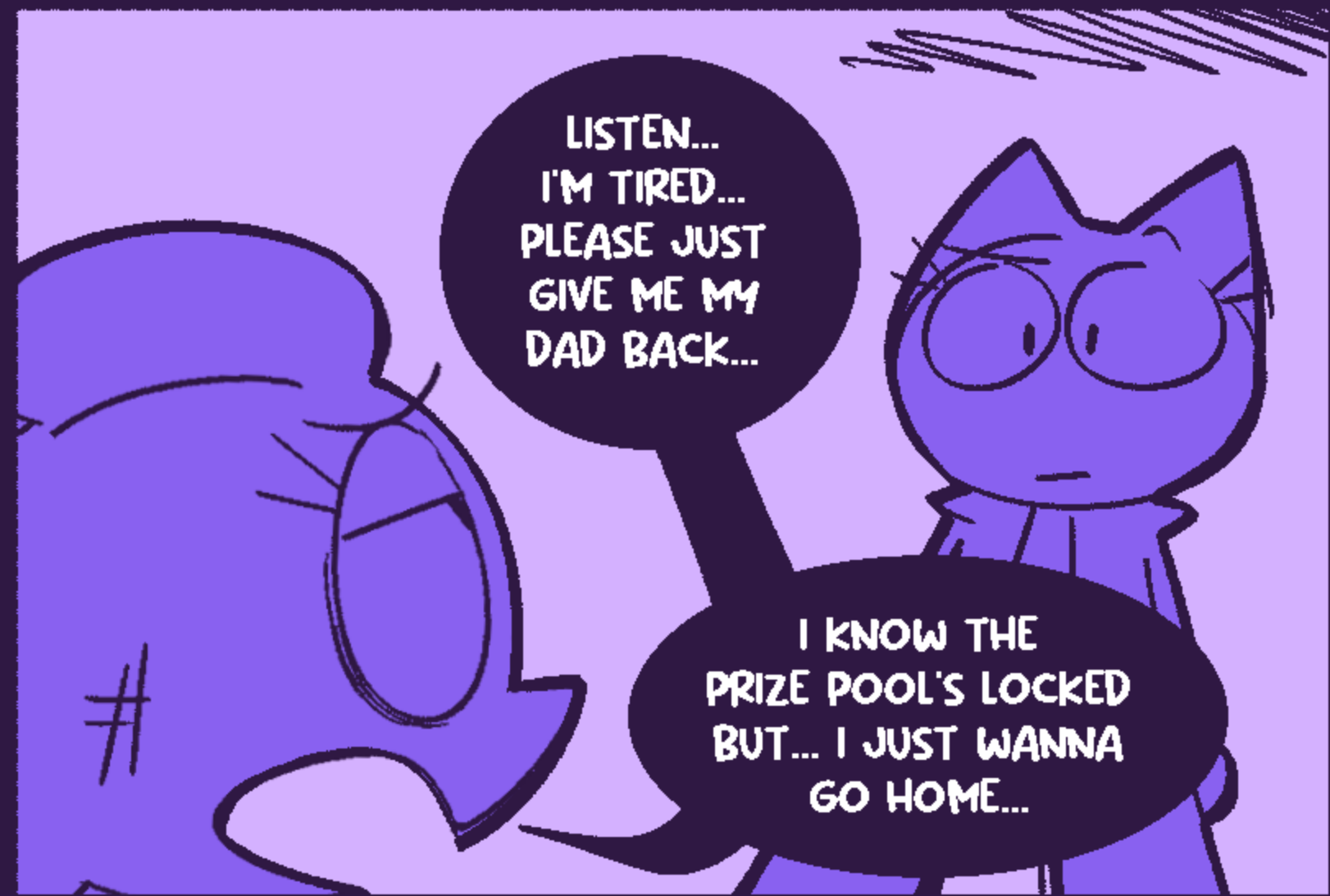
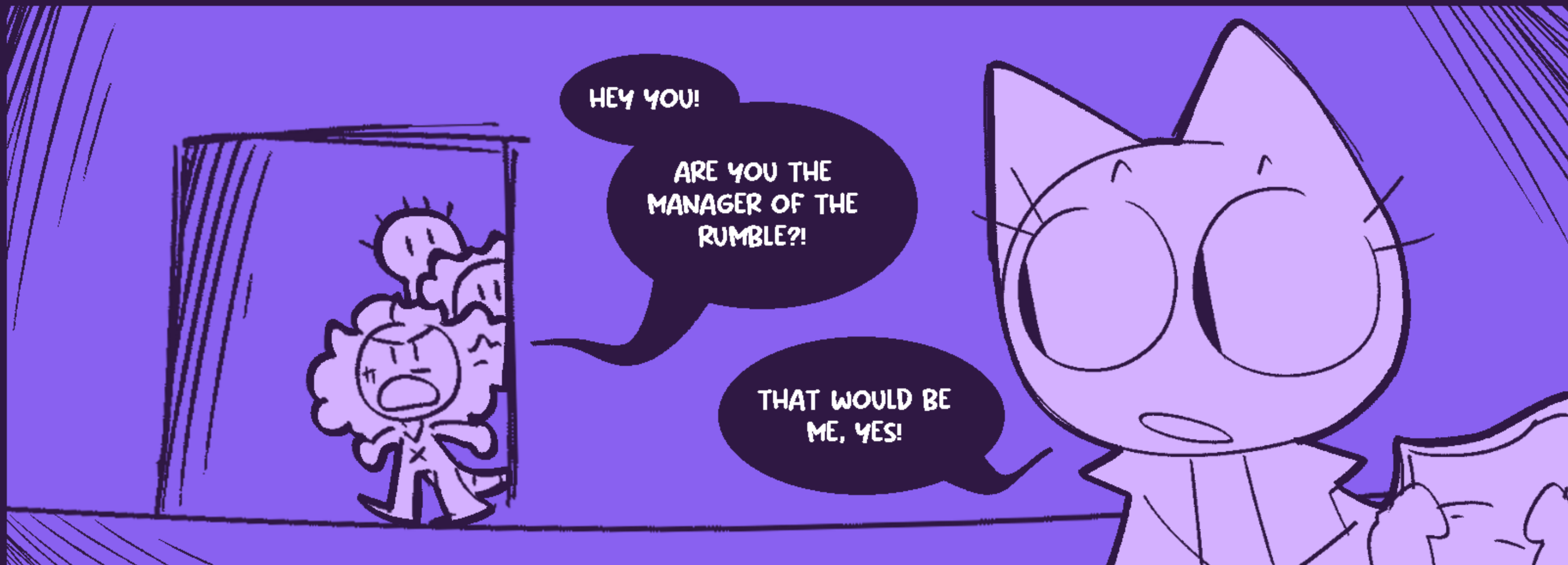
MY BODY'S NOT
FULLY HEALED YET-



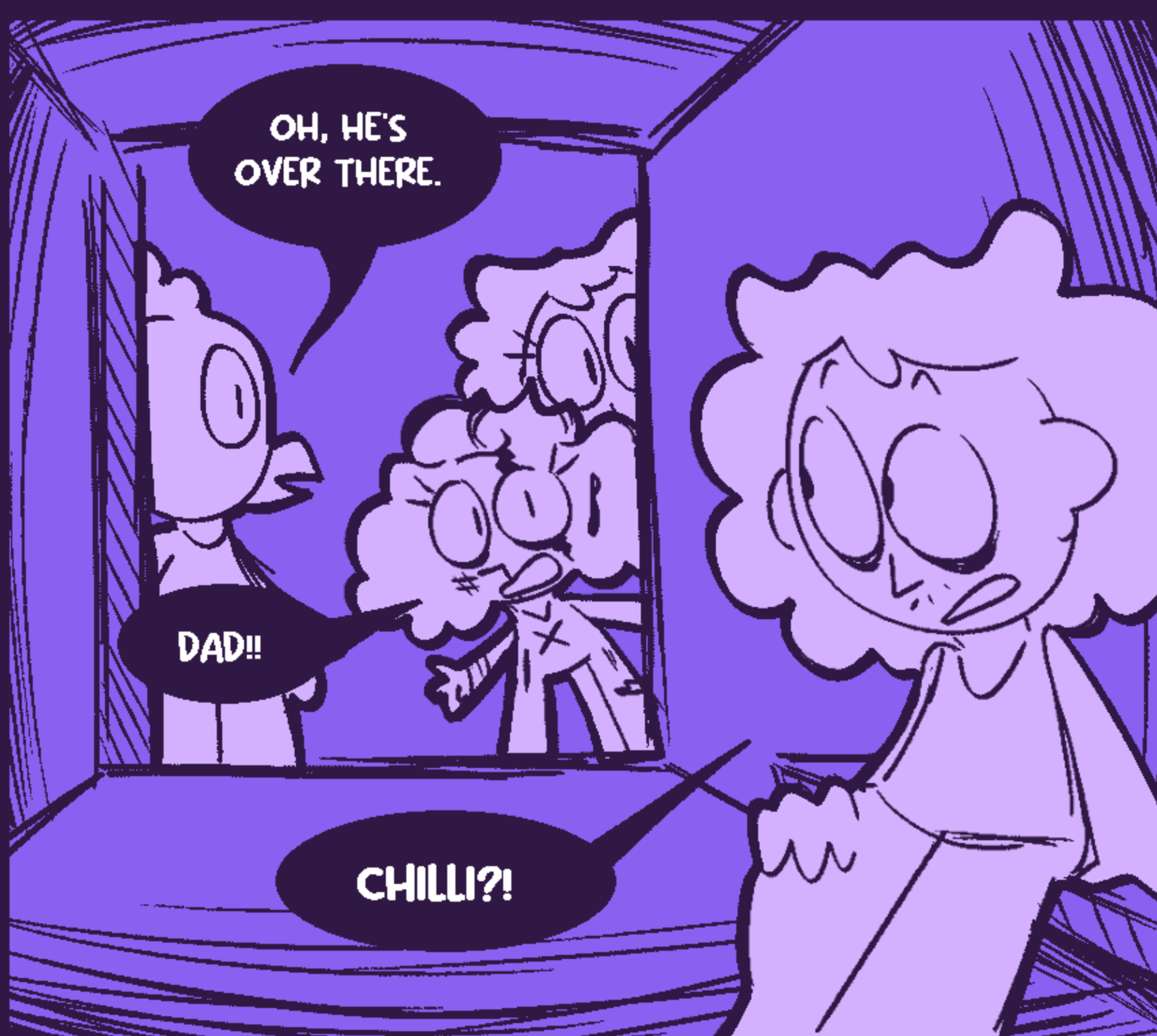
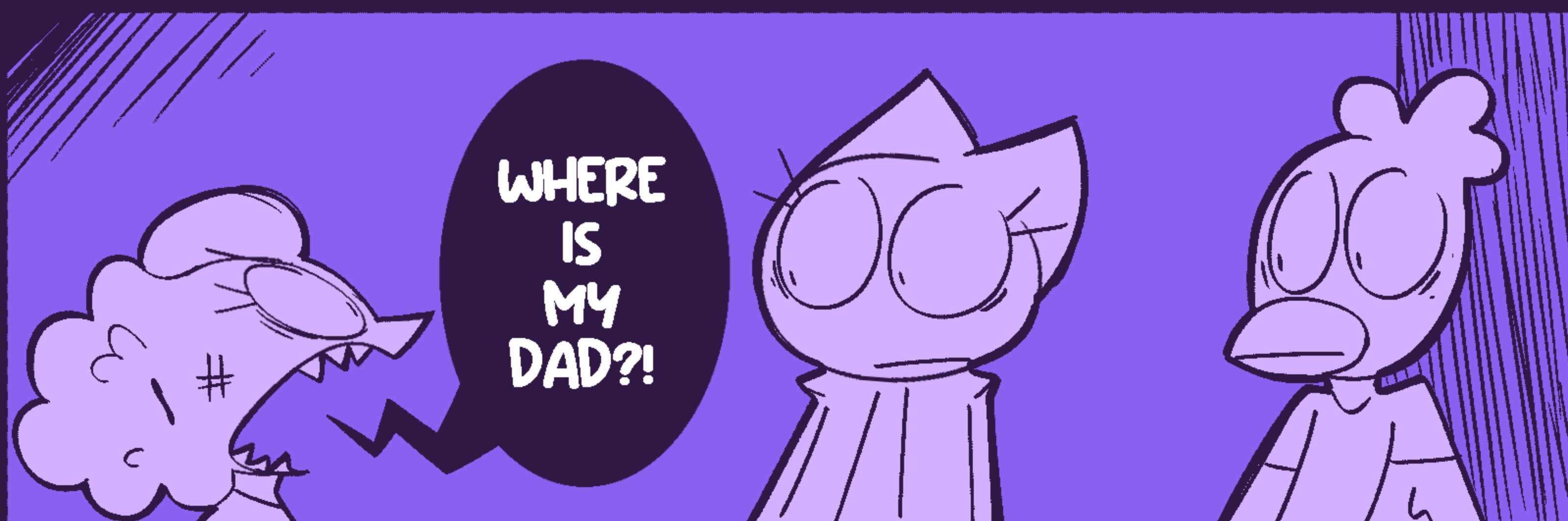
AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA

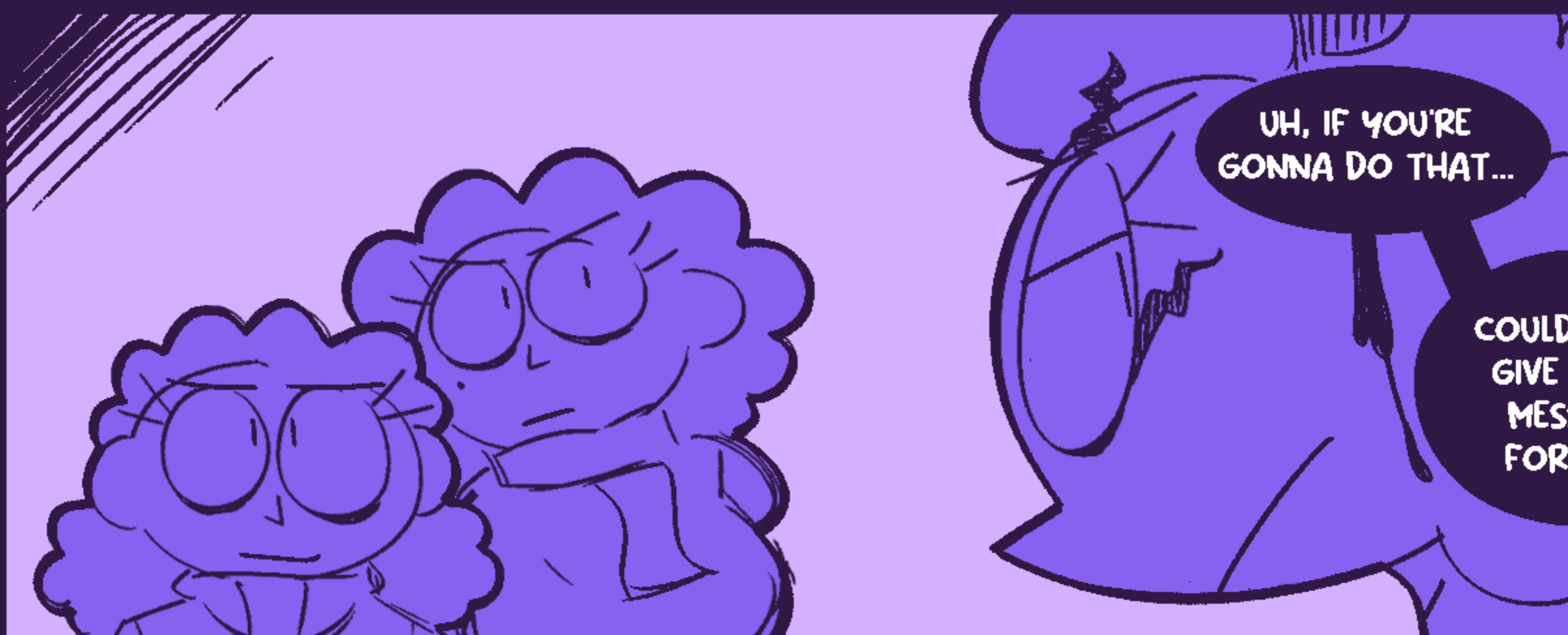
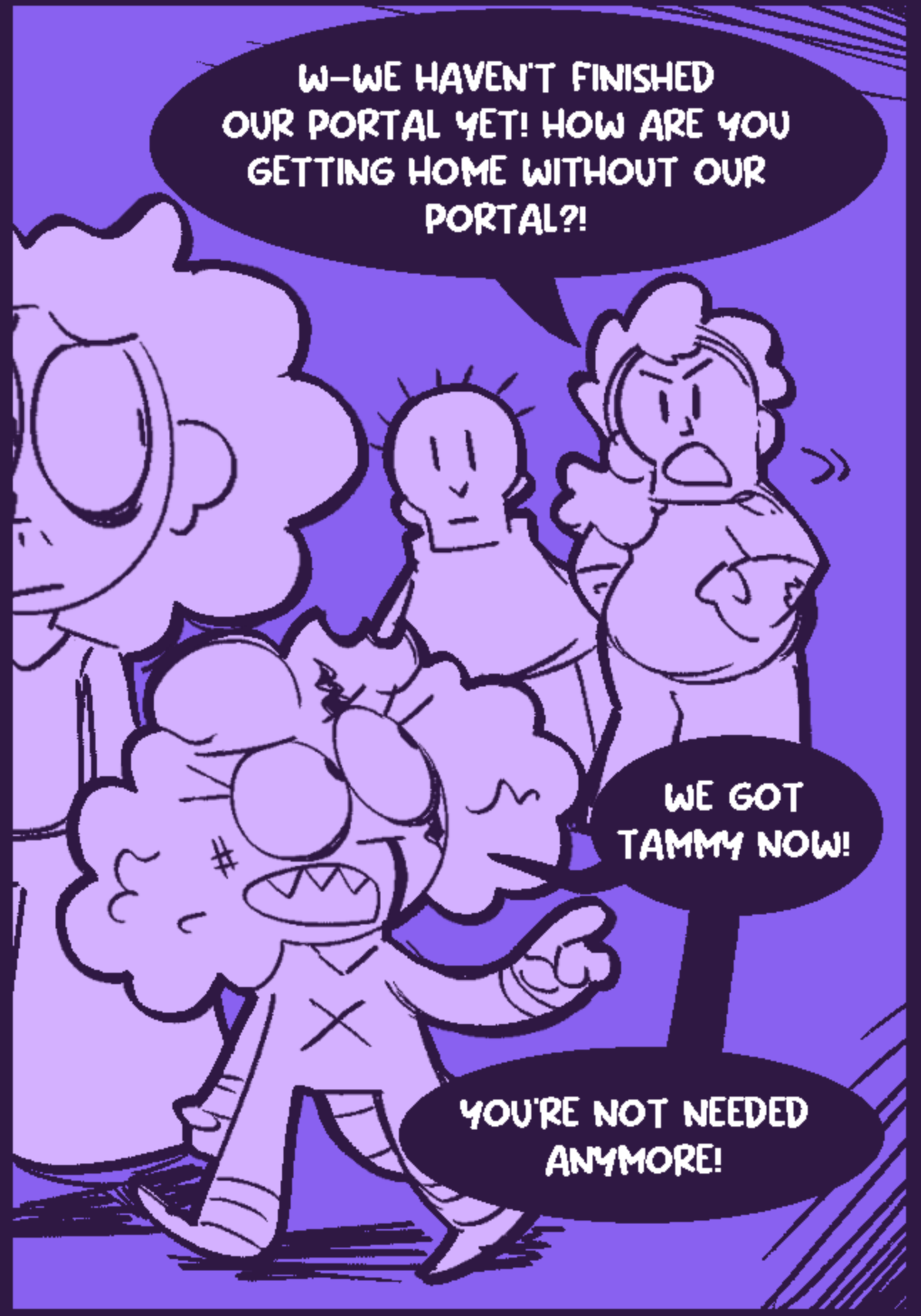










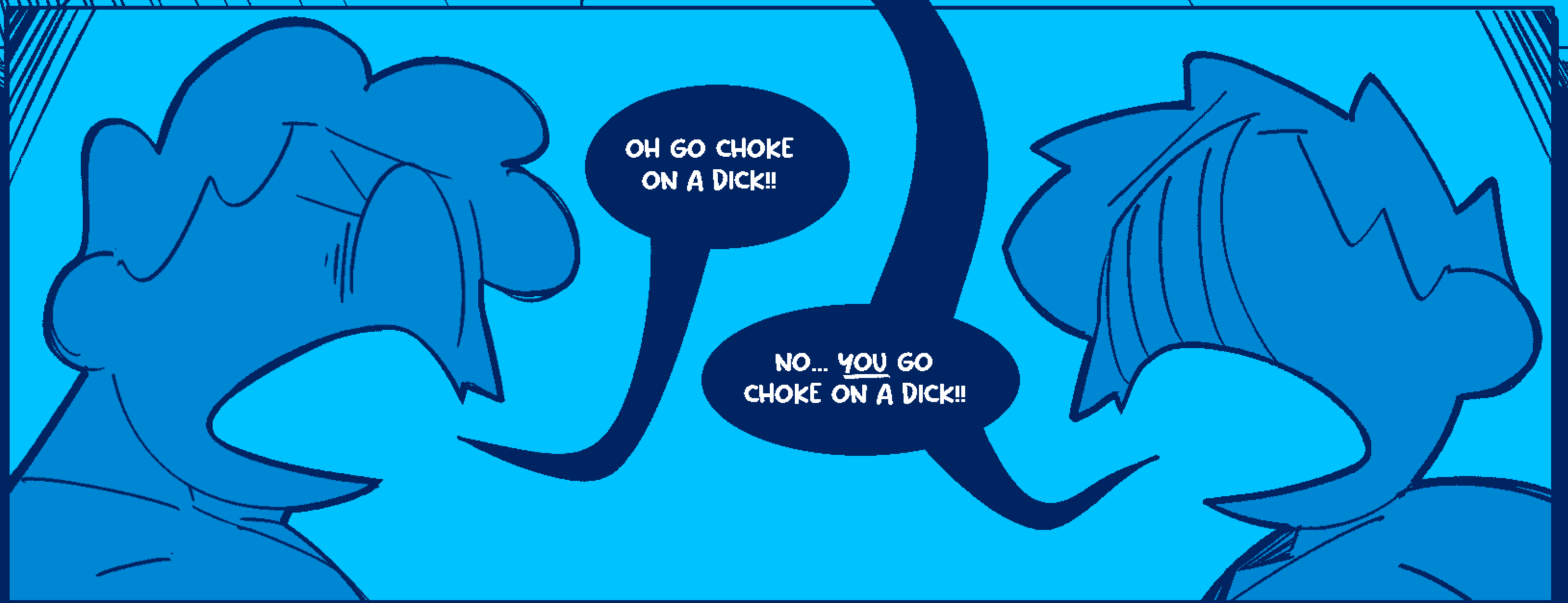




YOU
SUCK!!

OH GO CHOKE
ON A DICK!!

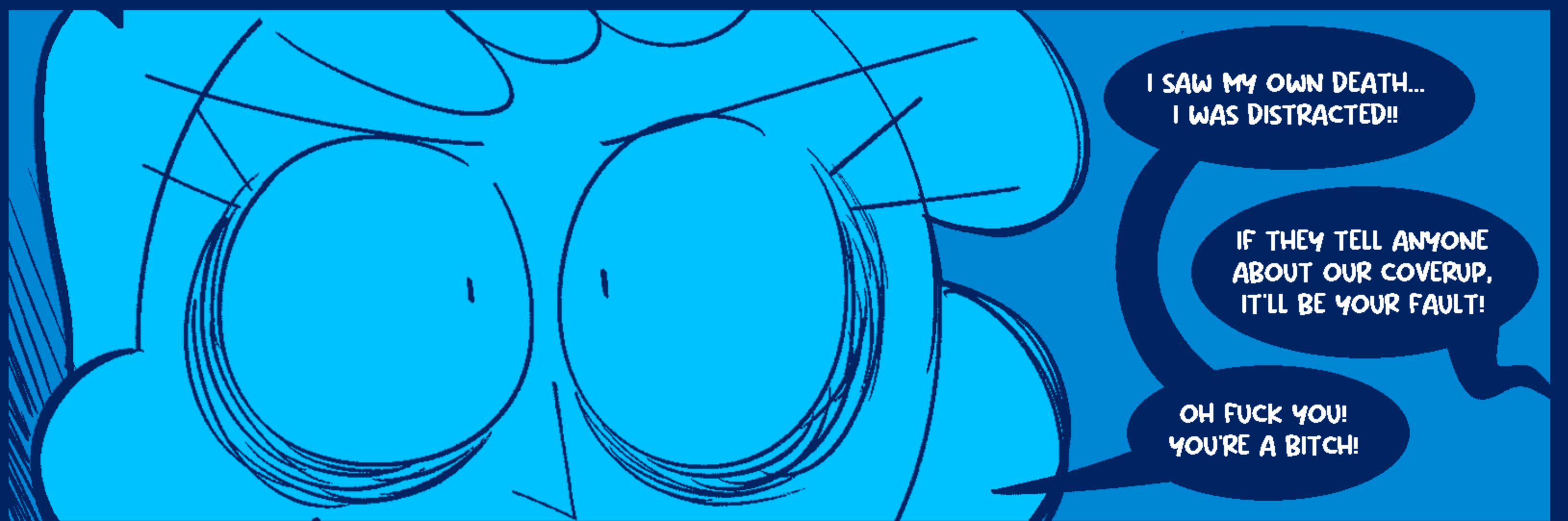
NO... YOU GO
CHOKE ON A DICK!!



I SAW MY OWN DEATH...
I WAS DISTRACTED!!

IF THEY TELL ANYONE
ABOUT OUR COVERUP,
IT'LL BE YOUR FAULT!

OH FUCK YOU!
YOU'RE A BITCH!



AW SHIT...
I'M STRESSED...

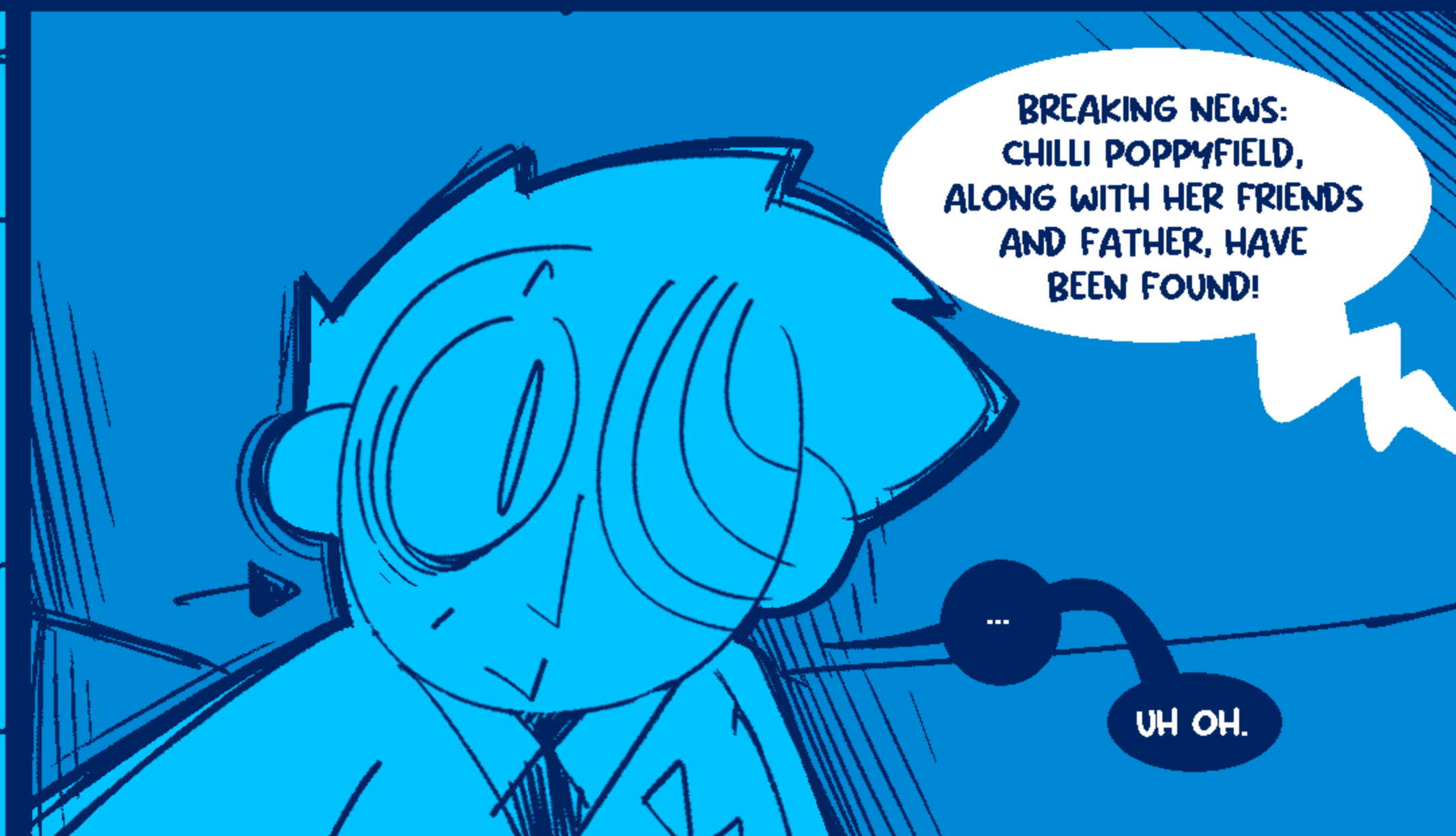
I'M GONNA
WATCH TV.

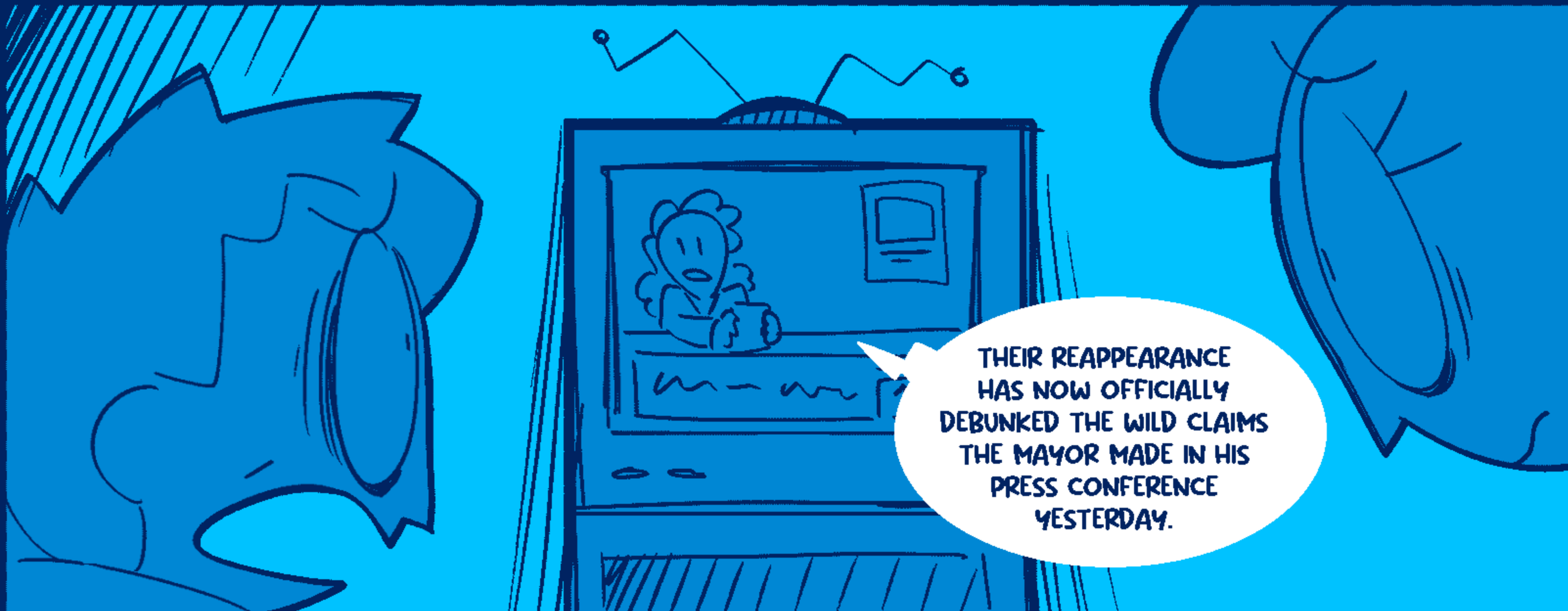
HOW THE HELL
CAN YOU WATCH TV
AT A TIME LIKE—



BREAKING NEWS:
CHILLI POPPYFIELD,
ALONG WITH HER FRIENDS
AND FATHER, HAVE
BEEN FOUND!

...
UH OH.





THEIR REAPPEARANCE
HAS NOW OFFICIALLY
DEBUNKED THE WILD CLAIMS
THE MAYOR MADE IN HIS
PRESS CONFERENCE
YESTERDAY.



RIGHT NOW, THEY'RE
MAKING THEIR WAY TO
THE MAYOR'S OFFICE TO
INFORM HIM OF THEIR
RETURN.



YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN,
FUCKFACE.

DAMN YOU!
DON'T
ABANDON
ME!!

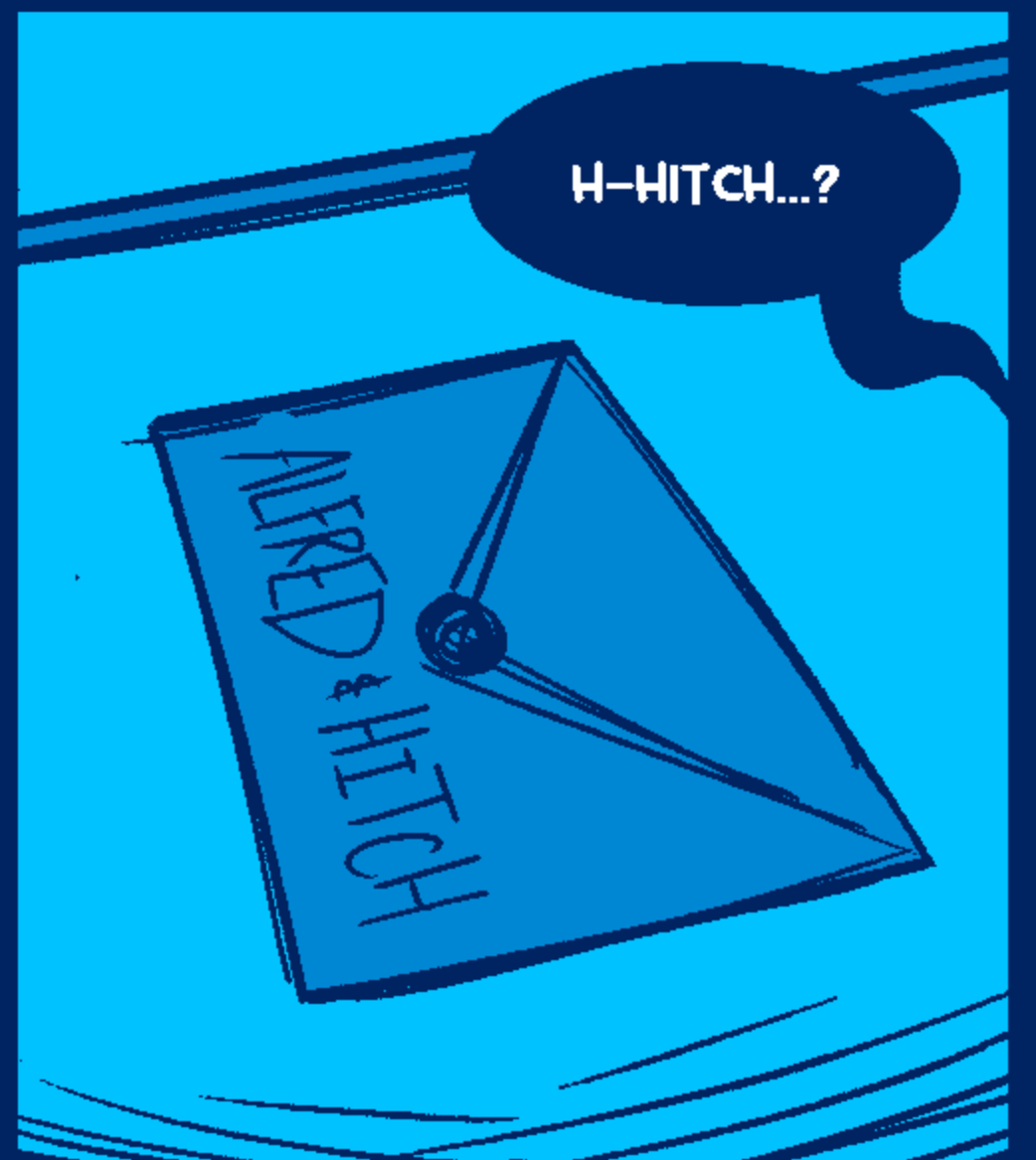
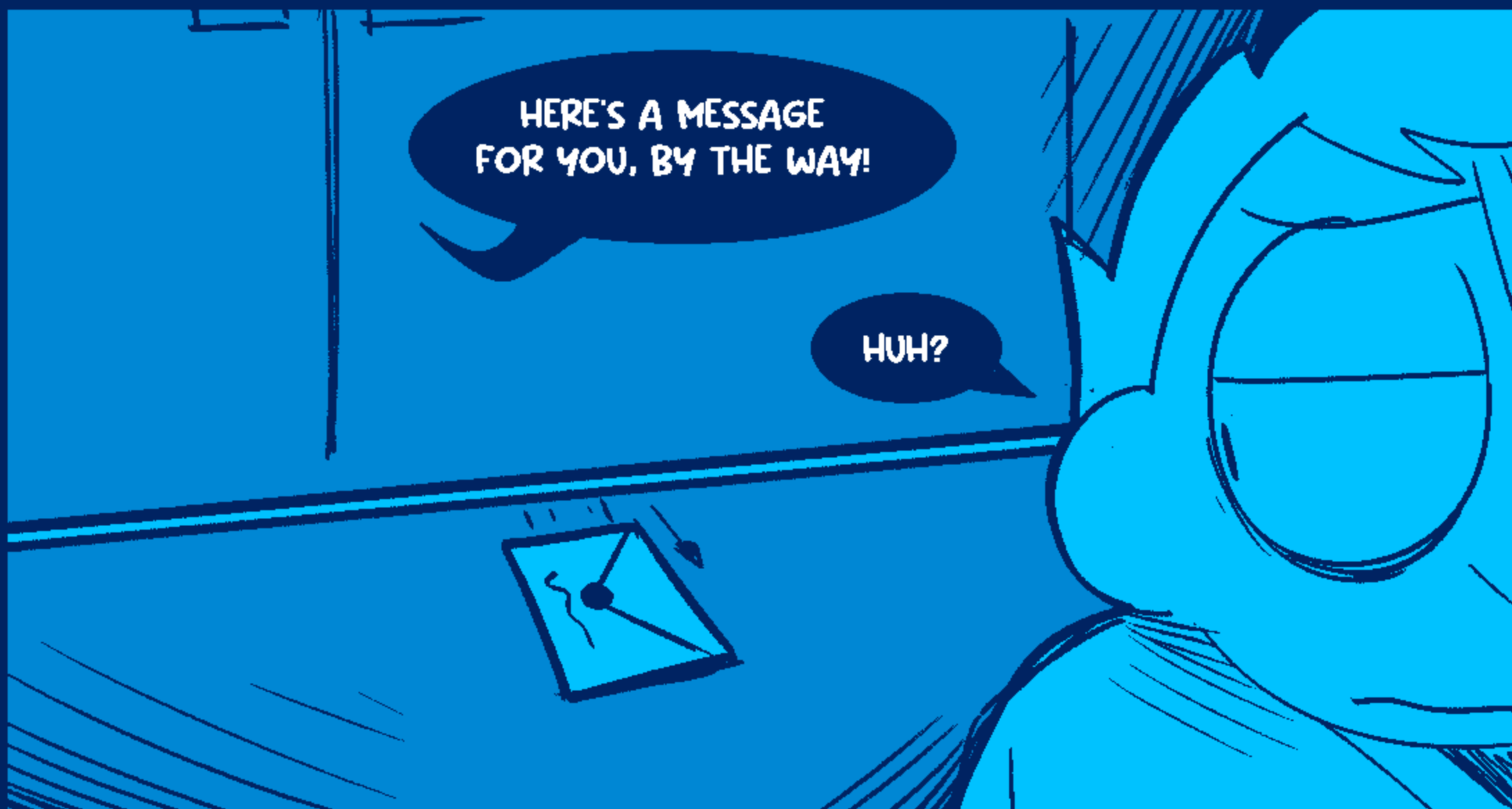
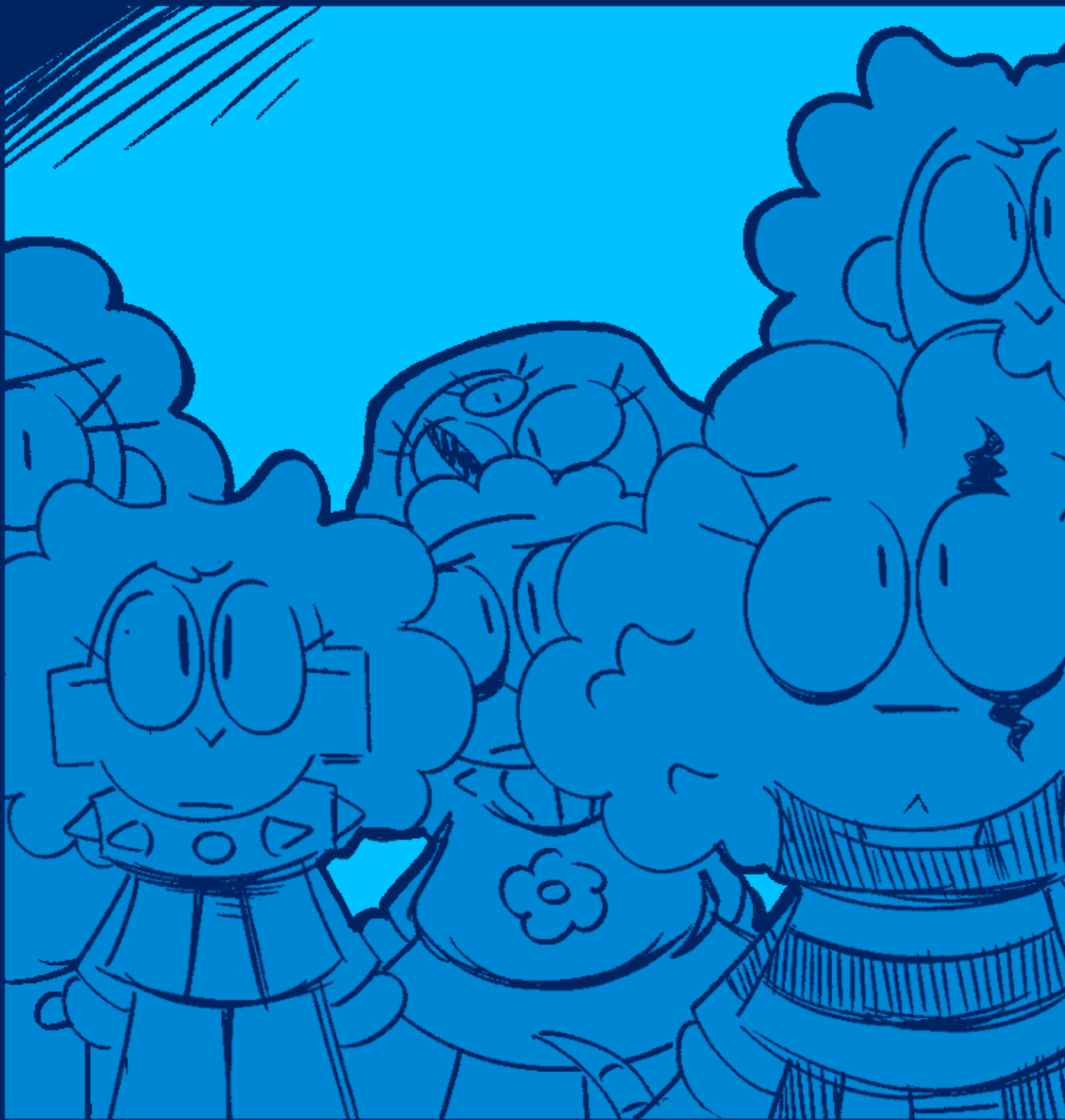
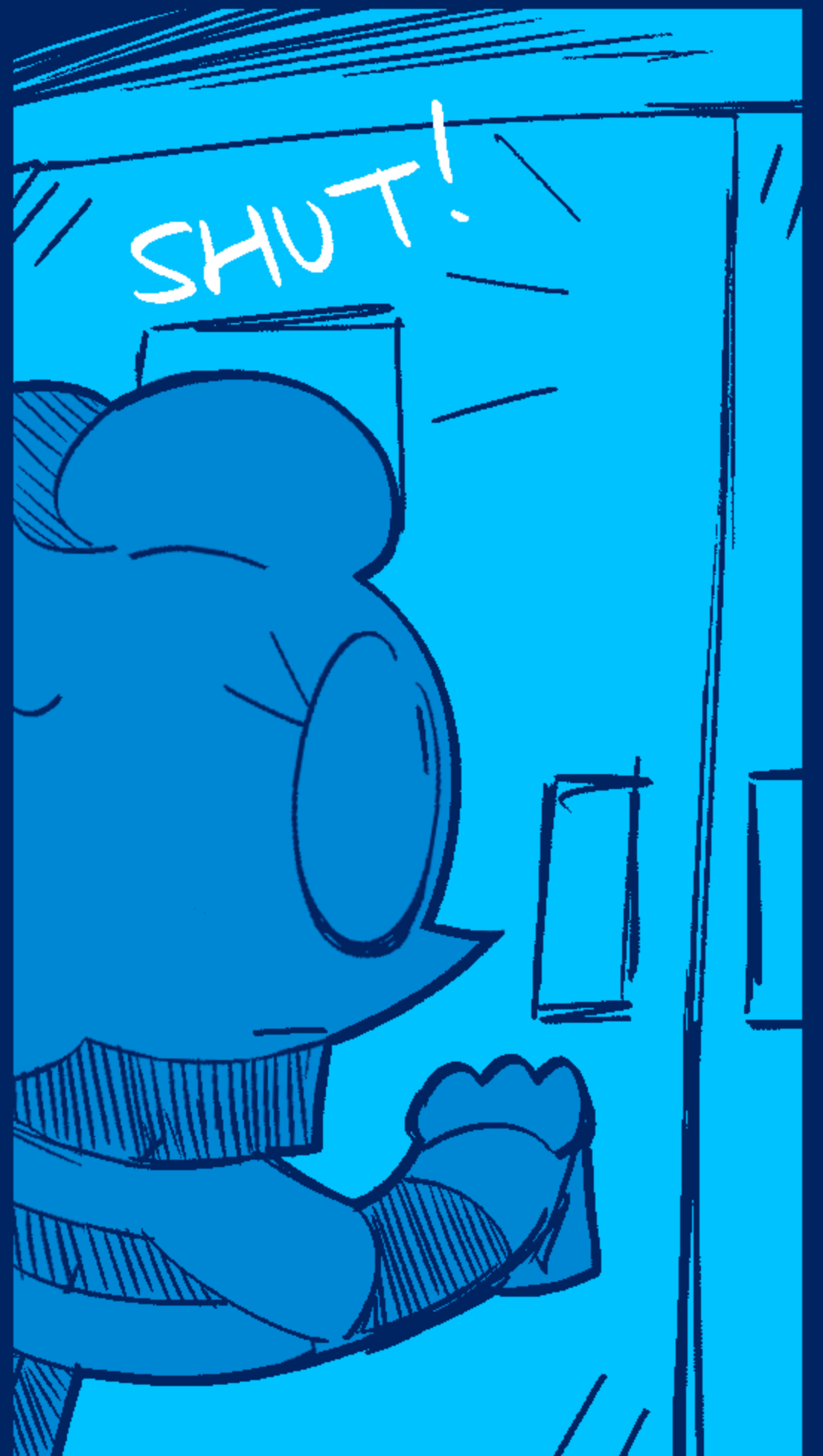
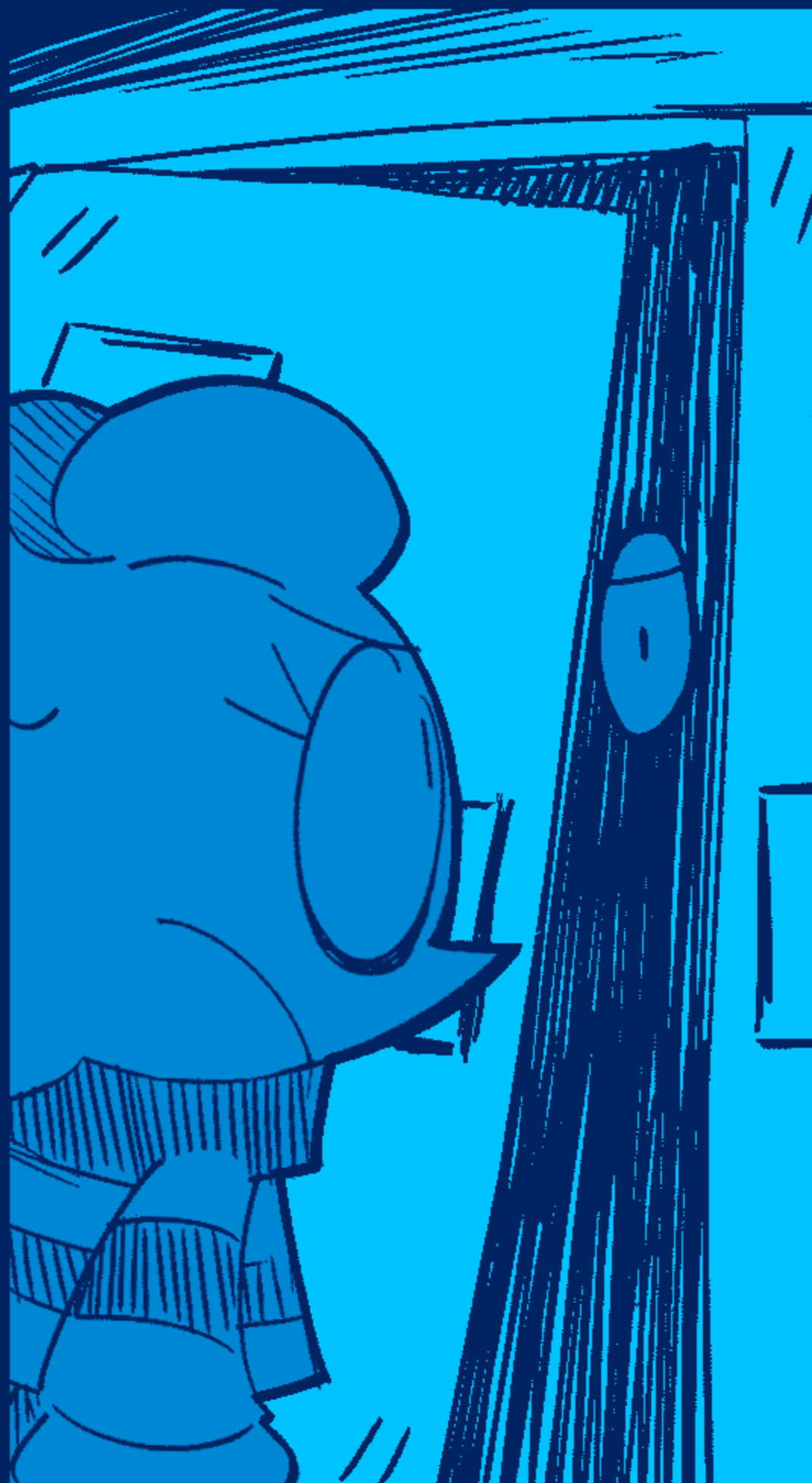
ZOOM!



KNOCK!
KNOCK!

MAYOR BONES!!

I WANT MY
FANGS BACK!





THANKS FOR LETTING US
SLEEP OVER HERE, PLANT LADY!

OF COURSE,
CHILL!



HOPEFULLY THEY'LL
BE ABLE TO GET YOUR
HOUSE OUT OF HELL SOON!

UNTIL THEN,
YOU AND YOUR
FATHER ARE MORE
THAN WELCOME TO
STAY HERE!

THANK YOU
SO MUCH!!



TAMMY!!! THANKS FOR
HELPING US BACK THERE
IN THE FIGHT! AND ALSO,
YOU KNOW, FOR RESCUING US!

I DON'T SAY THIS ENOUGH,
BUT I REALLY DO APPRECIATE YOU!
I'M GLAD YOU'RE MY FRIEND.

THANK
YOU!!



THAT... REALLY
MEANS A LOT...



ANNA AND ILI?
YOU GUYS HOLDING
UP OKAY?

I'M FEELING
ALRIGHTISH, YEAH.
.P

EVERYTHING'S STILL KINDA
BLURRY, BUT AT THE
VERY LEAST MY HEADACHE'S
GONE!

GOOD... THAT'S GOOD...



SO... I KNOW THIS IS
STUPID, BUT LIKE...

YOU GUYS DON'T THINK
THAT PROPHECY MIGHT
COME TRUE... RIGHT?

NAH DUDE,
NO WAY!

YOU'D NEVER TRY TO
DESTROY HUMANITY!
A PIECE OF WRITING
CAN'T CHANGE THAT!



HM. THANKS GUYS.
JUST NEEDED
REASSURENCE.

OF COURSE,
DUDE!

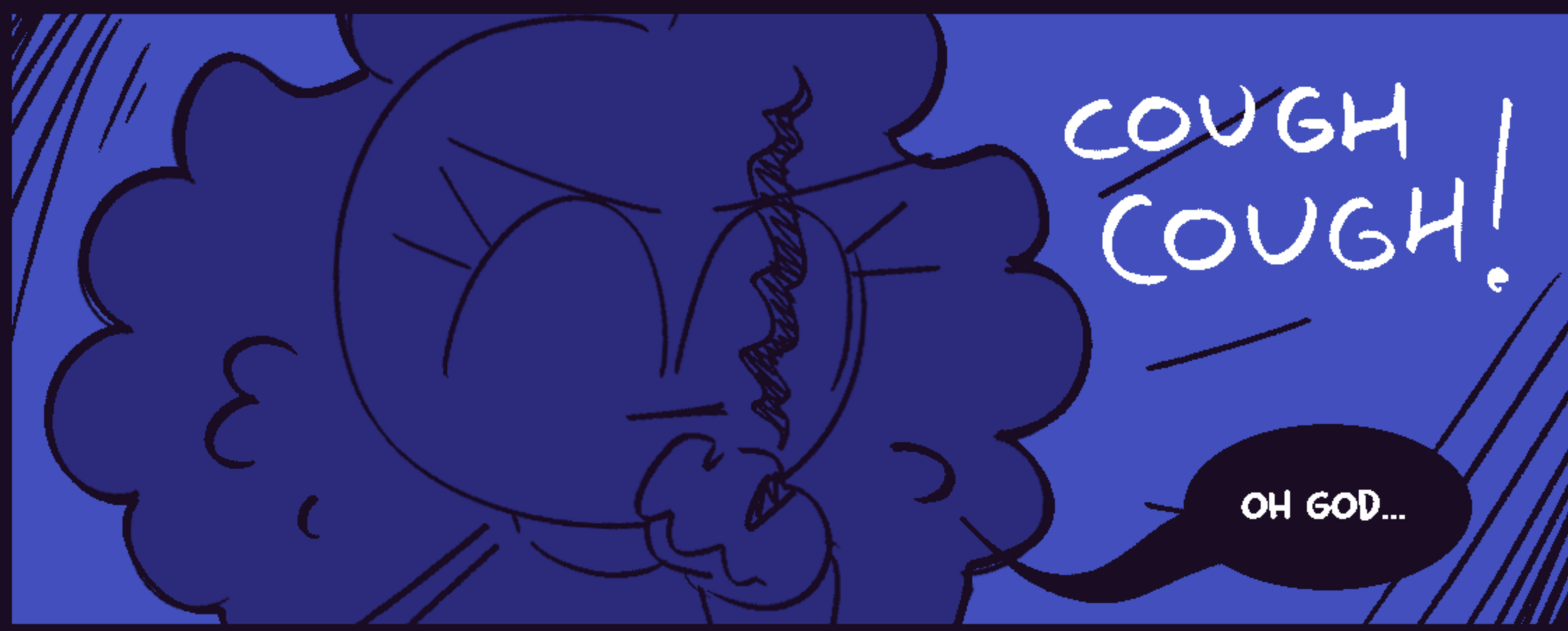


I'M GONNA GO SLEEP.
NIGHT, EVERYONE!

NIGHT, LOVE...

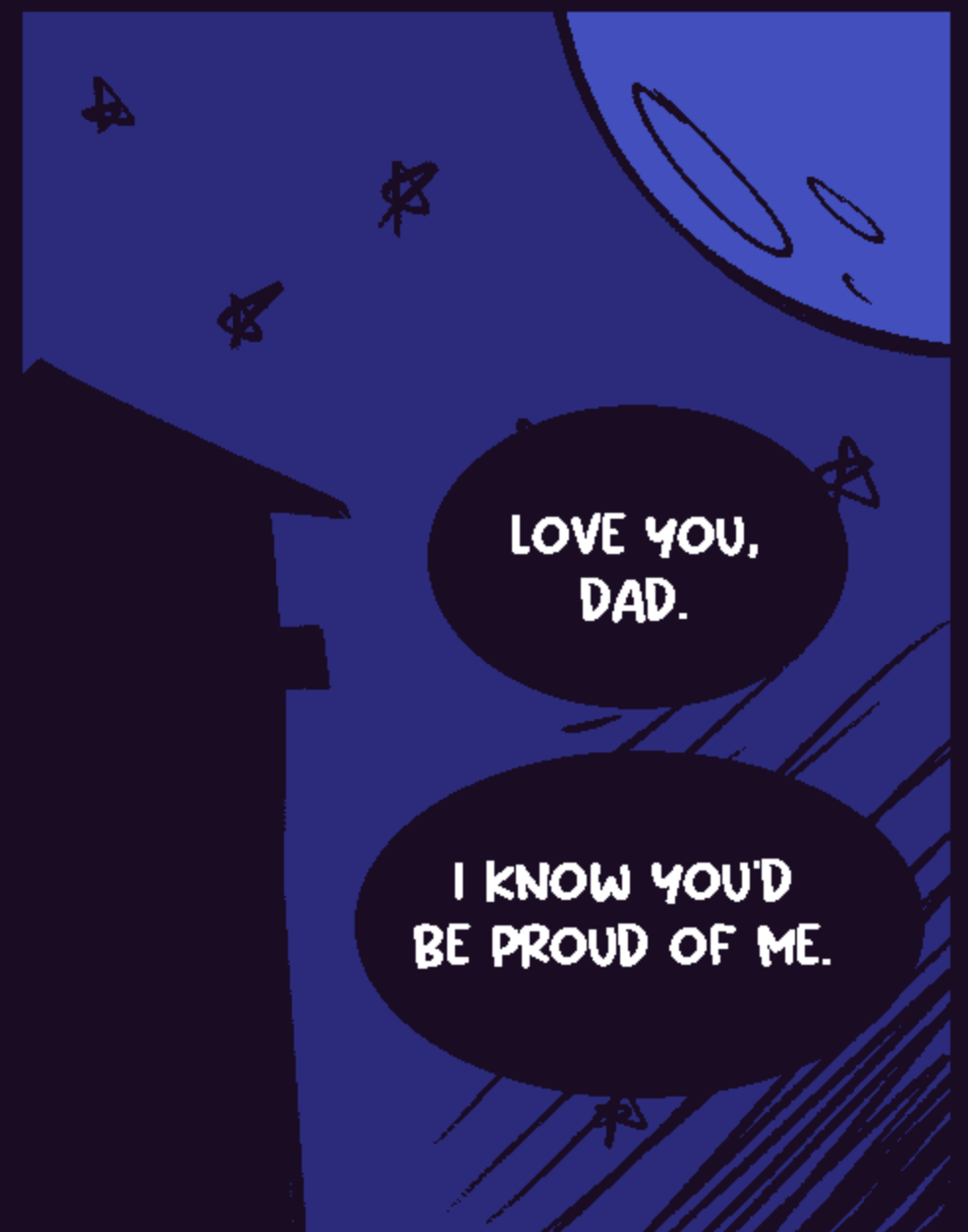
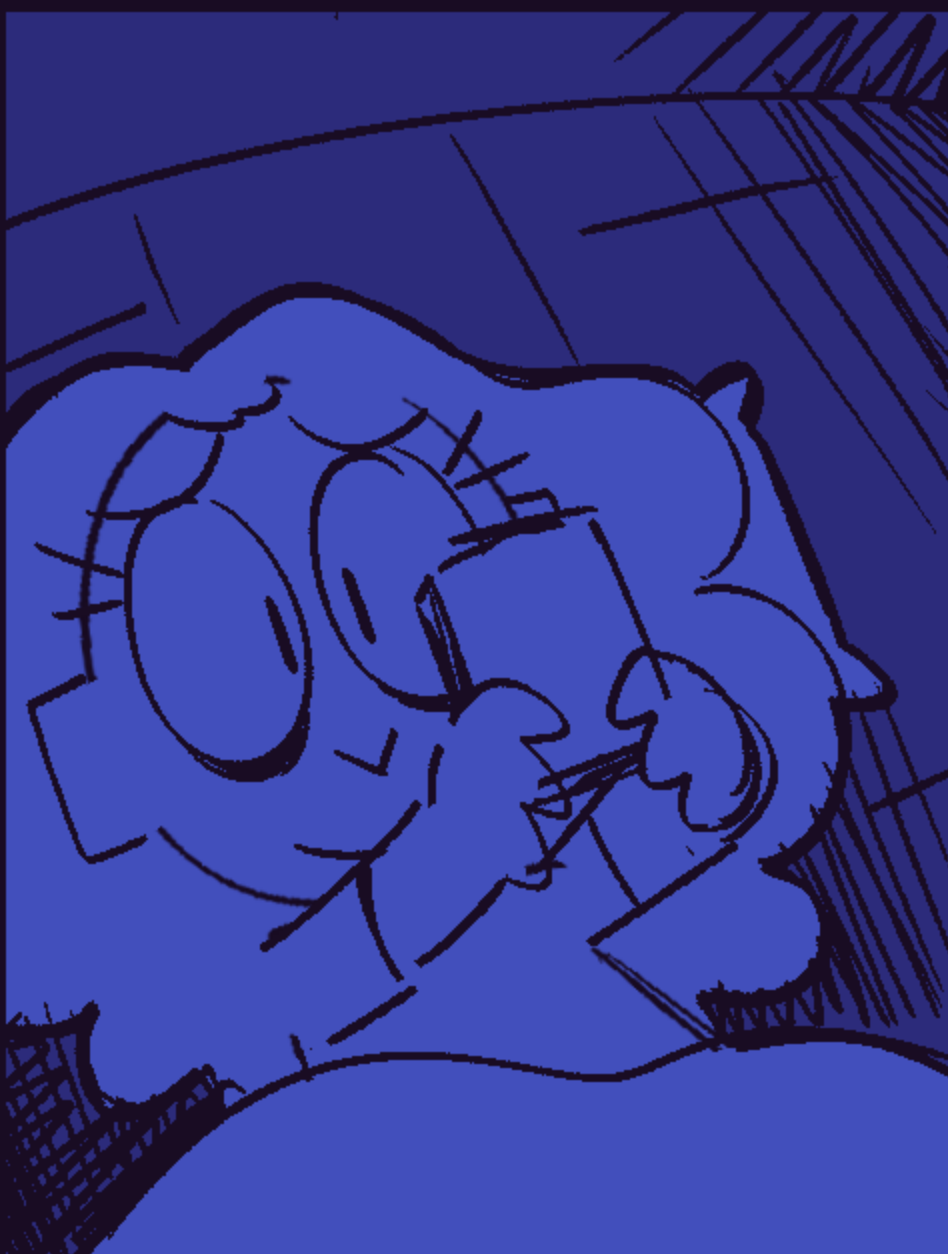
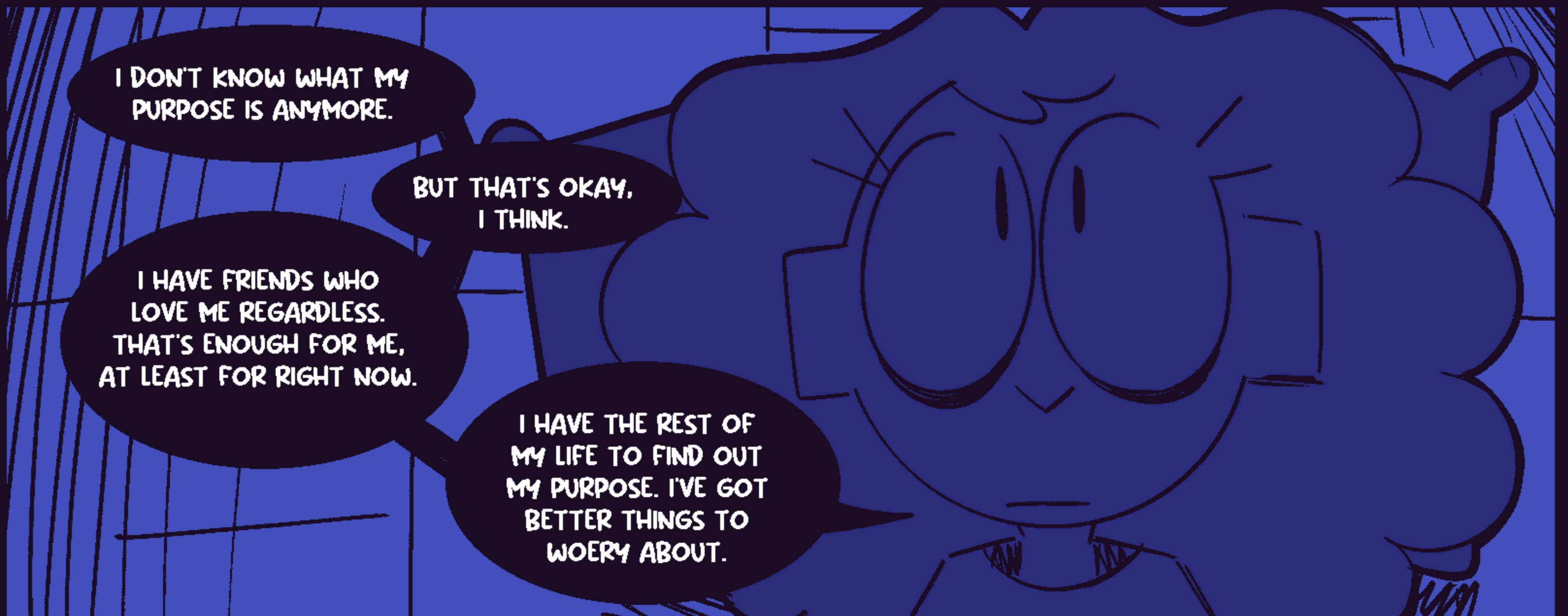
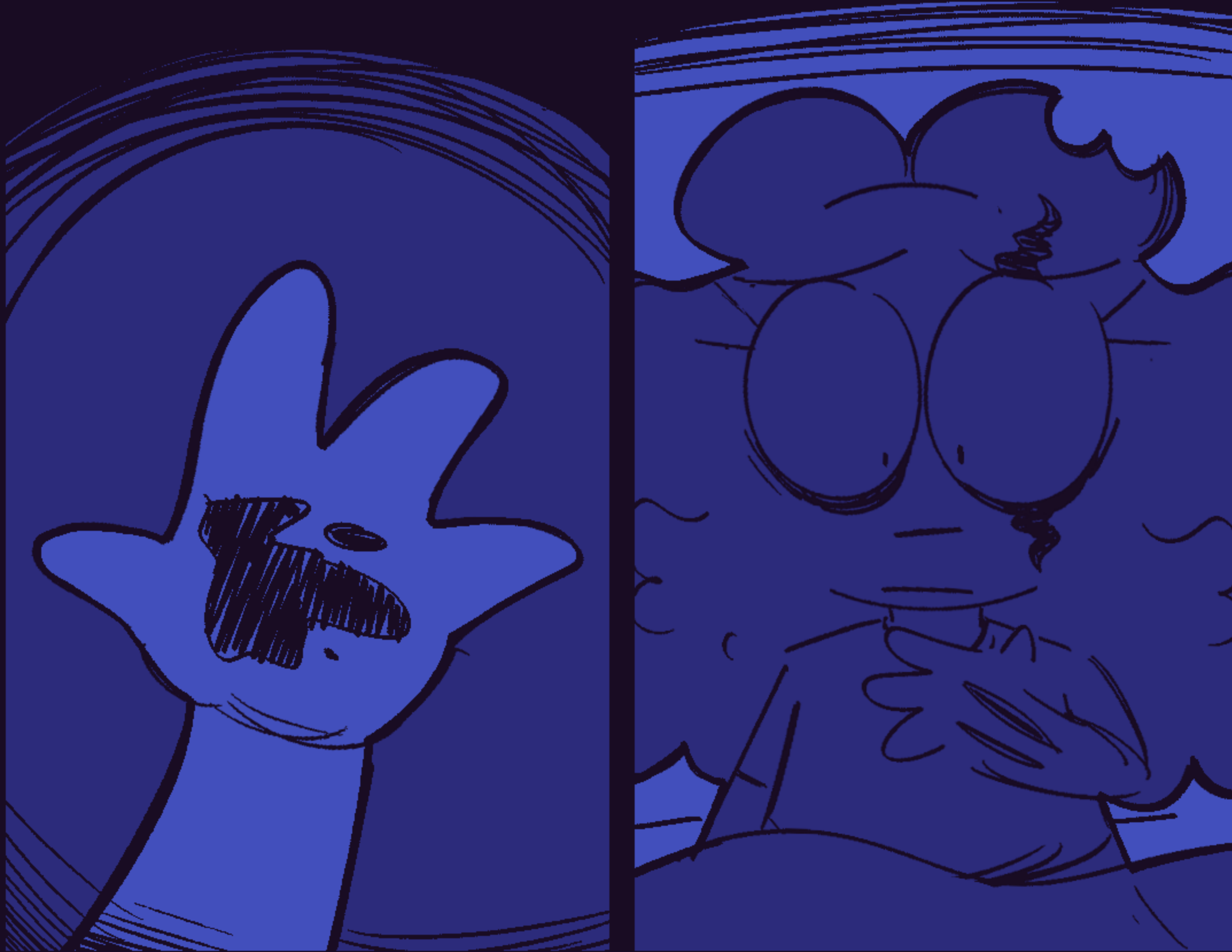
NIGHT!

GOOD NIGHT,
CHILLY BILLY!



COUGH
COUGH!

OH GOD...





MAYOR BONES? IT'S
UH, YOUR SECRETARY...
THERE'S PROTESTERS OUTSIDE
CALLING FOR YOU TO
RESIGN....



MAYOR?



THEY'RE GONNA
KILL ME
THEY'RE GONNA
KILL ME

OH GOD
OH GOD
OH GOD

IT'S OVER
IT'S OVER
IT'S OVER

S- SIR? ARE
YOU OKAY?



WHAT'S
THIS?

N-NO, D-DON'T
READ THAT...



...WHAT
THE
HELL?

DEAR MR. BONES,

35 YEARS AGO, YOU
KILLED YOUR LOVER, AND
MY BROTHER, HITCH KEYLIME.
AND NOW, WE'RE GONNA
KILL YOU!

YOU WON'T KNOW WHEN.
BUT IT'LL HAPPEN!

BE READY TO DIE,

AHHHH

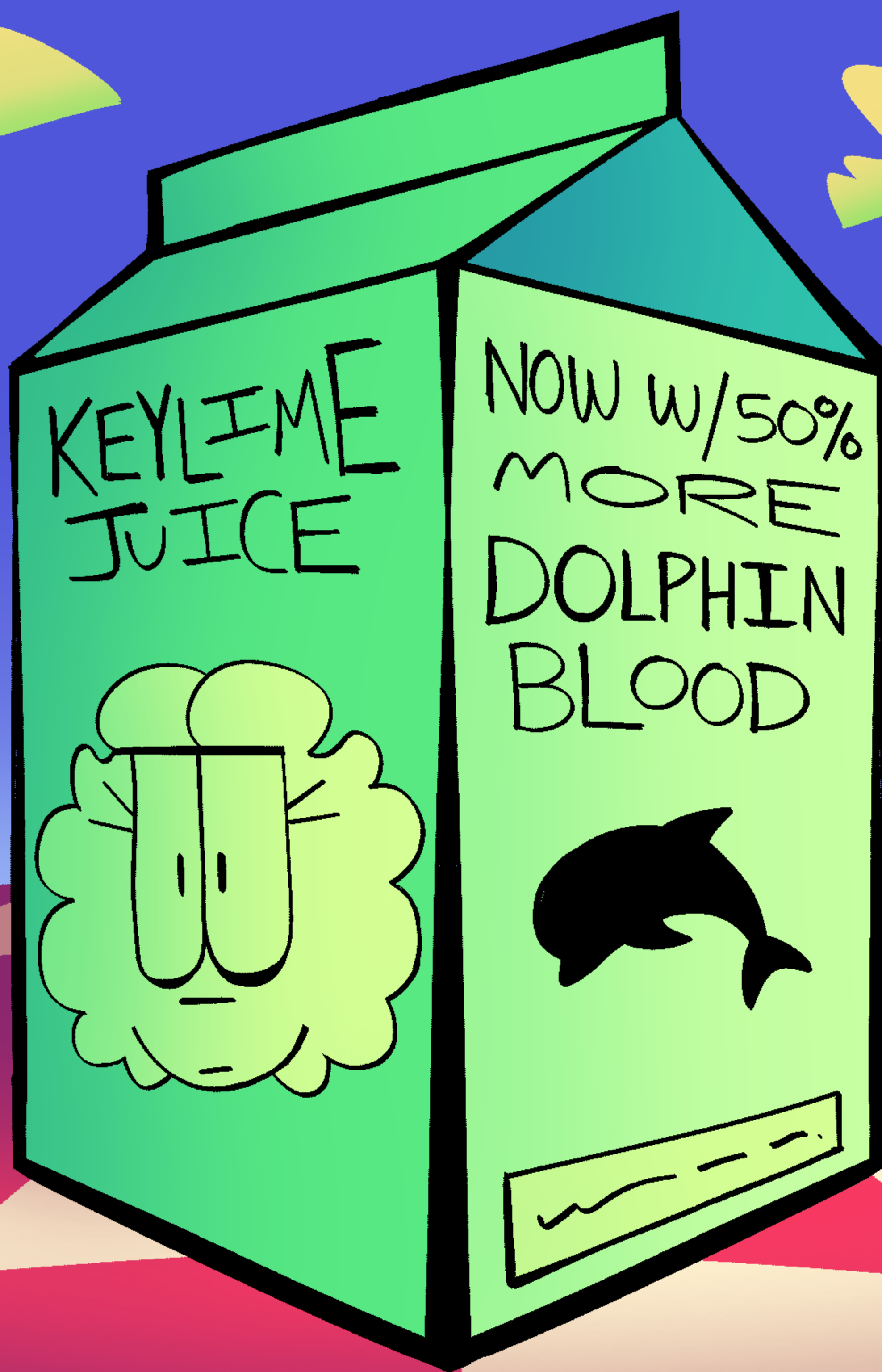
END! (FOR
NOW)



#22

CHILI

THE VAMPIRE OPOSSUM



"KEYLIME'S SUBLIME PARADE"
PART ONE

tw:

blood

breakdowns

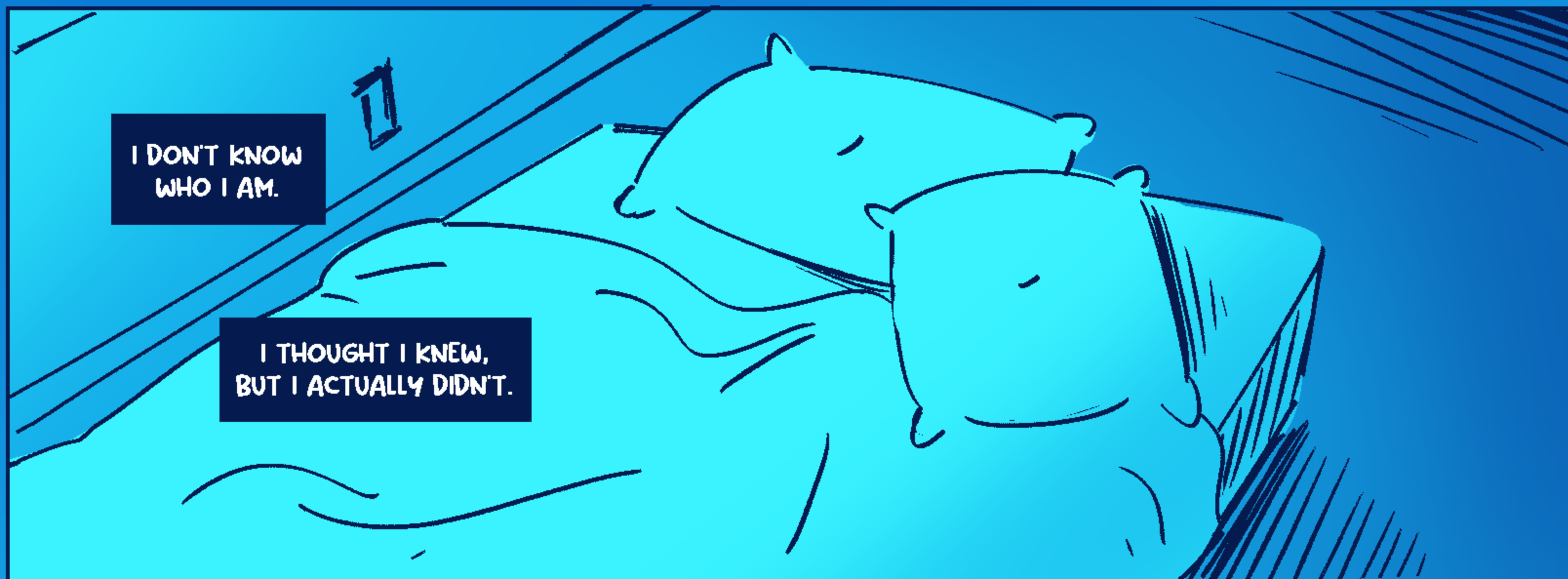
brief mention of suicide

bright colors

intrusive thoughts

themes of depression

trauma



I DON'T KNOW
WHO I AM.

I THOUGHT I KNEW,
BUT I ACTUALLY DIDN'T.



I USED TO GO BY SYNTH,
BUT THAT NAME DOESN'T
FIT ME ANYMORE.

AND NEITHER
DOES CYNTHIA.



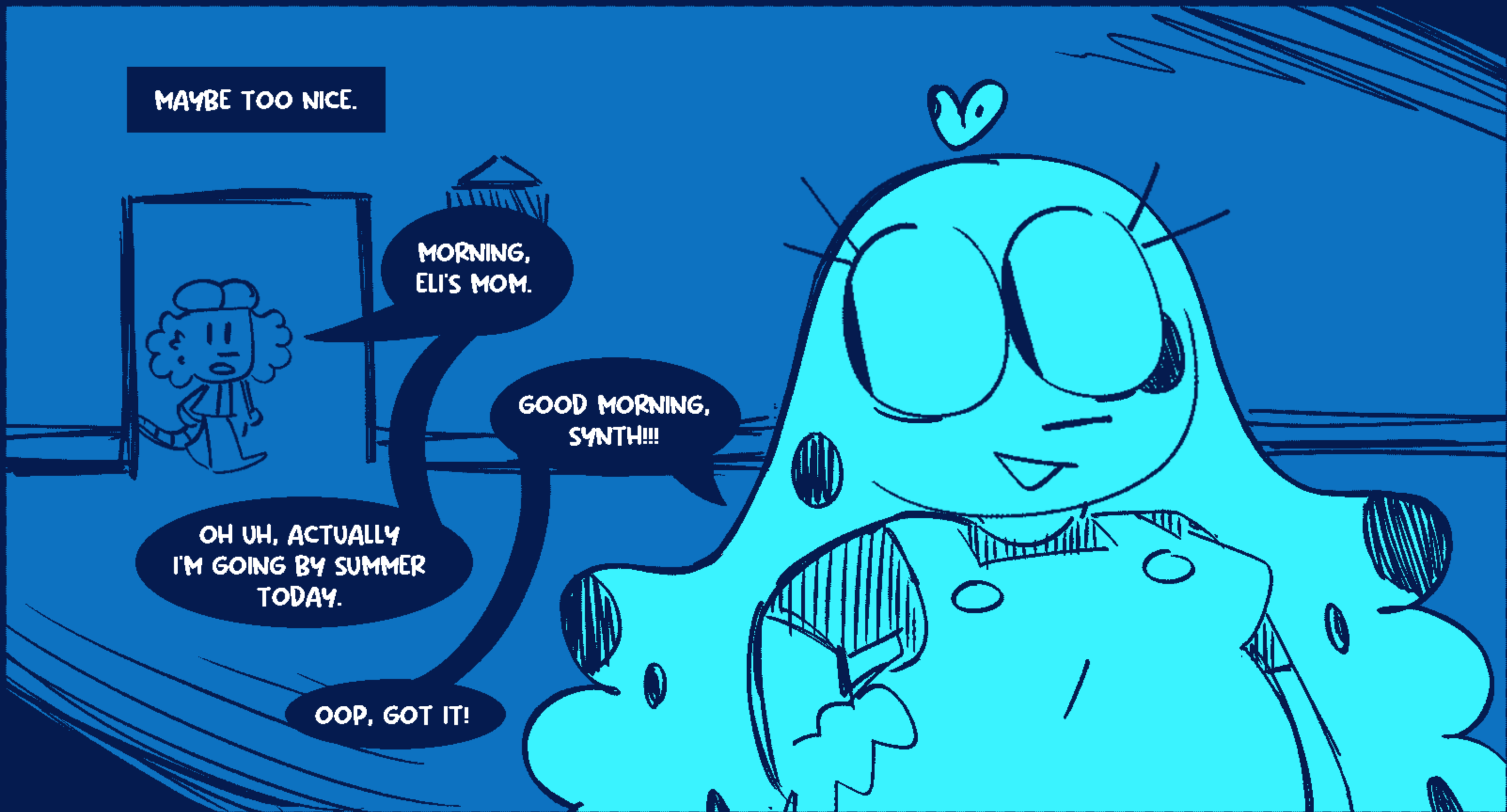
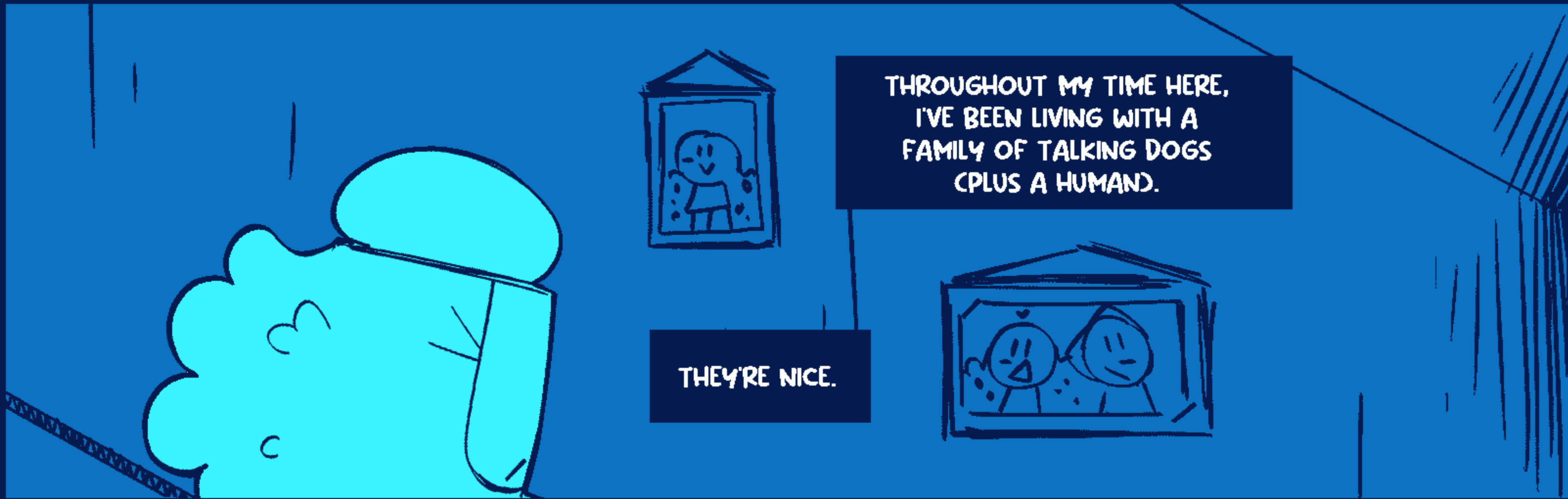
IS SUMMER OKAY?

AH, FUCK IT.

MY NAME IS
SUMMER KEYLIME.

AND FOR THE LAST
MONTH AND A HALF,
I'VE LIVED IN DEADBARK.

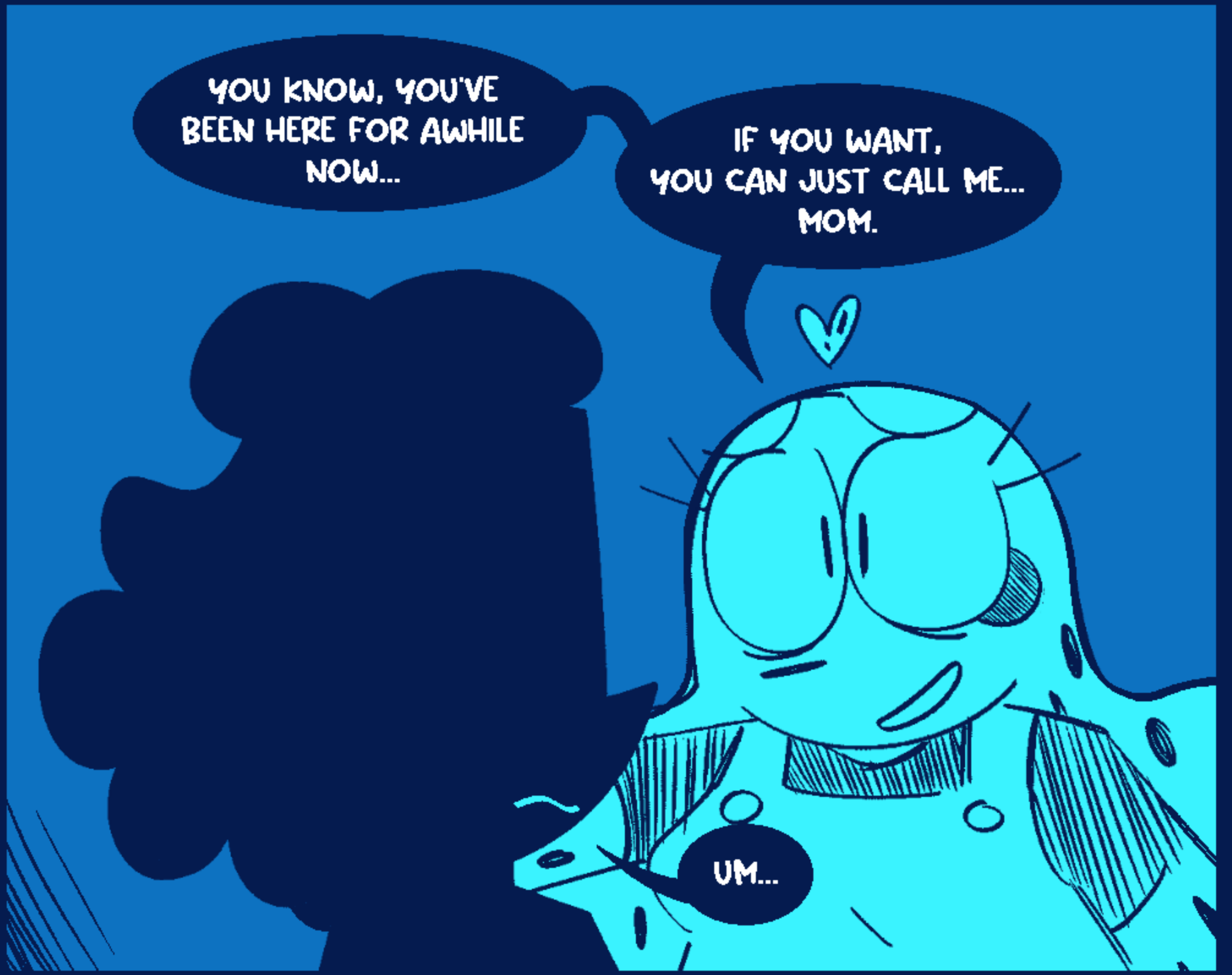






THERE YA GO!!
GOOD AS NEW!

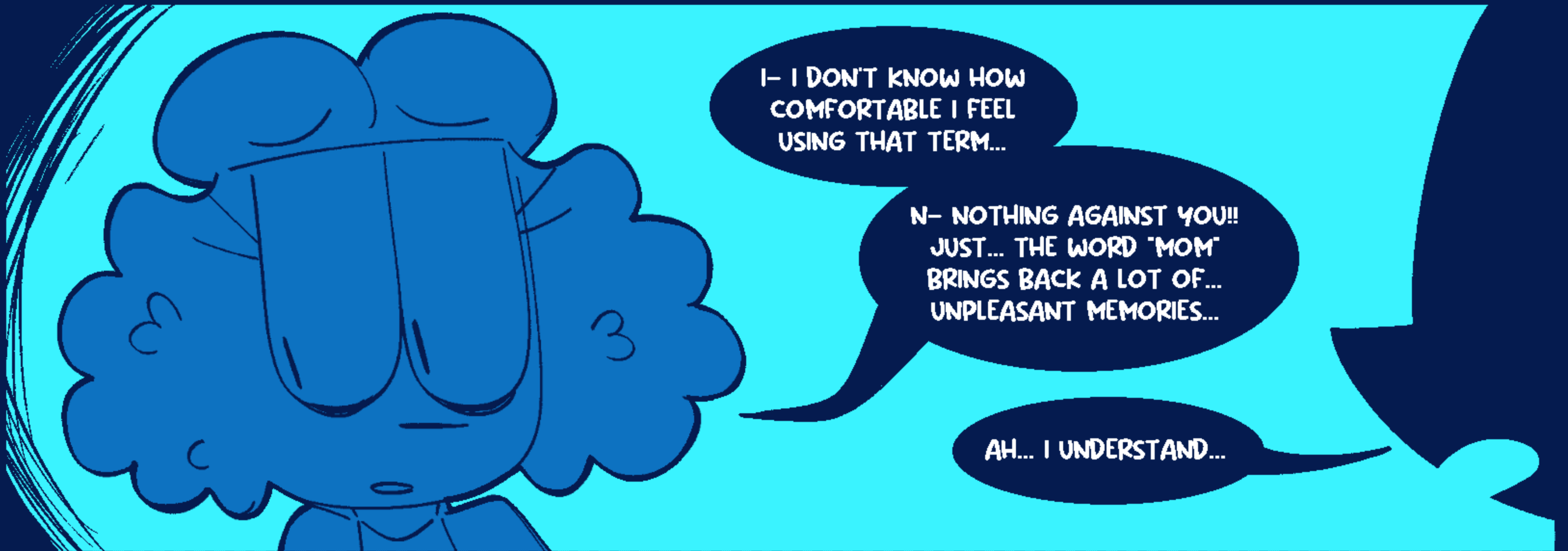
TH-THANKS,
ELI'S MOM...



YOU KNOW, YOU'VE
BEEN HERE FOR AWHILE
NOW...

IF YOU WANT,
YOU CAN JUST CALL ME...
MOM.

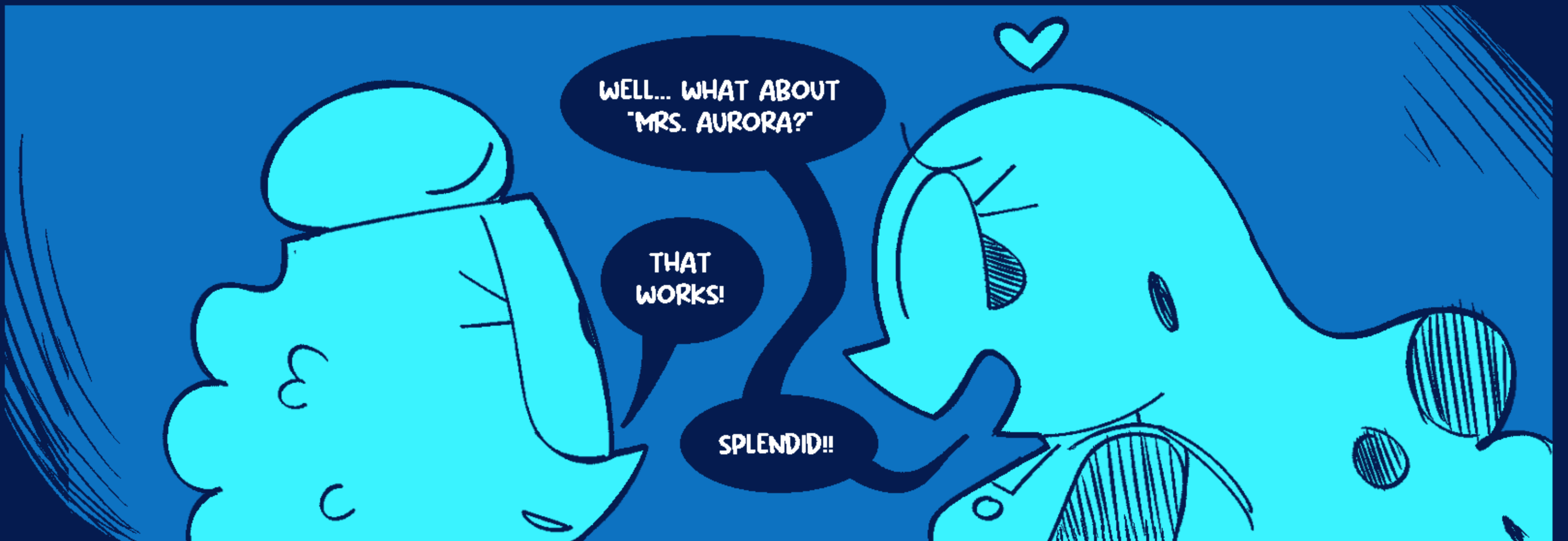
UM...



I- I DON'T KNOW HOW
COMFORTABLE I FEEL
USING THAT TERM...

N- NOTHING AGAINST YOU!!
JUST... THE WORD 'MOM'
BRINGS BACK A LOT OF...
UNPLEASANT MEMORIES...

AH... I UNDERSTAND...



WELL... WHAT ABOUT
'MRS. AURORA?'

THAT
WORKS!

SPLENDID!!



THE OTHERS ARE OUTSIDE
WAITING FOR YOU!! HAVE
A GOOD DAY, SUMMER!

Y-YOU TOO,
MRS. AURORA!



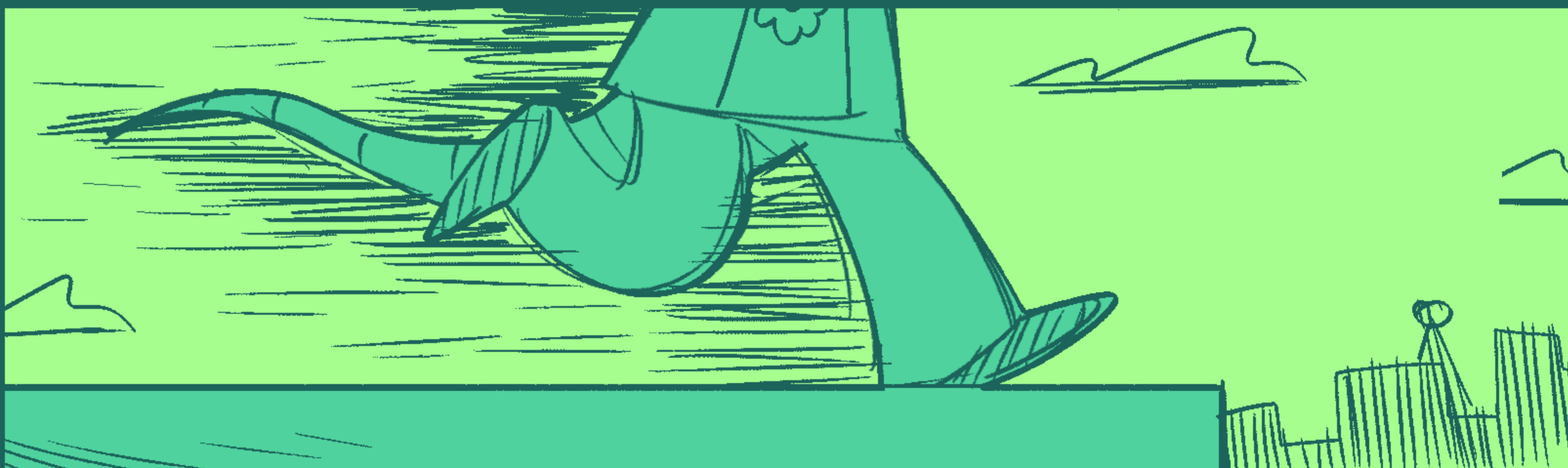
I'VE BEEN GETTING BACK INTO PARKOUR AGAIN SINCE I'VE ARRIVED HERE.



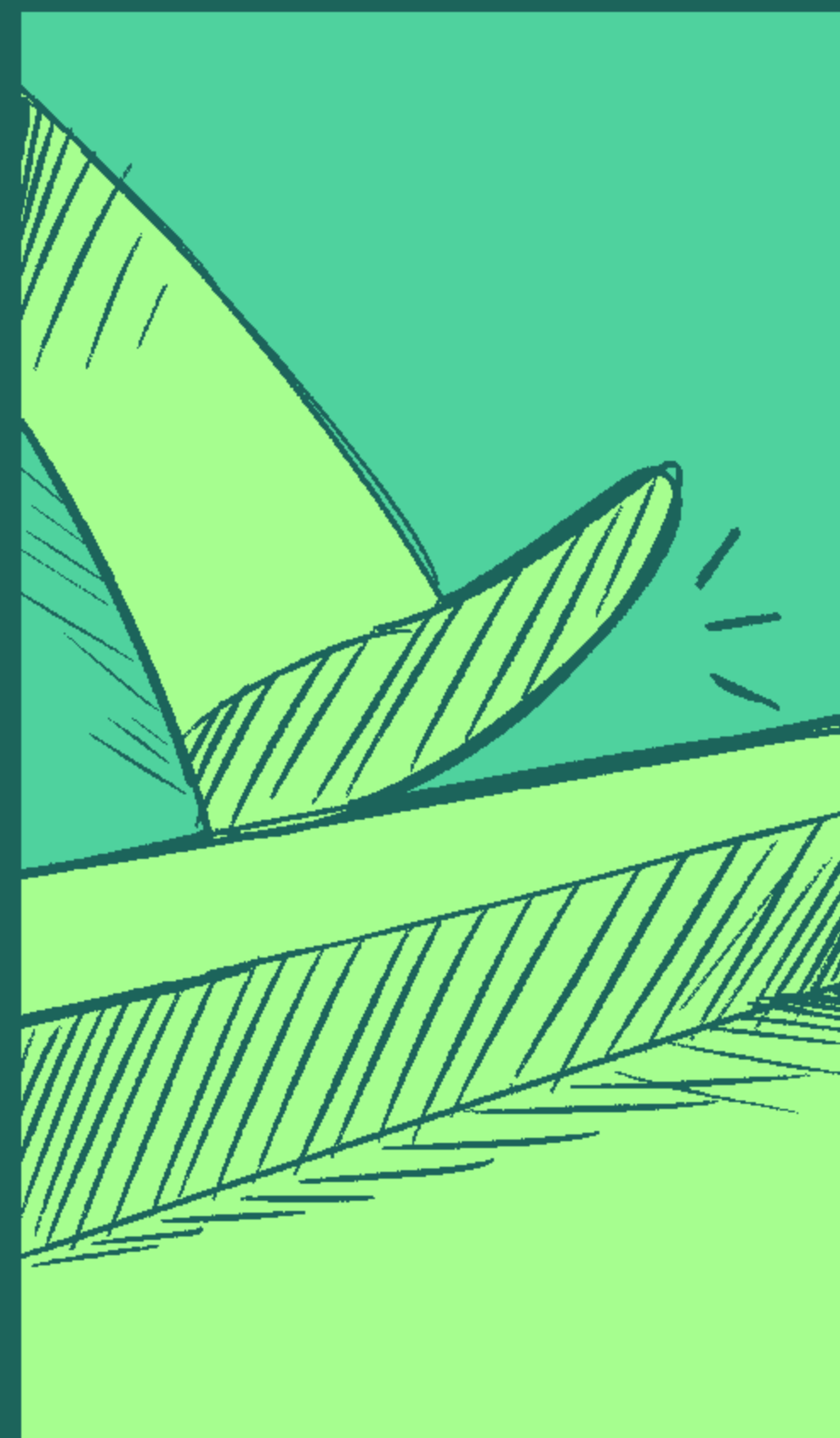
IT'S BEEN A FEW YEARS, AND I'M A LITTLE RUSTY.

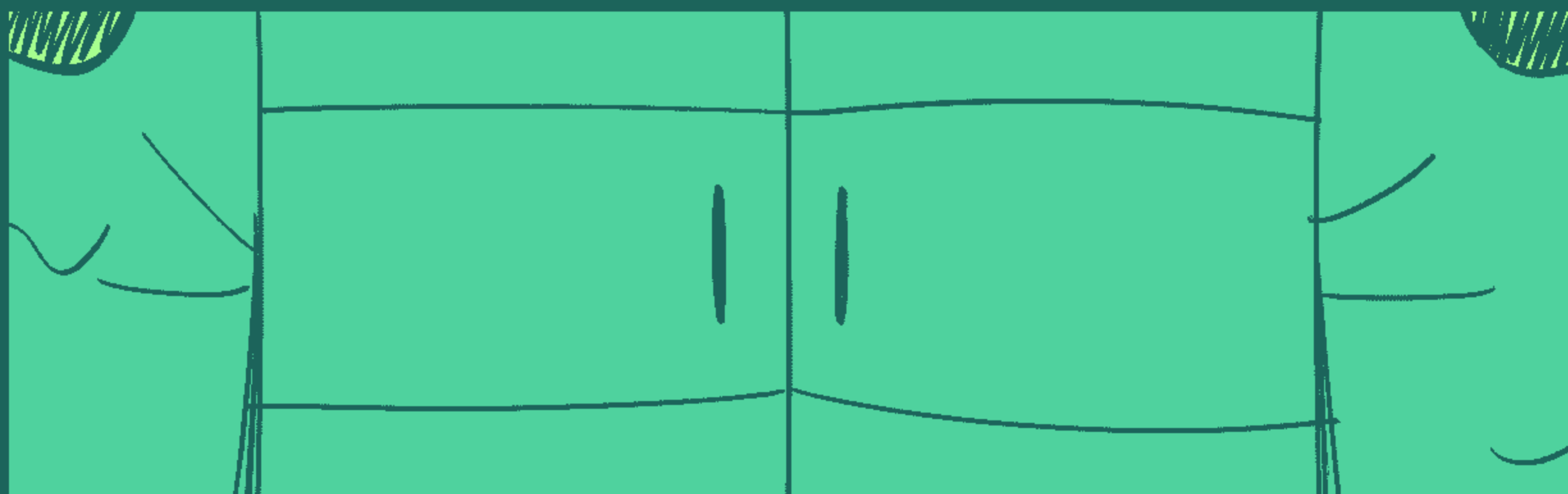
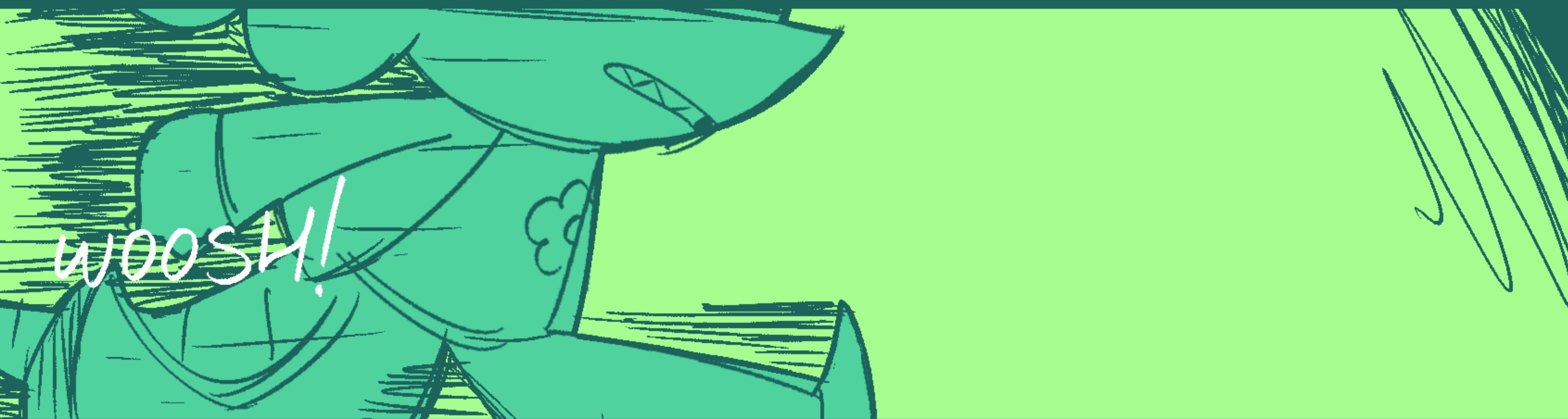
BUT I'M GETTING USED TO IT AGAIN. I FORGOT HOW FUN IT WAS!

THE FEELING OF THE WIND, COMBING THROUGH MY HAIR... IT'S LIKE I'M BACK AT ELEMENTARY.



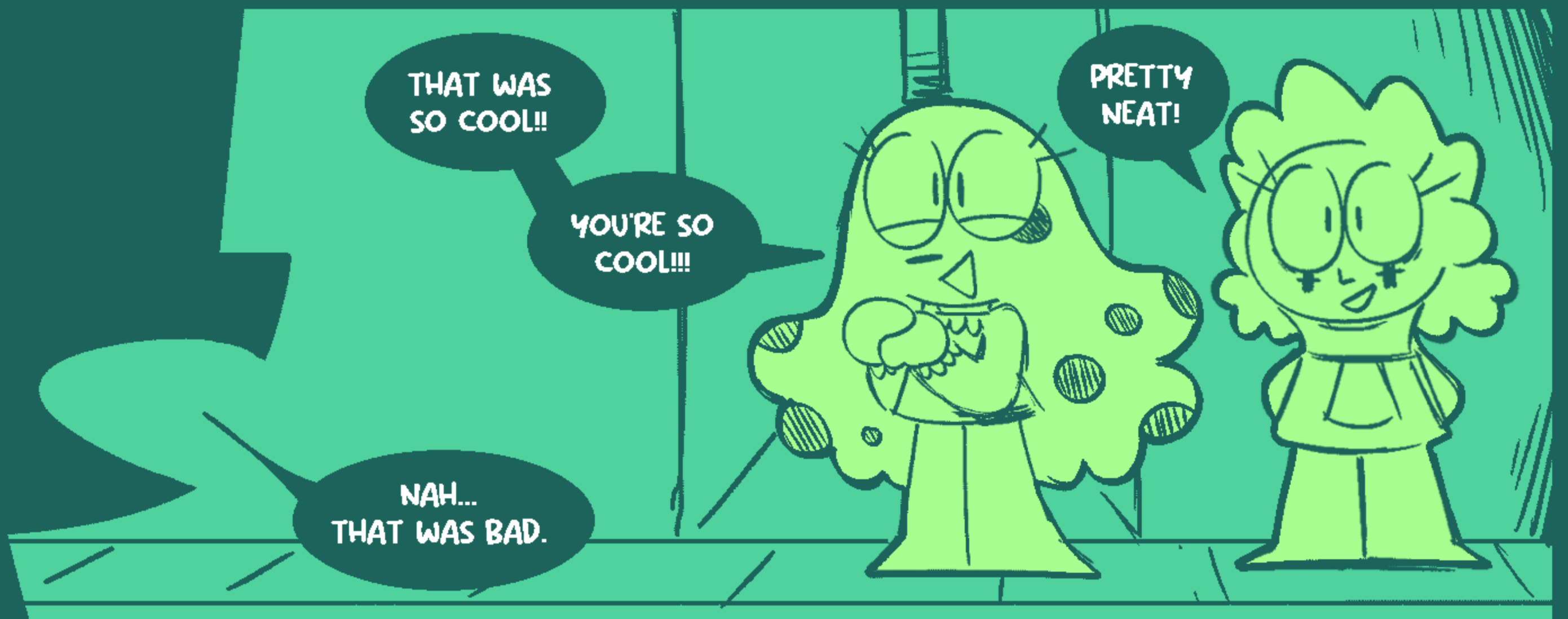
WOOSH!

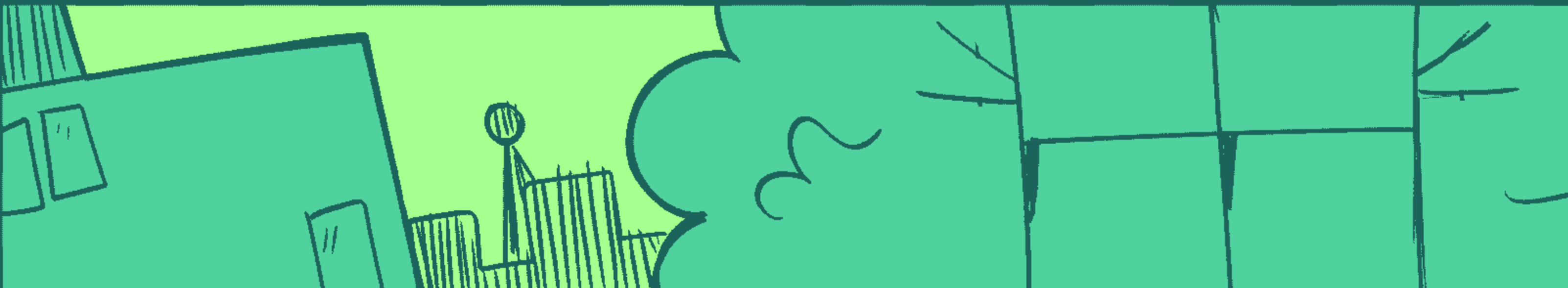
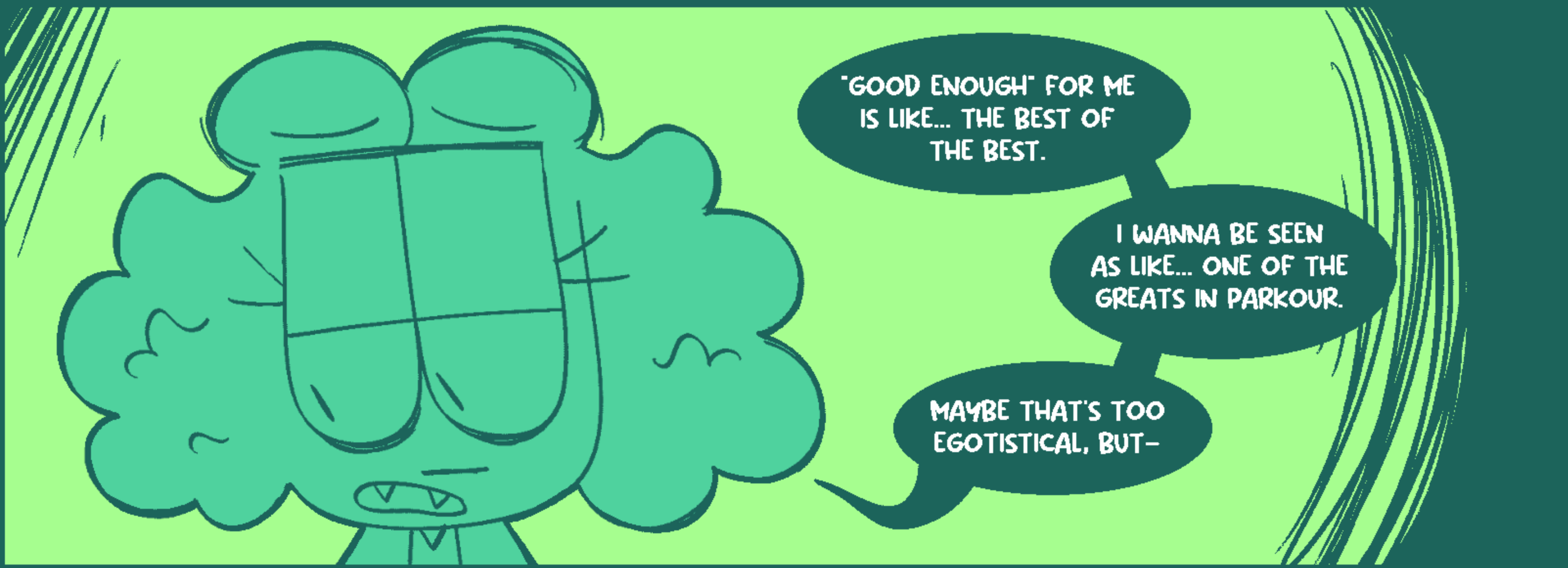






I JUST WISH I
WAS GOOD AT IT.





SCHOOL'S ALRIGHT.

MOST OF THE PEOPLE HERE
ARE FRIENDLY. THERE'S
SOME JERKS, SURE, BUT I'M
NOT LIKE... REGULARLY
BULLIED OR ANYTHING.

THOUGH MAYBE THAT'S
JUST BECAUSE NOBODY
KNOWS OF MY... PAST.

JOHN C.
WATER
MIDDLE

HEY SYNTH!

HEY NOAH.
IT'S SUMMER
NOW.

AH, I THOUGHT
IT WAS SPRING!

NAH, THAT WAS
LAST WEEK.

SYNTH!!!

HEY JACKIE. IT'S
SUMMER NOW.

NEATO!! I
WANTED TO
TALK TO YOU!

I READ THE POEM YOU MADE
YESTERDAY FOR MRS. TILLER'S
CLASS!! IT WAS GROOOOOOVY!

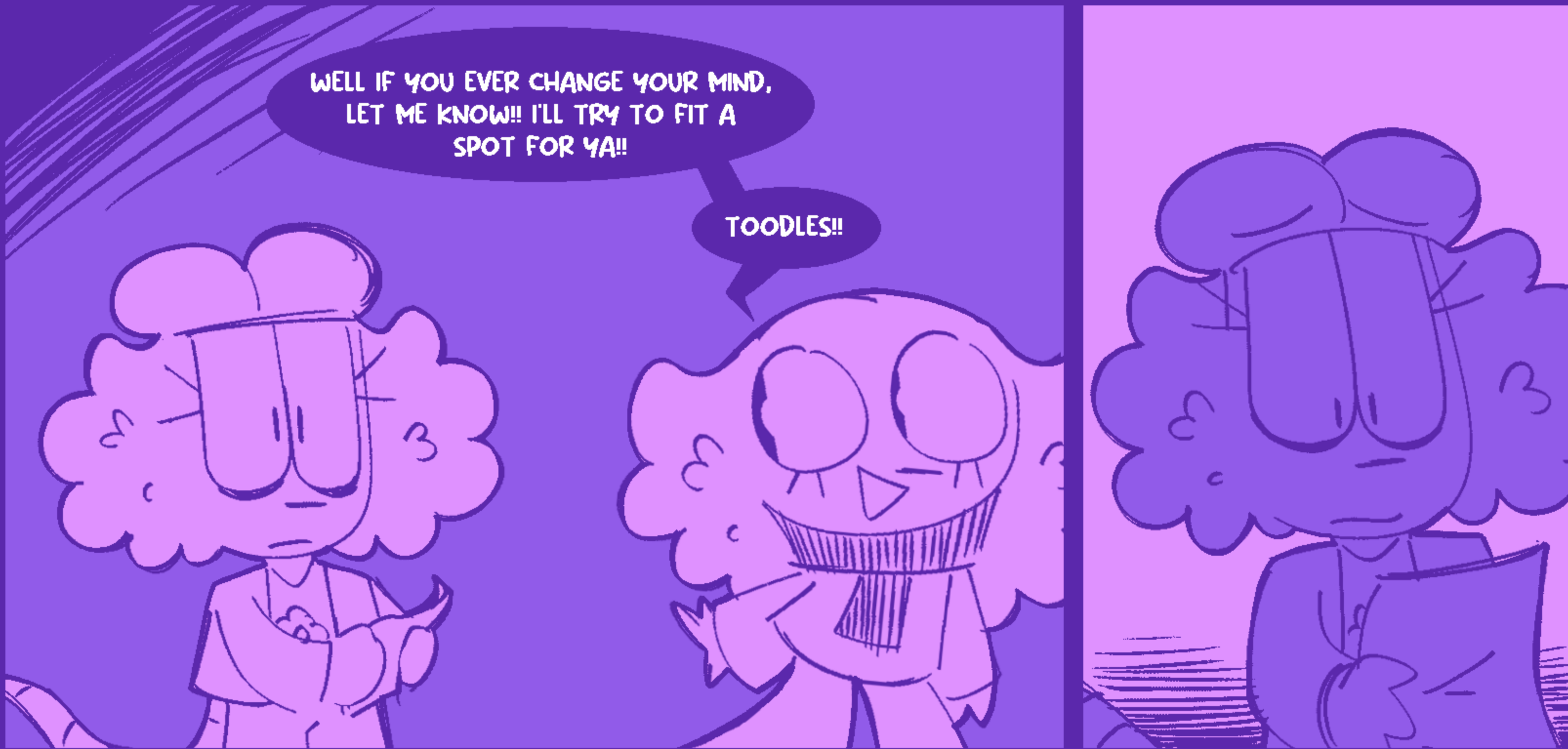
WE'RE STILL LOOKING FOR
MORE STUDENTS TO JOIN
THE POETRY CLUB!!! YOU
INTERESTED?

OH SORRY, I UH...

I ALREADY HAVE A LOT
OF STUFF GOING ON IN
THE AFTERNOONS, I'M
AFRAID...

AW, BUMMER!!!

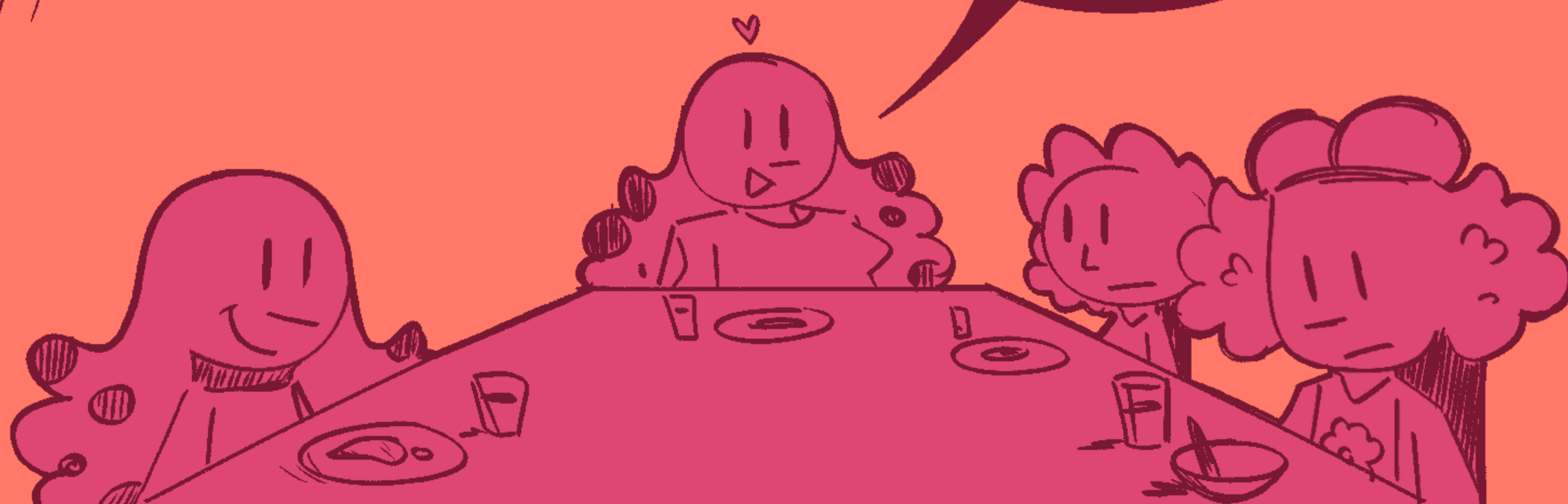
CLOSE, IT'S SUMMER.



STELLA'S RIGHT, SUMMER!

POETRY CAN BE A
REALLY GOOD OUTLET
TO GET YOUR FEELINGS
ACROSS.

SOMETIMES I WRITE
POETRY TO VENT OUT
MY STRESSES.



EVEN IF I'M NOT
ALL THAT GREAT AT IT,
IT'S STILL NICE TO JUST
MAKE SOMETHING FOR
THE HECK OF IT!

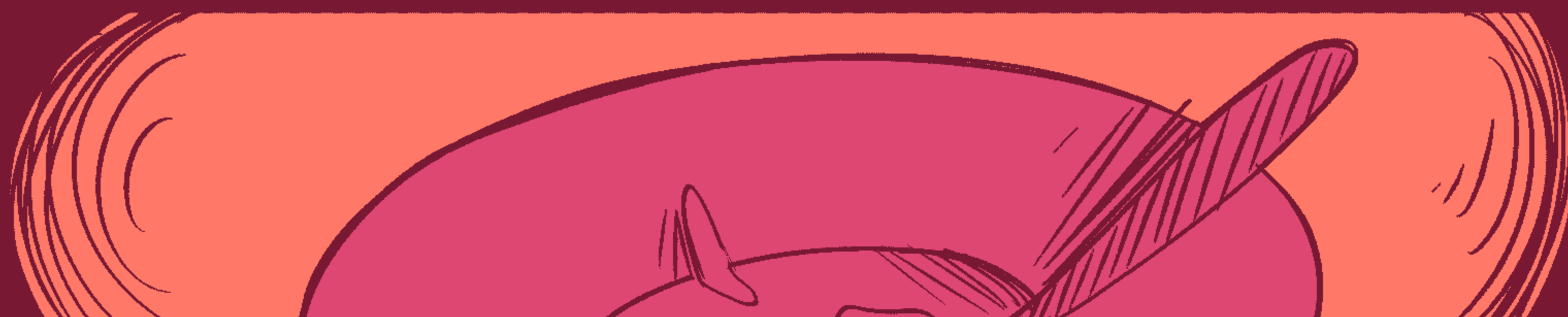
AND IT'S ALSO NICE
TO MAKE SOMETHING
THAT YOU DON'T HAVE
TO SHOW ANYONE ELSE!

WHY WOULD YOU MAKE
SOMETHING THAT YOU
WOULDN'T SHARE?

NOT EVERY CREATIVE PROJECT
HAS TO OR NEEDS TO BE SHARED.

SOMETIMES YOU JUST WANNA
MAKE SOMETHING THAT ONLY YOU'LL
EVER SEE.

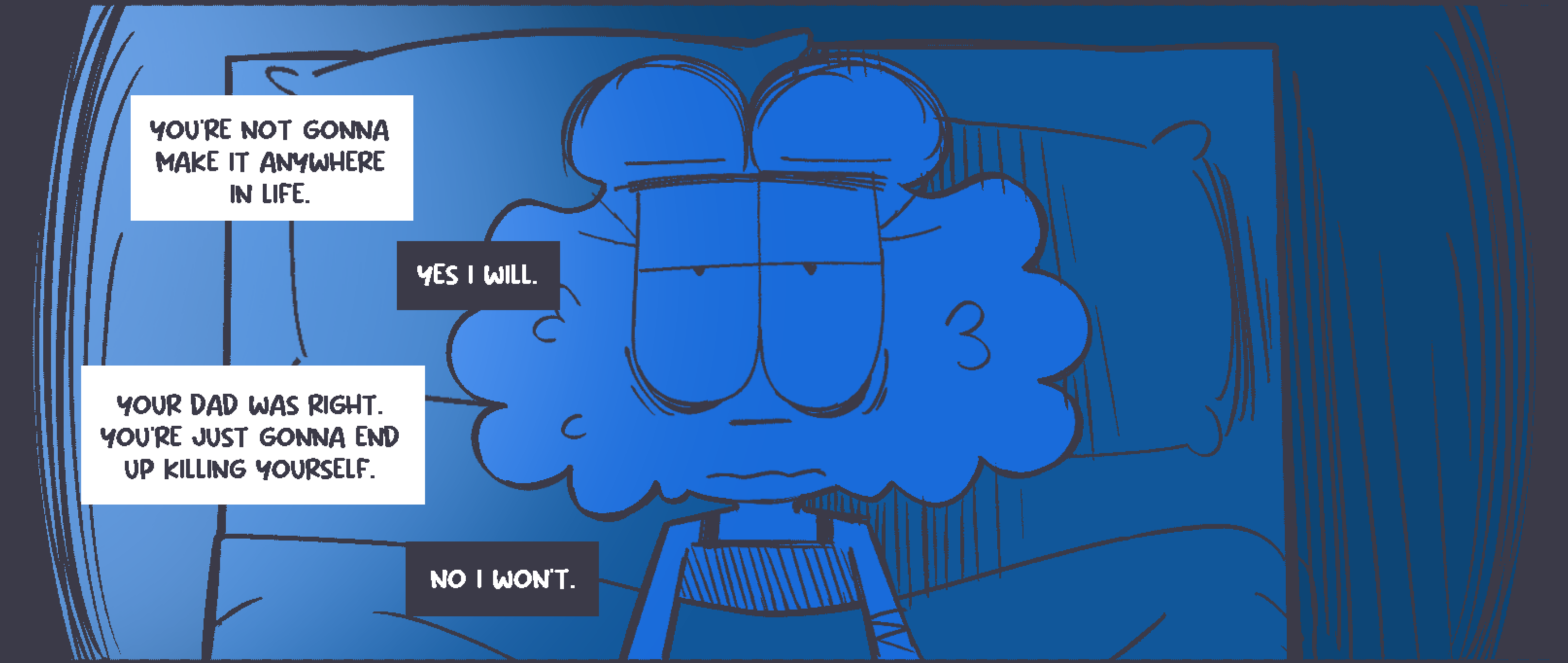
MAYBE IT'S TOO PERSONAL TO SHARE.
OR YOU JUST DON'T FEEL LIKE SHOWING
ANYONE ELSE! SO YOU KEEP IT TO
YOURSELF.





GOD, YOU'RE SO
FUCKING STUPID.

SHUT UP.

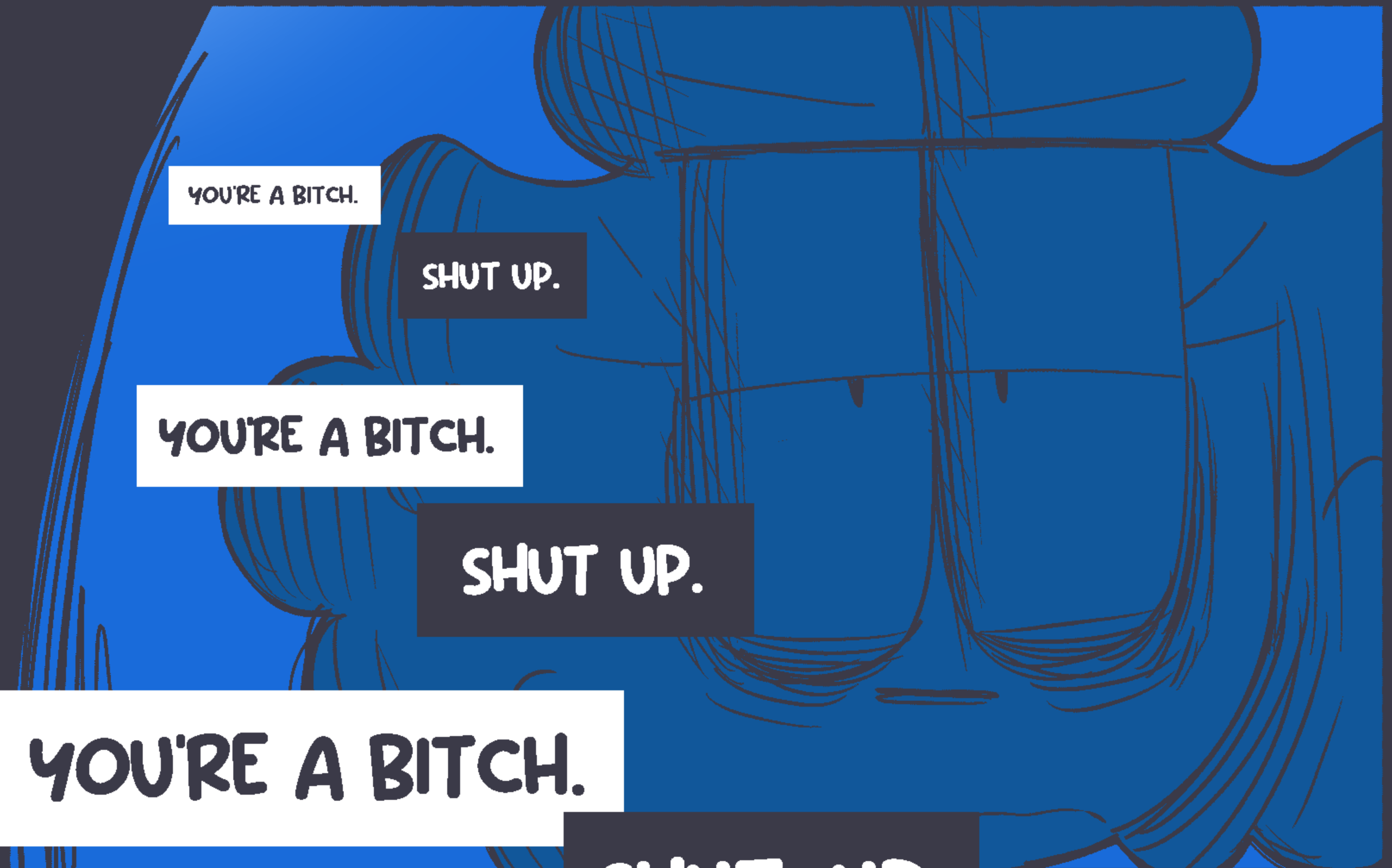


YOU'RE NOT GONNA
MAKE IT ANYWHERE
IN LIFE.

YES I WILL.

YOUR DAD WAS RIGHT.
YOU'RE JUST GONNA END
UP KILLING YOURSELF.

NO I WON'T.



YOU'RE A BITCH.

SHUT UP.

YOU'RE A BITCH.

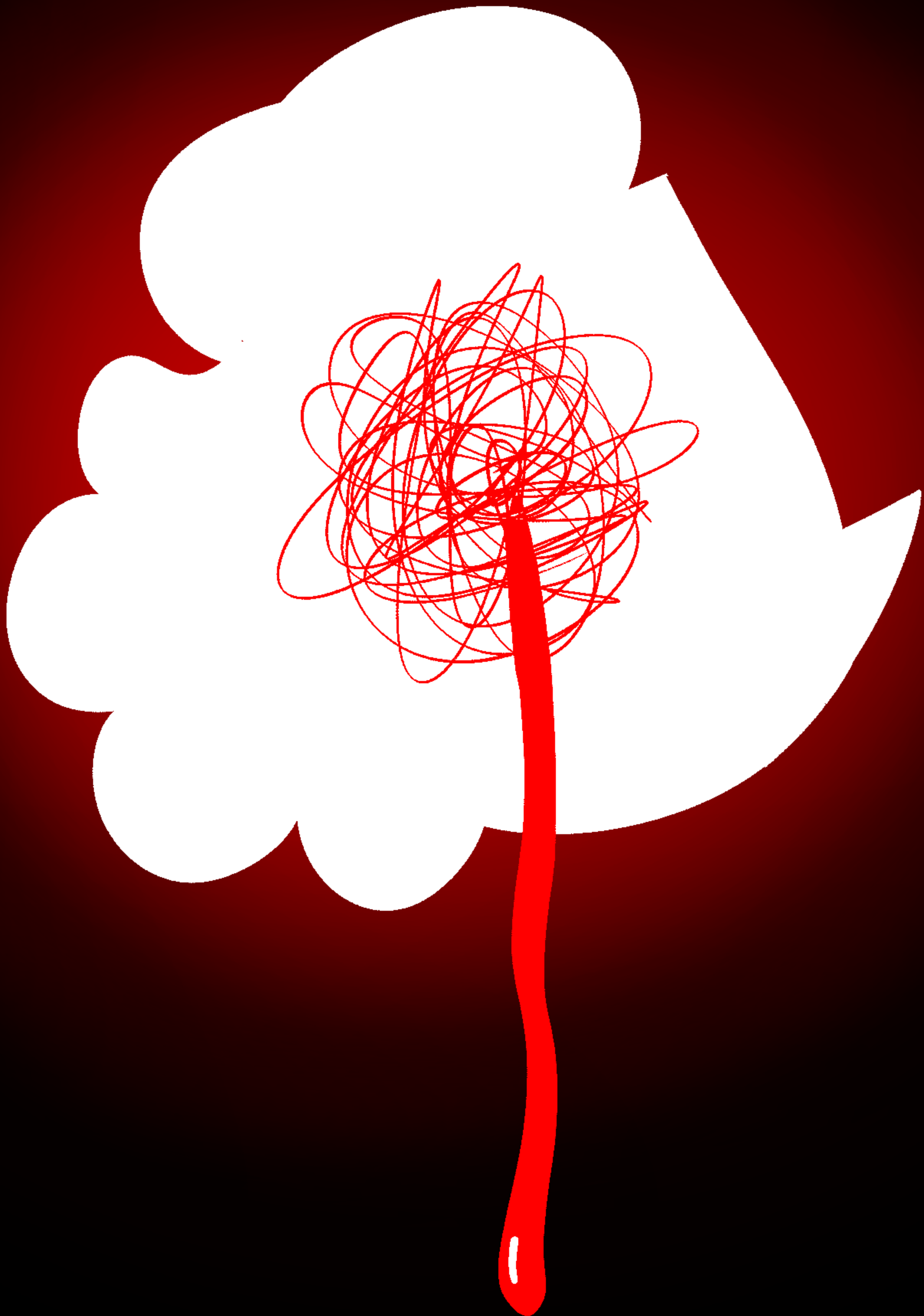
SHUT UP.

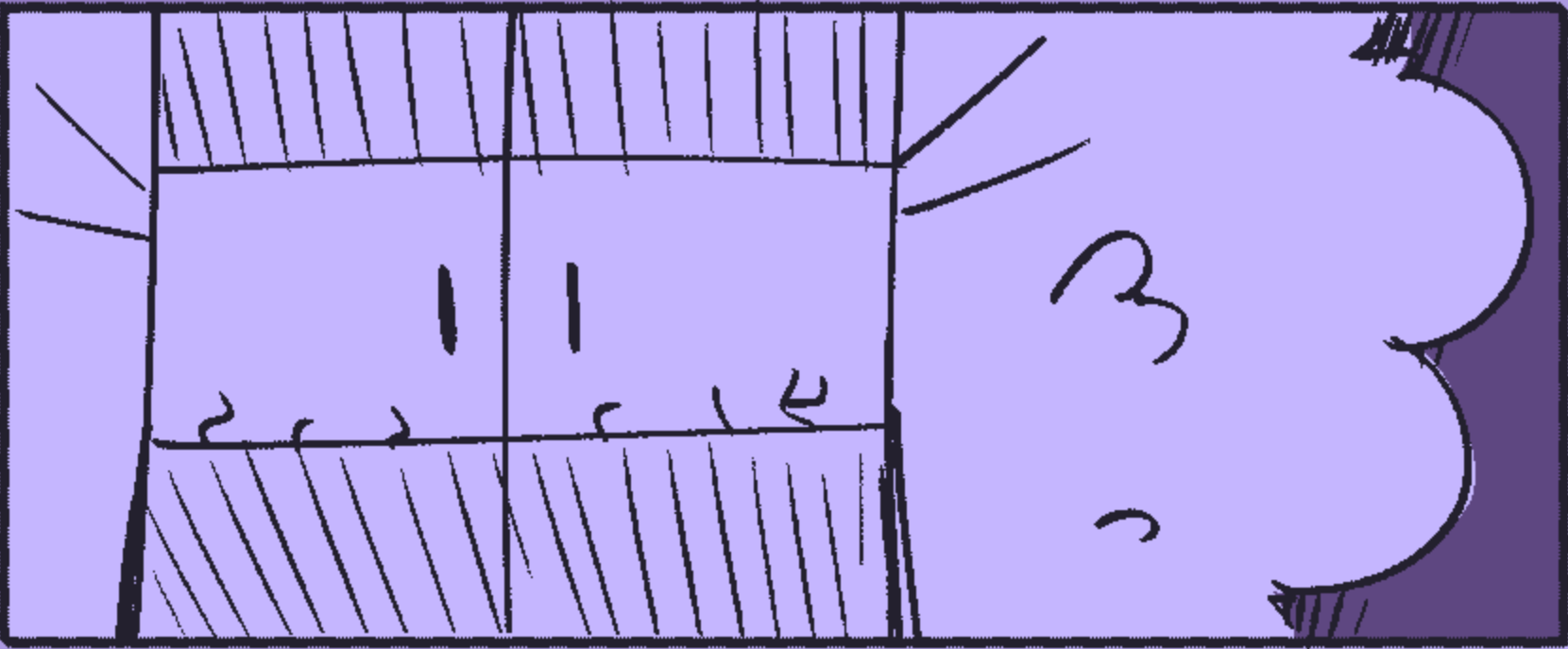
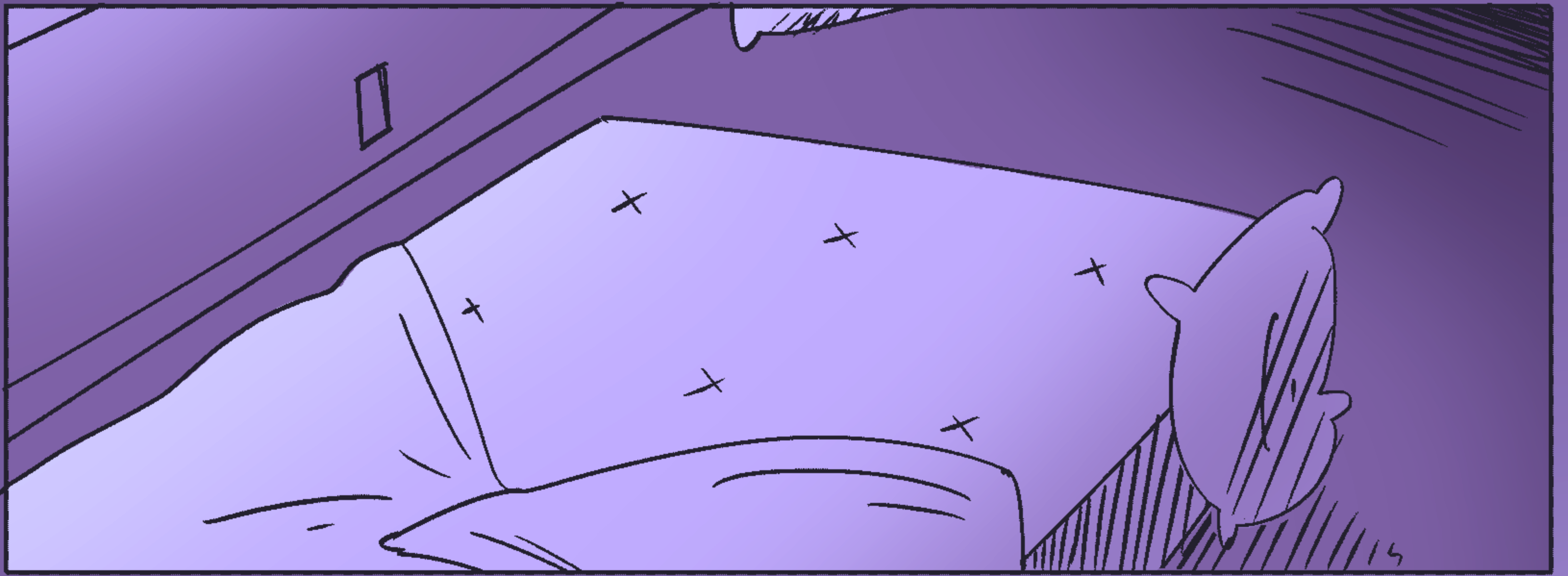
YOU'RE A BITCH.

SHUT. UP.

BITCH BITCH BITCH

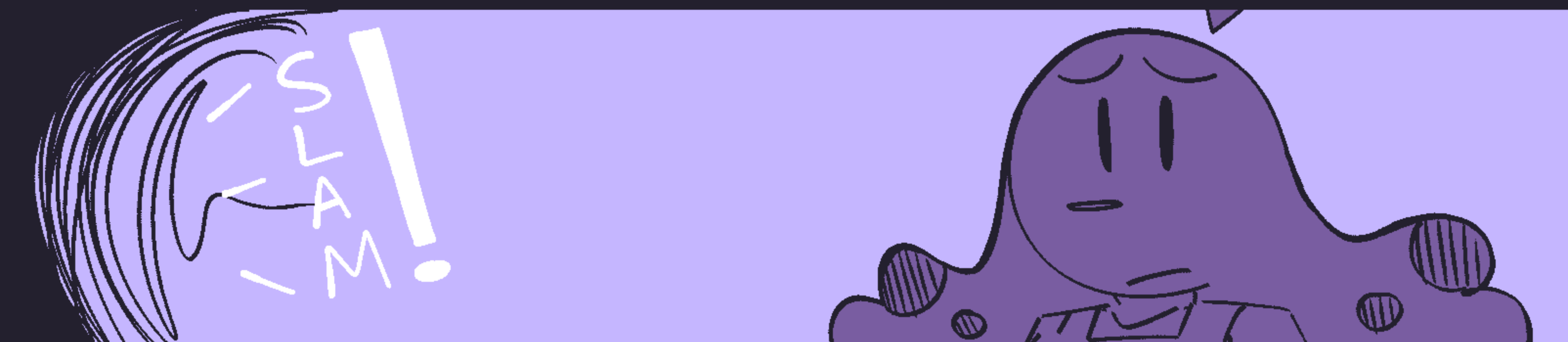
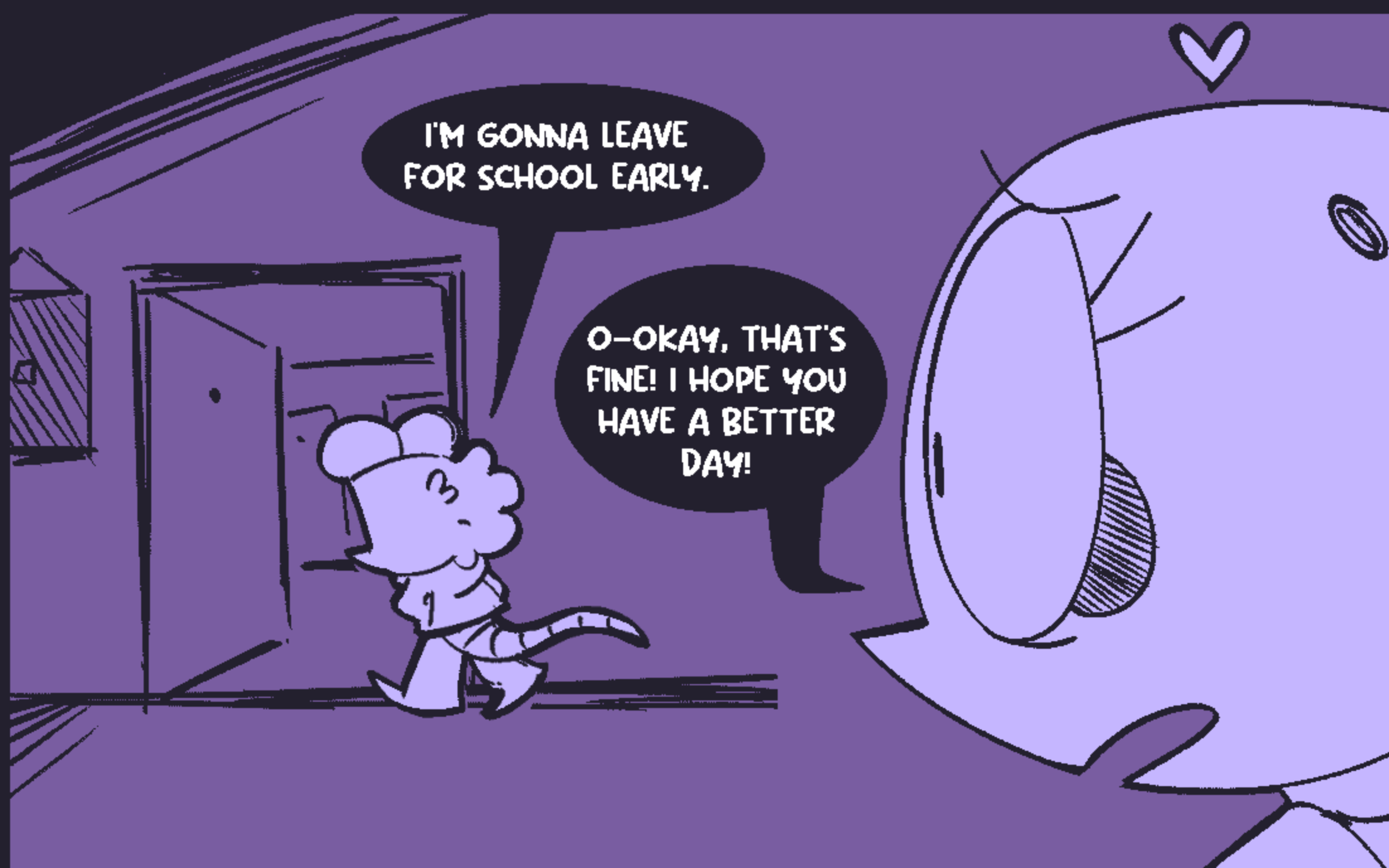
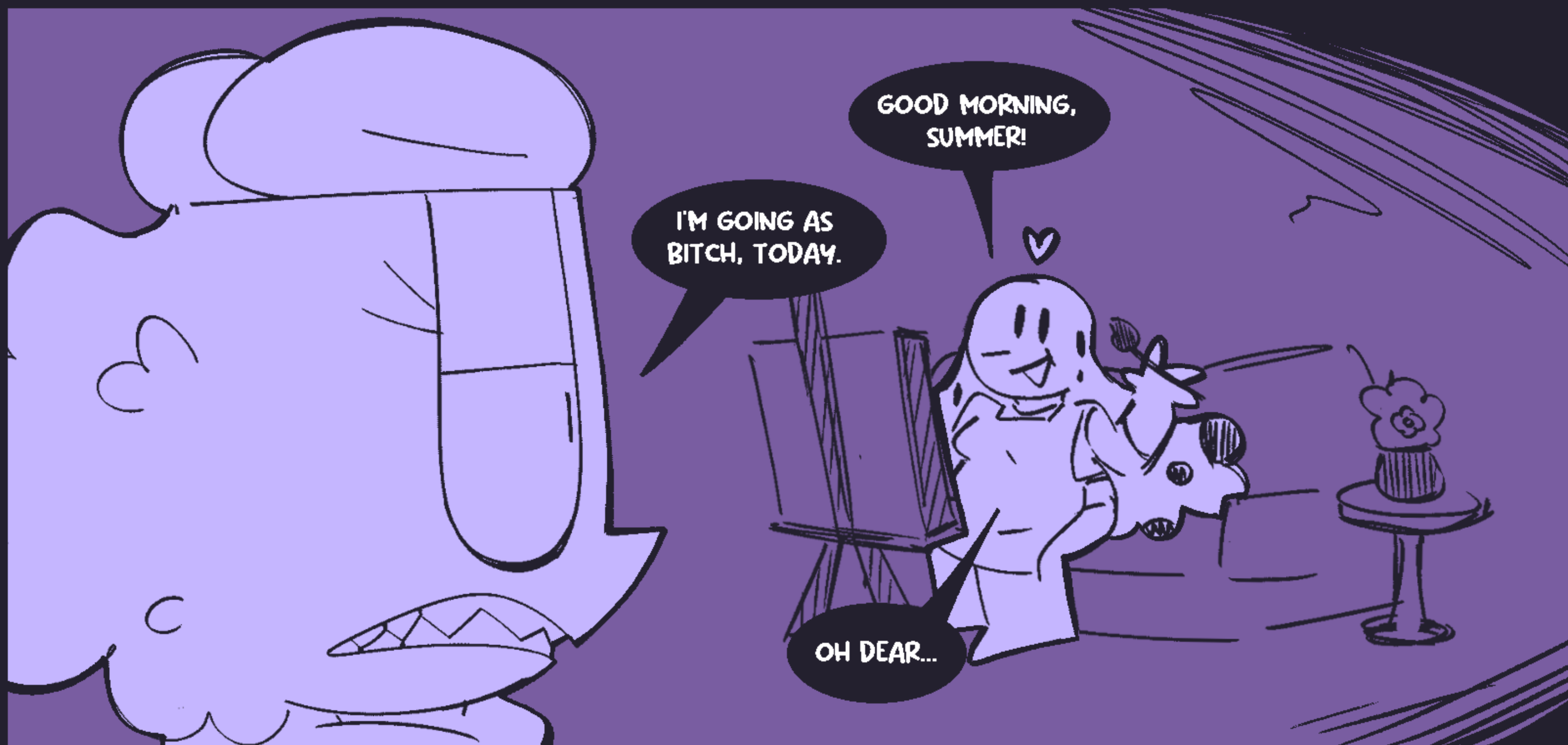
SHUT THE
FUCK UP

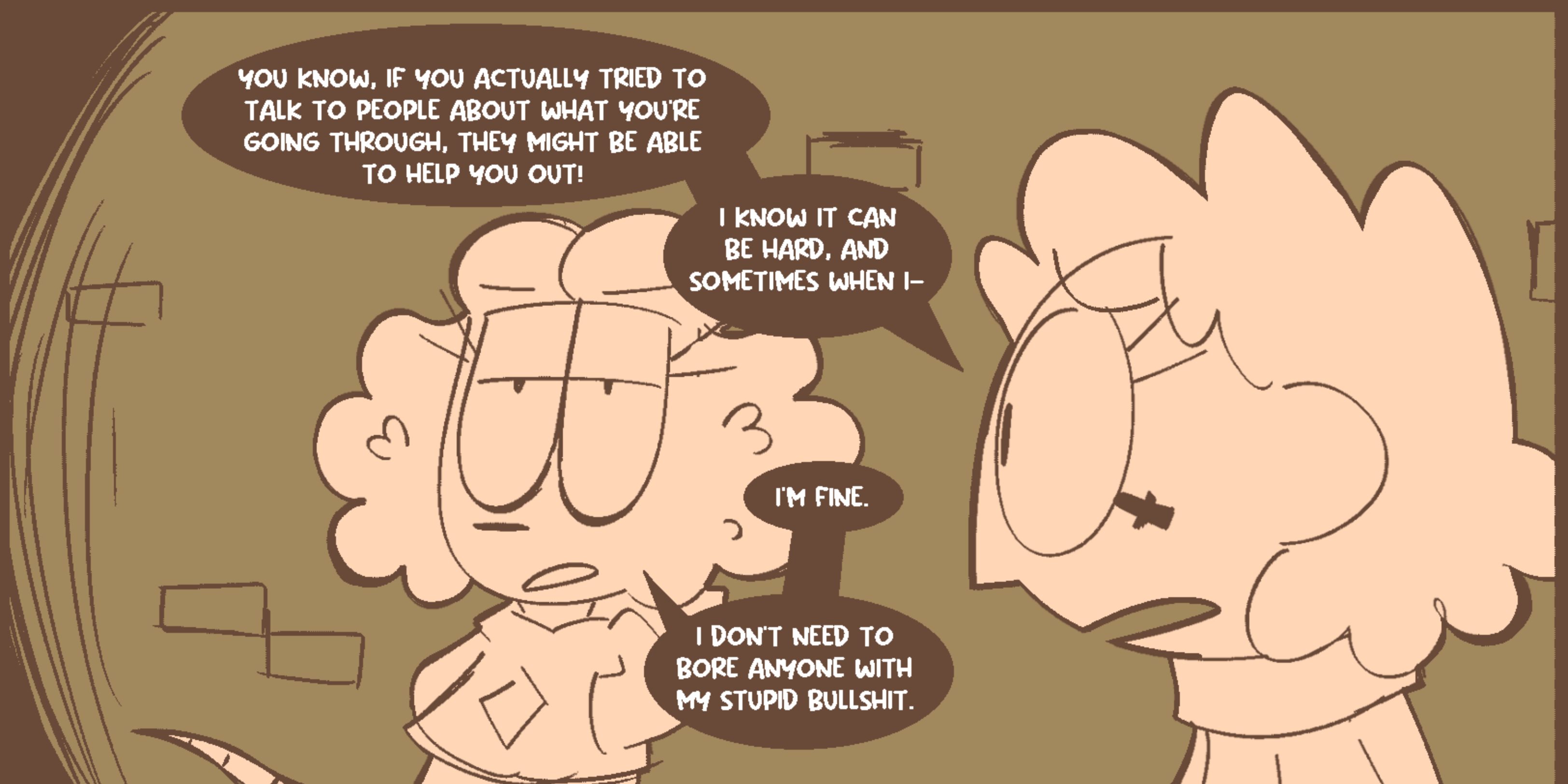


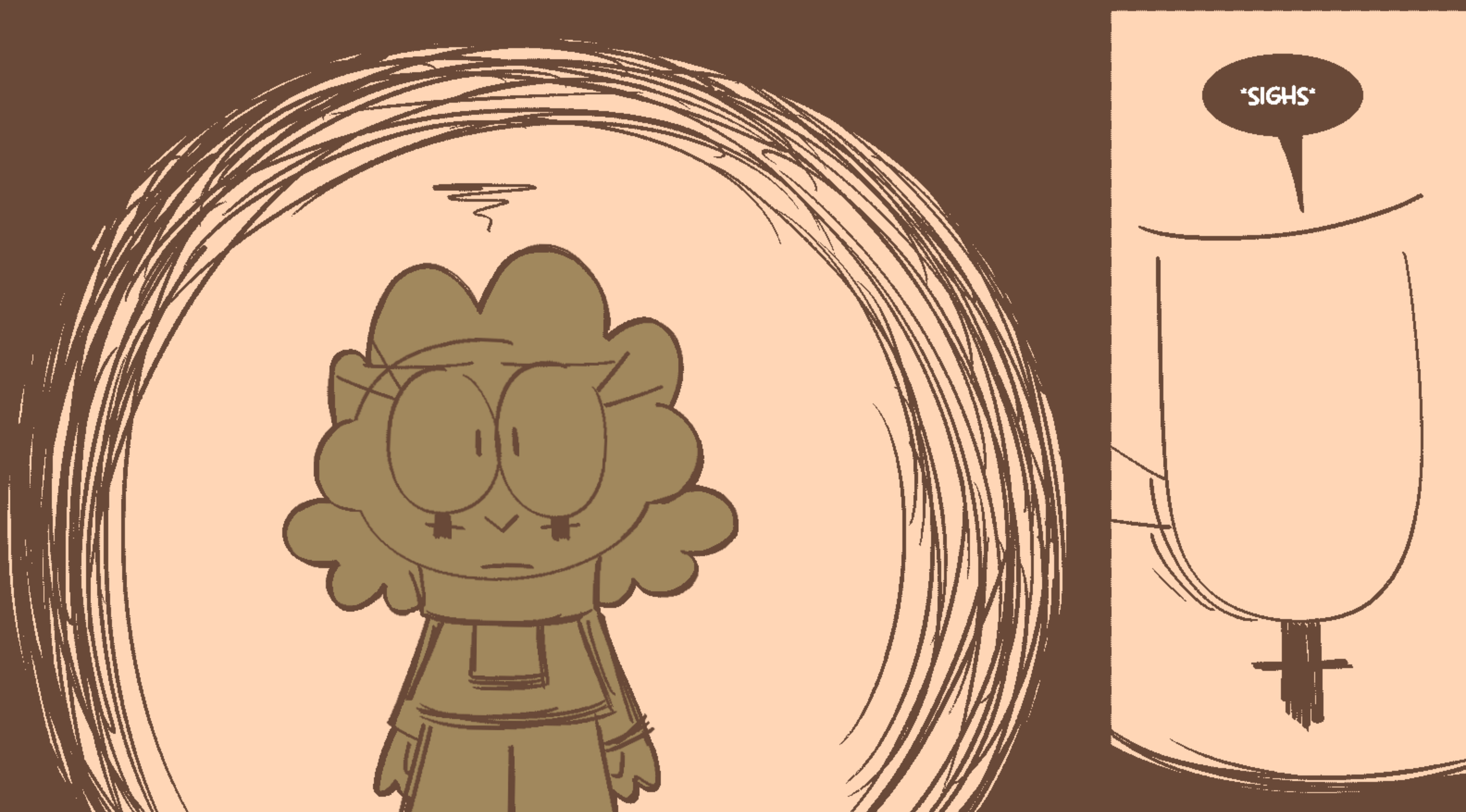
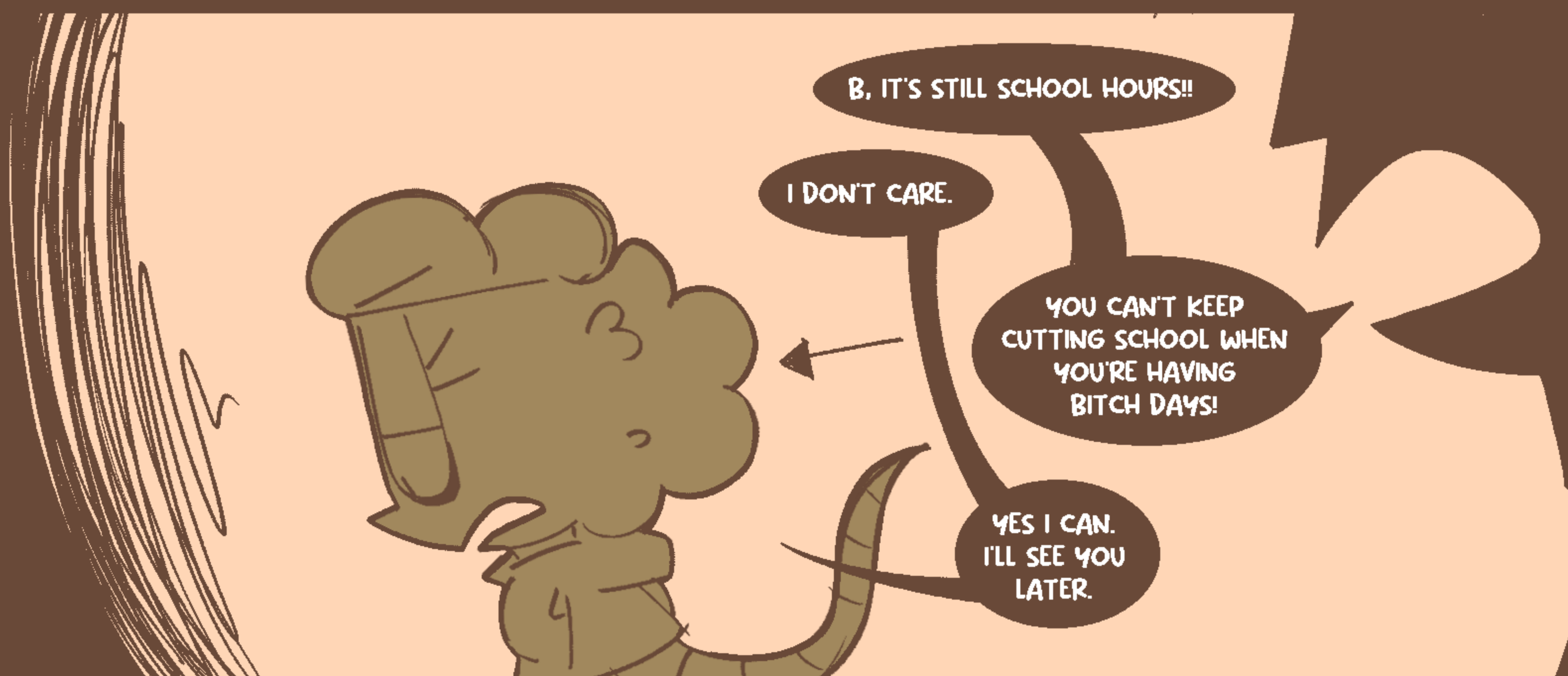


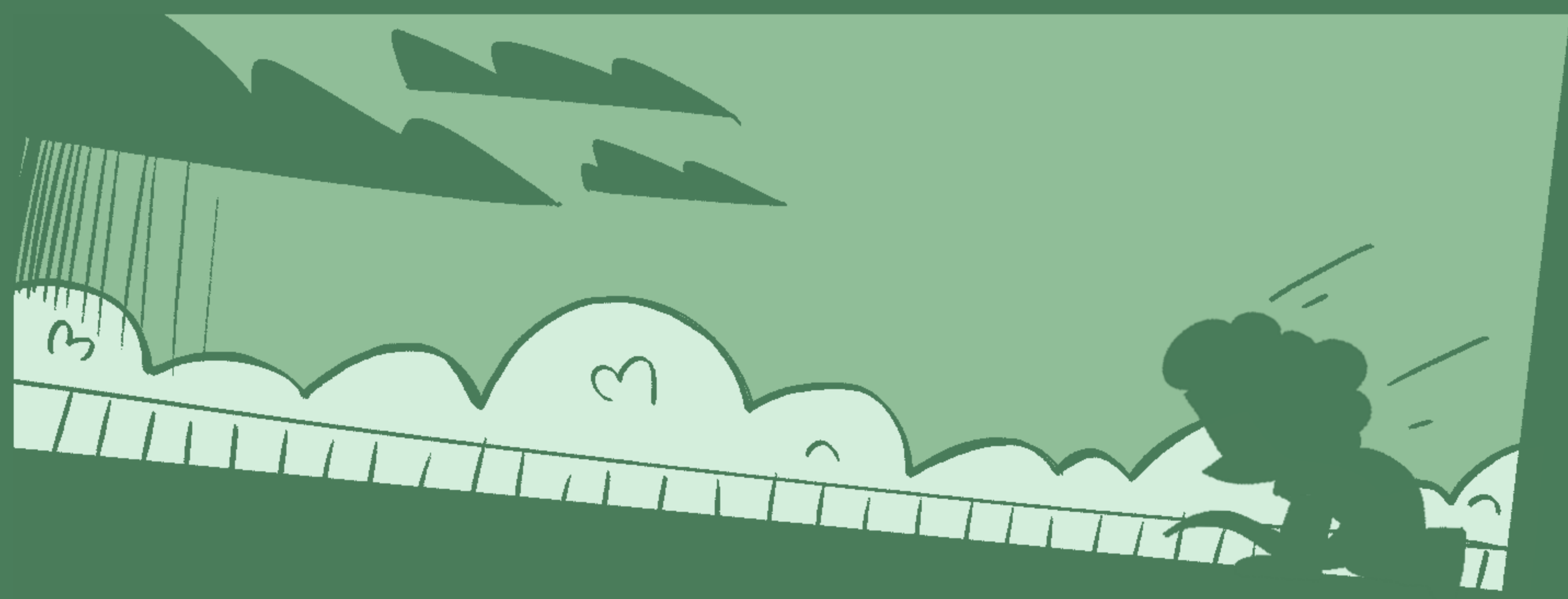
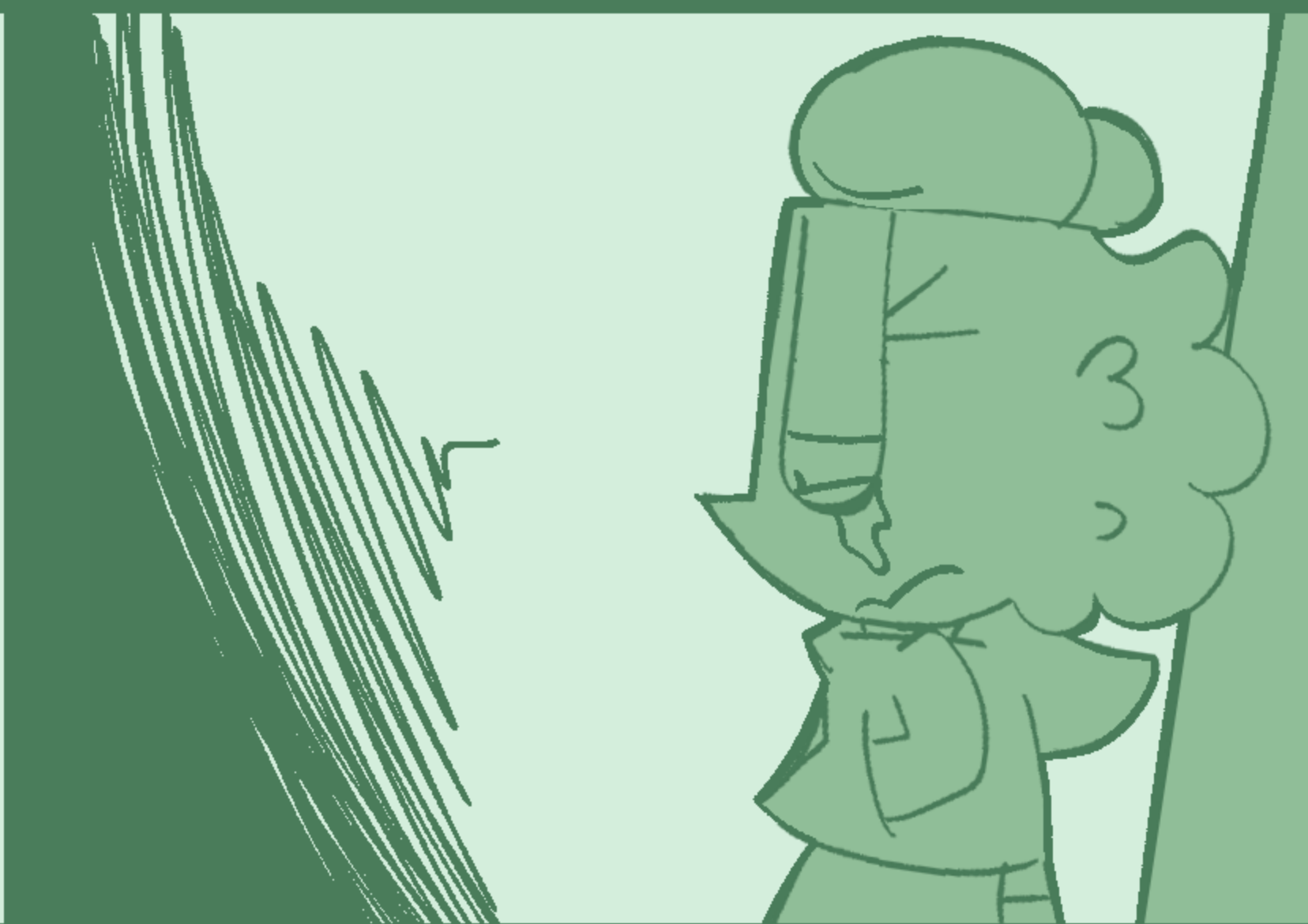
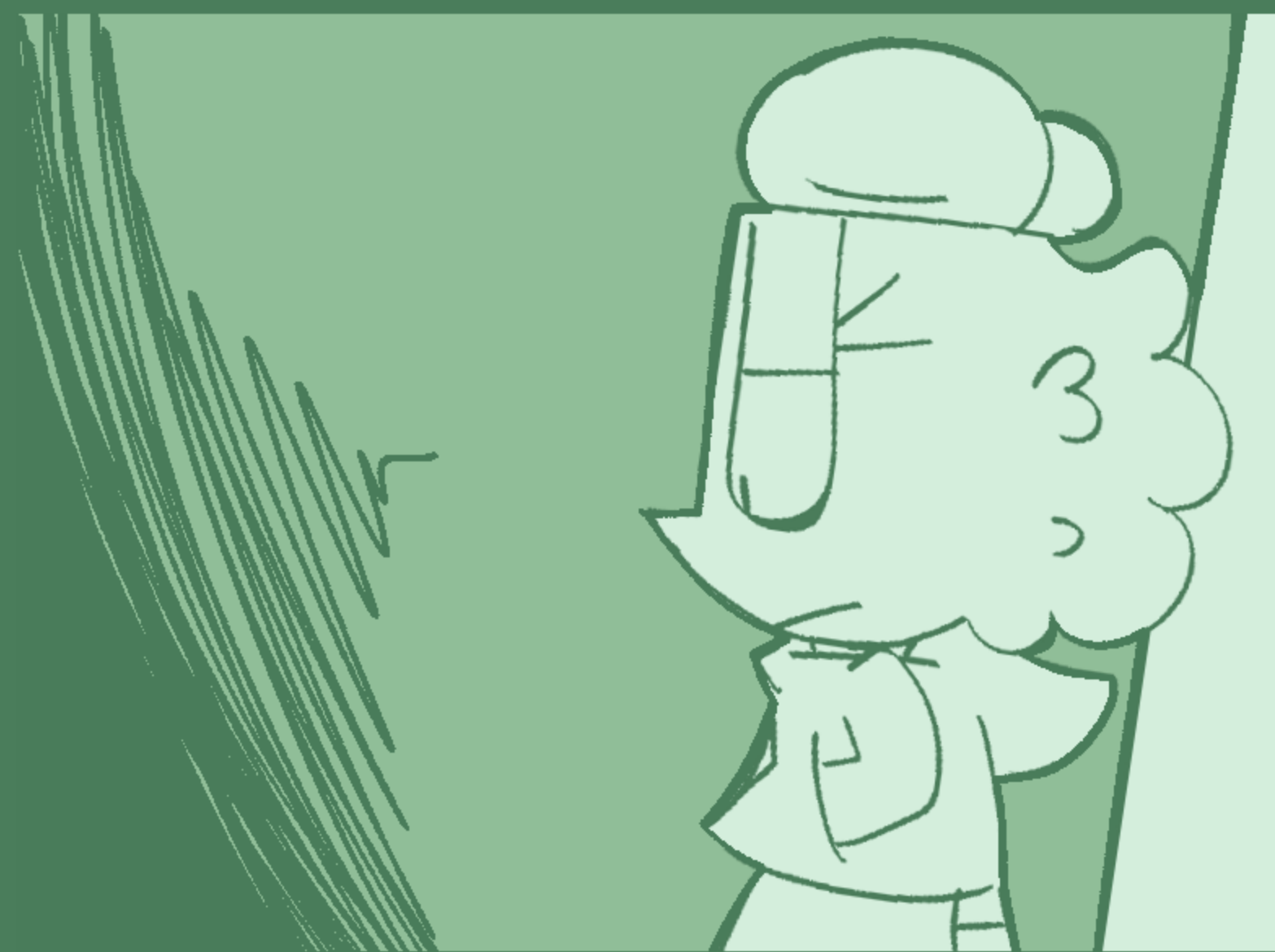
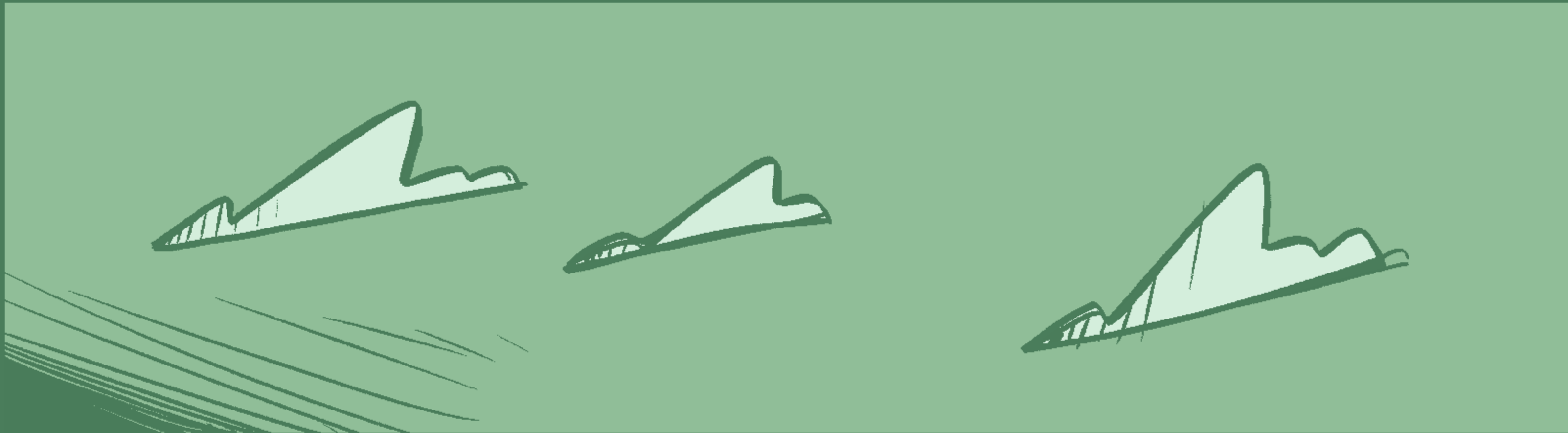
MY NAME IS
BITCH,
TODAY.

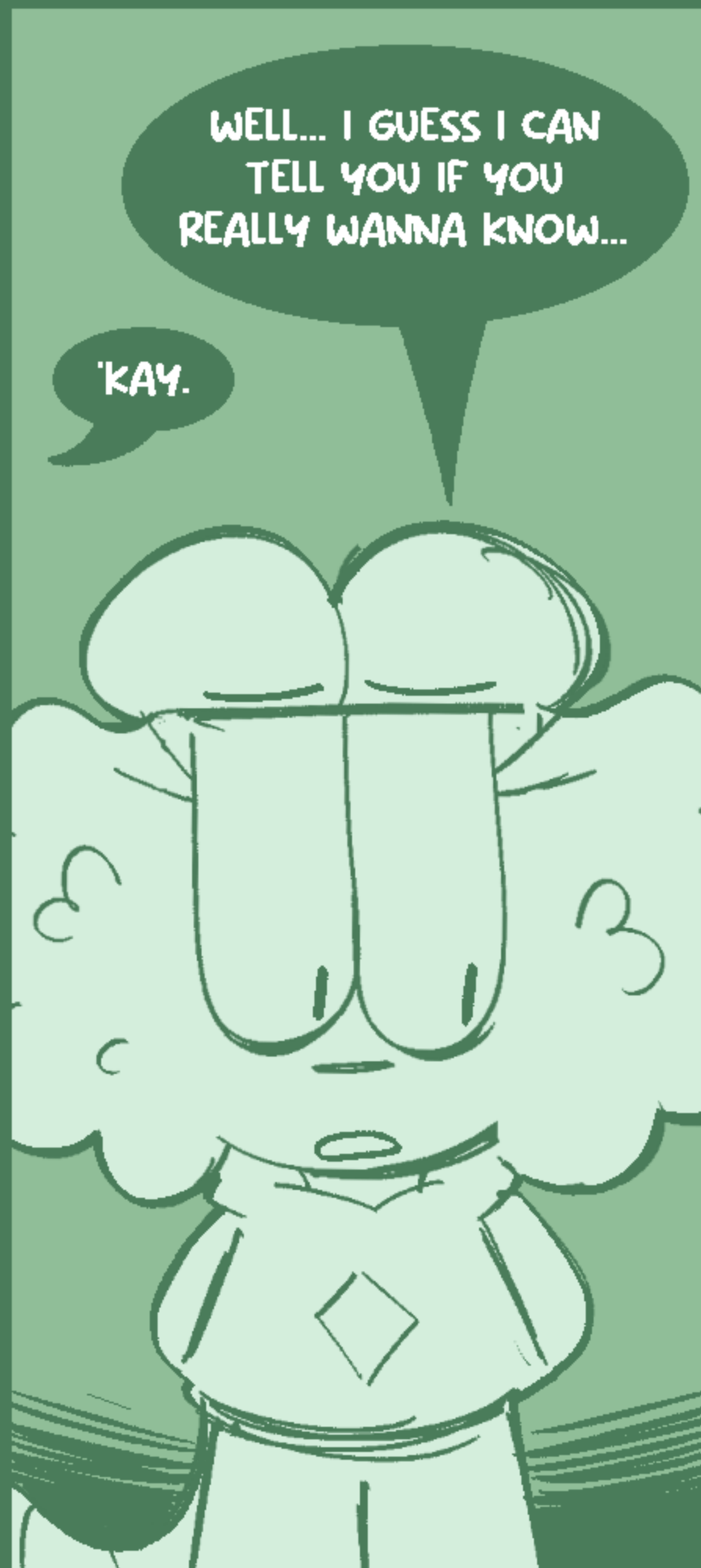
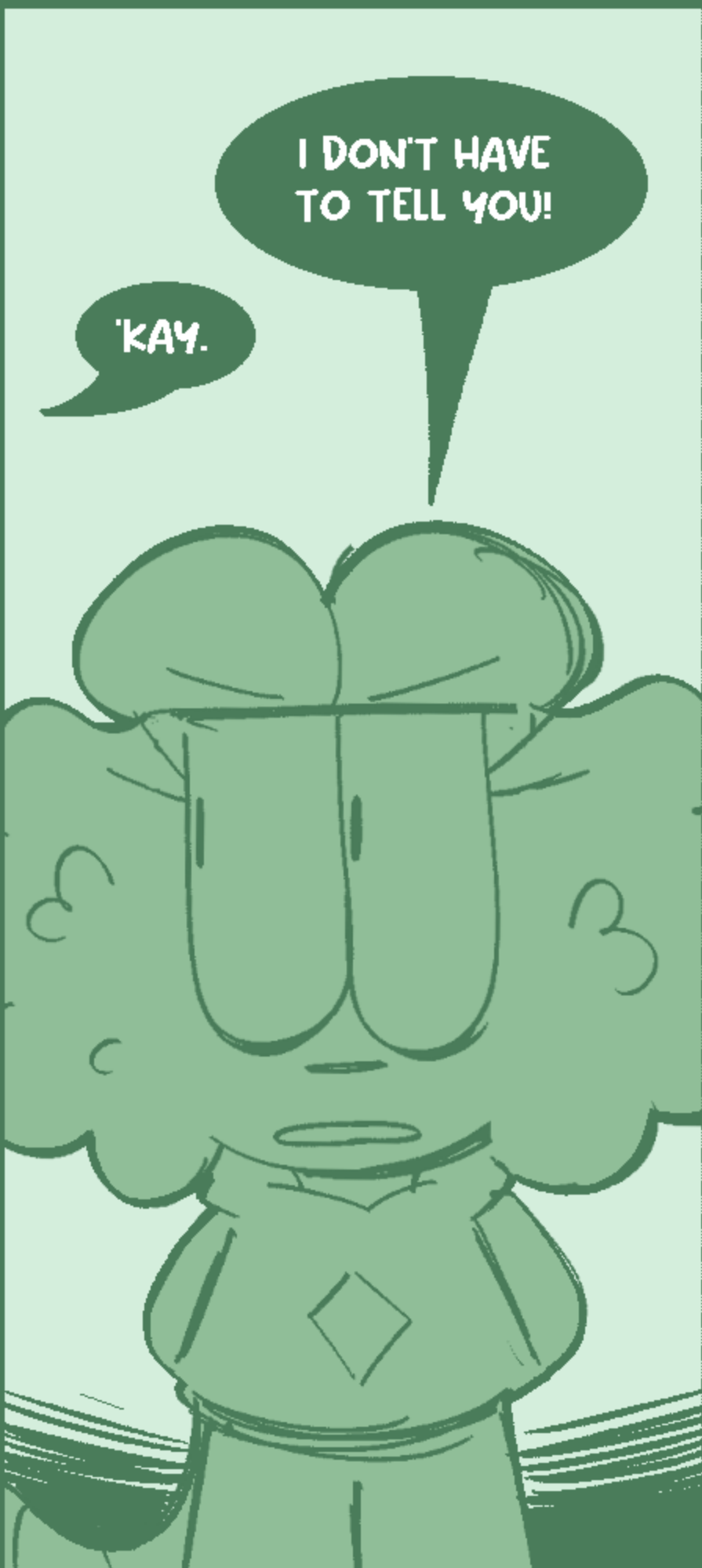
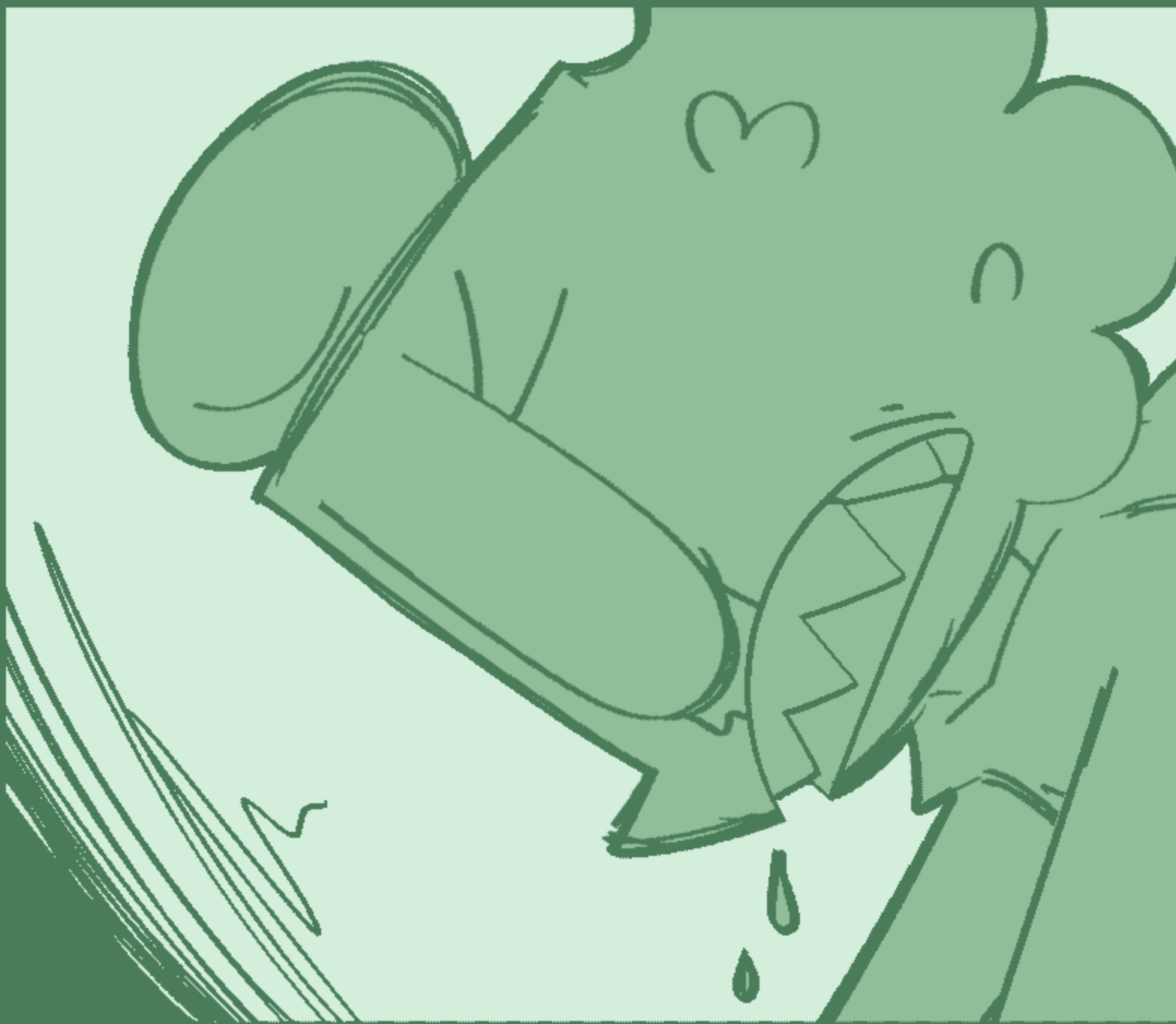












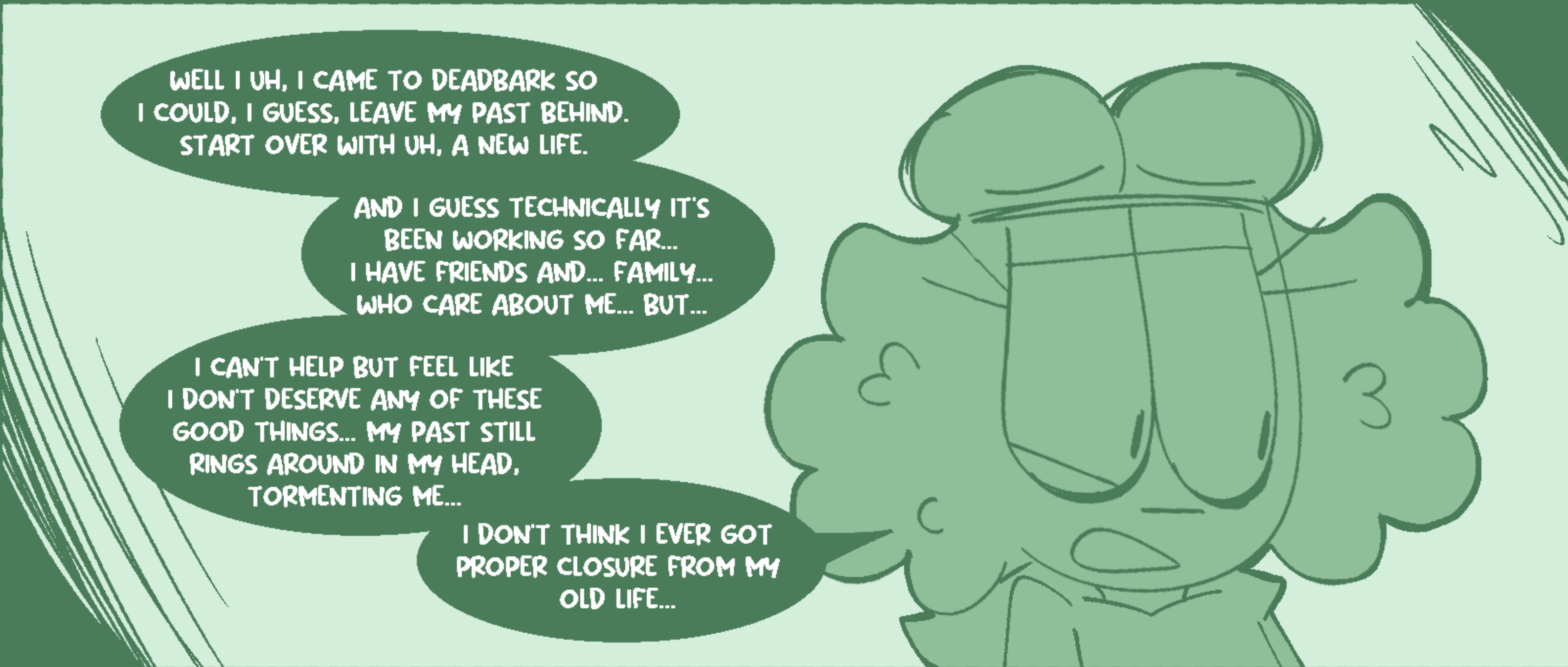


DO YOU EVER HAVE LIKE...
REGRET? FOR STUFF THAT HAPPENED
IN THE PAST?

REGRET FOR THINGS THAT
YOU'VE DONE AND SAID THAT'VE
HURT PEOPLE.

EY YEA, WE ALL GOT
SINS TO OUR NAME.

Y- YEAH...



WELL I UH, I CAME TO DEADBARK SO
I COULD, I GUESS, LEAVE MY PAST BEHIND.
START OVER WITH UH, A NEW LIFE.

AND I GUESS TECHNICALLY IT'S
BEEN WORKING SO FAR...
I HAVE FRIENDS AND... FAMILY...
WHO CARE ABOUT ME... BUT...

I CAN'T HELP BUT FEEL LIKE
I DON'T DESERVE ANY OF THESE
GOOD THINGS... MY PAST STILL
RINGS AROUND IN MY HEAD,
TORMENTING ME...

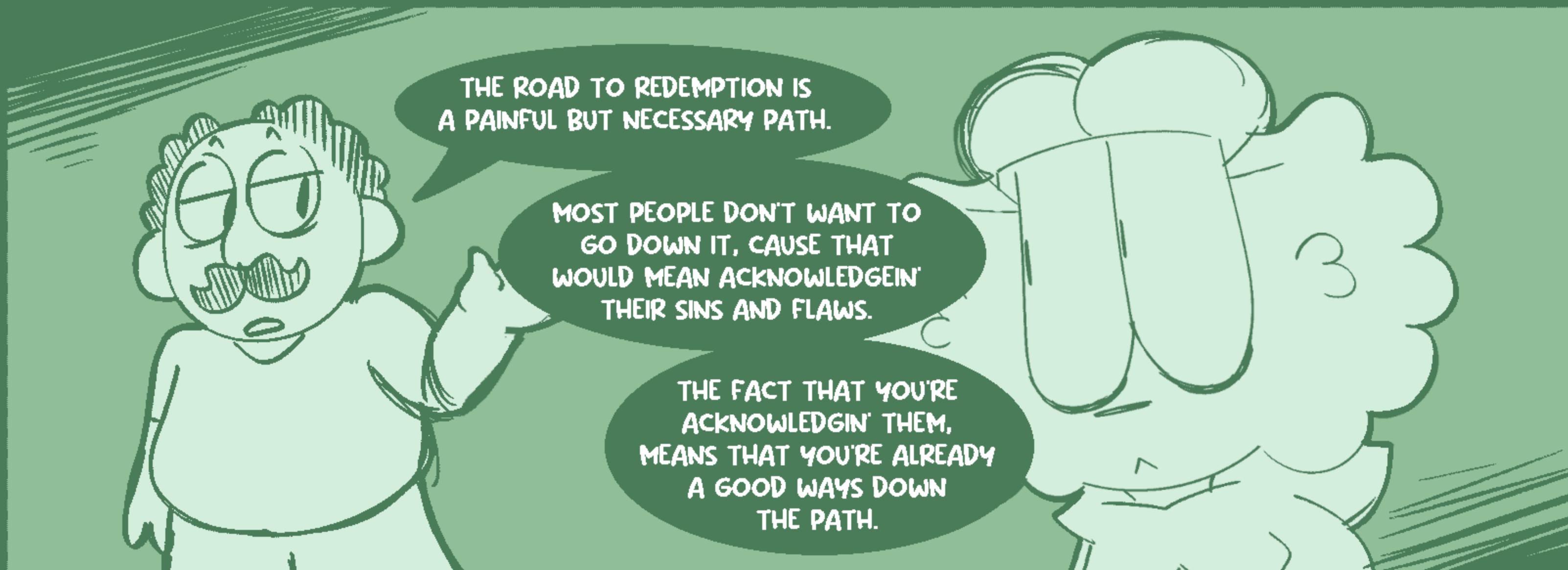
I DON'T THINK I EVER GOT
PROPER CLOSURE FROM MY
OLD LIFE...



ALL THE PEOPLE I HURT...
ALL THE STUPID SHIT I SAID...
I'M AFRAID I HAVEN'T CHANGED
ONE BIT FROM THE OLD ME...

I'M AFRAID IT'S ALL
GONNA HAPPEN AGAIN.
AND I DON'T WANT IT TO.

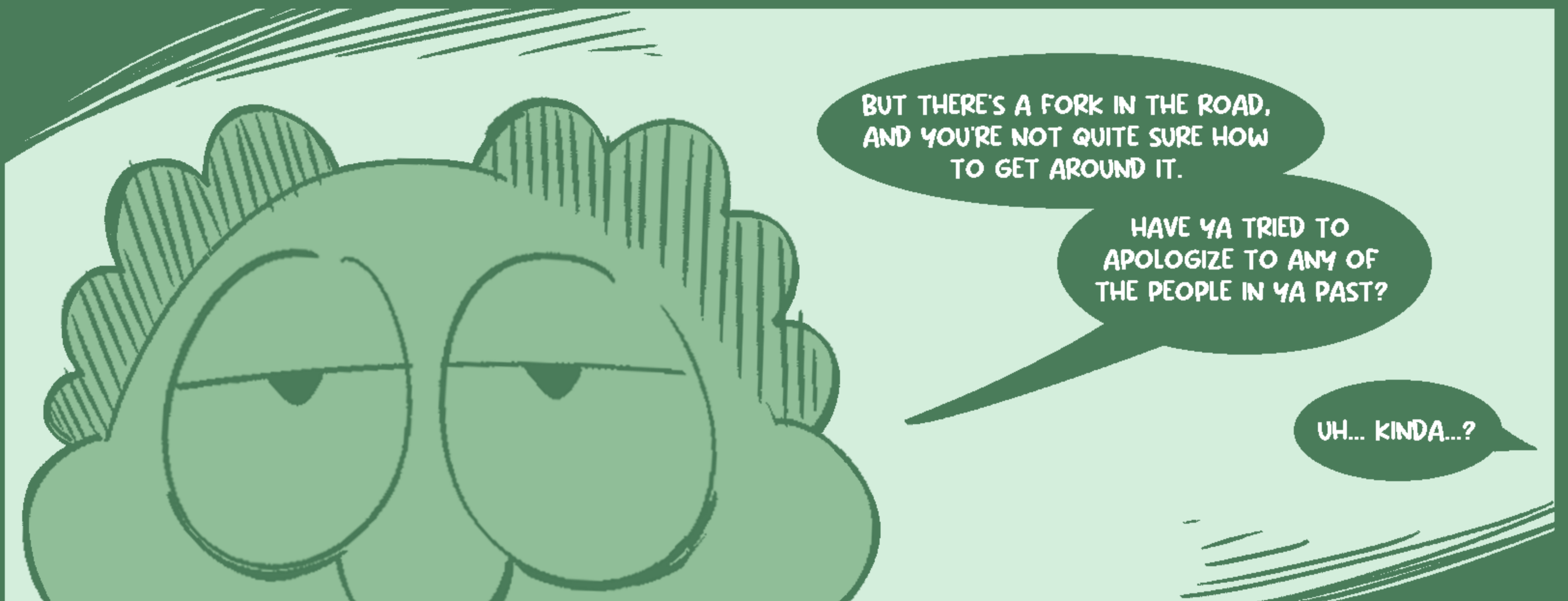
AH, I SEE...



THE ROAD TO REDEMPTION IS
A PAINFUL BUT NECESSARY PATH.

MOST PEOPLE DON'T WANT TO
GO DOWN IT, CAUSE THAT
WOULD MEAN ACKNOWLEDGEIN'
THEIR SINS AND FLAWS.

THE FACT THAT YOU'RE
ACKNOWLEDGIN' THEM,
MEANS THAT YOU'RE ALREADY
A GOOD WAYS DOWN
THE PATH.



BUT THERE'S A FORK IN THE ROAD,
AND YOU'RE NOT QUITE SURE HOW
TO GET AROUND IT.

HAVE YA TRIED TO
APOLOGIZE TO ANY OF
THE PEOPLE IN YA PAST?

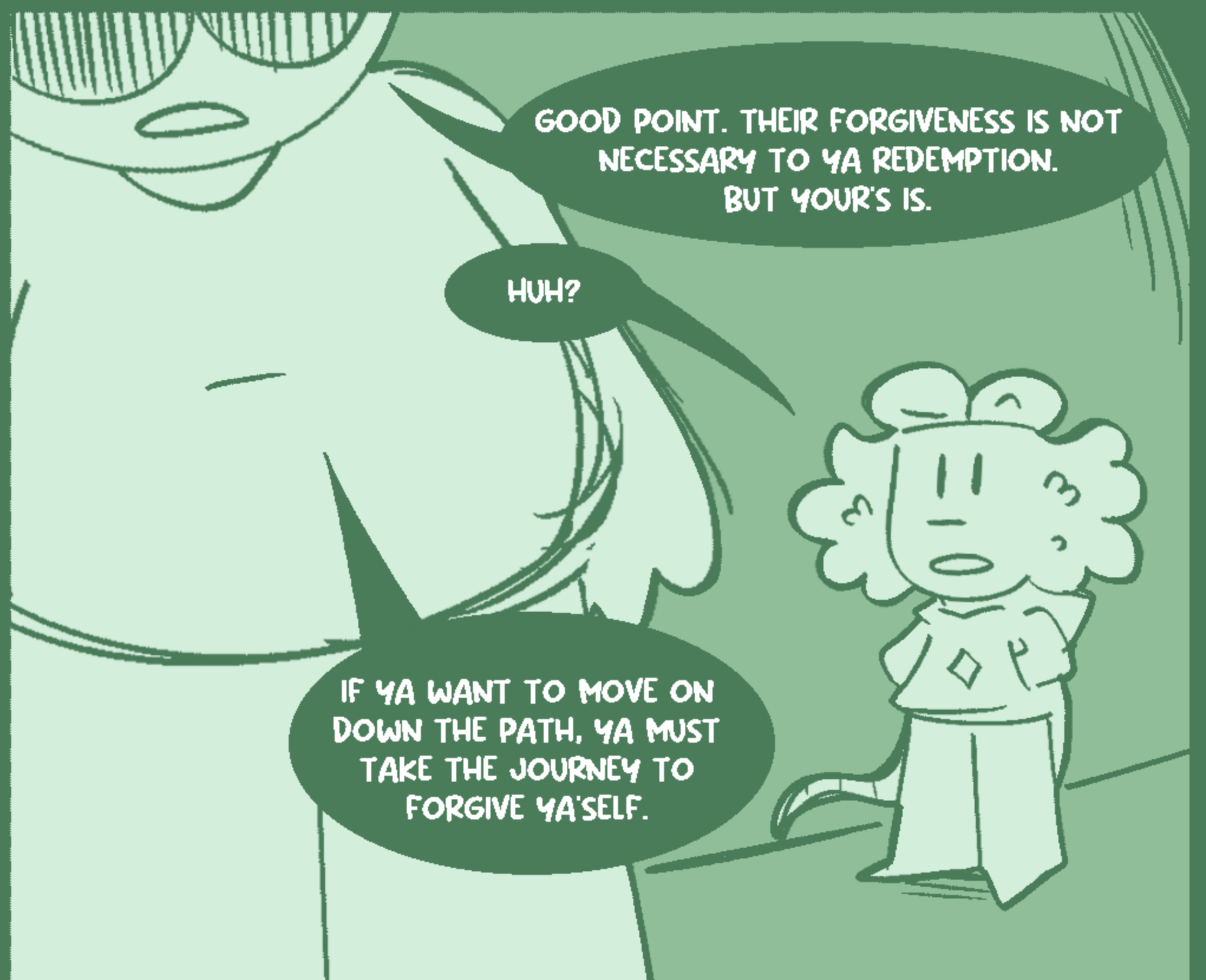
UH... KINDA...?



THEY WEREN'T... GOOD
APOLOGIES... TO SAY
THE LEAST.

IF YA WERE TO GIVE
BETTER APOLOGIES TO
THEM TODAY, WOULD
THEY FORGIVE YA?

PROBABLY NOT...
B-BUT I'M NOT EVEN
SURE I WANT THEIR
FORGIVENESS.



GOOD POINT. THEIR FORGIVENESS IS NOT
NECESSARY TO YA REDEMPTION.
BUT YOUR'S IS.

HUH?

IF YA WANT TO MOVE ON
DOWN THE PATH, YA MUST
TAKE THE JOURNEY TO
FORGIVE YA'SELF.

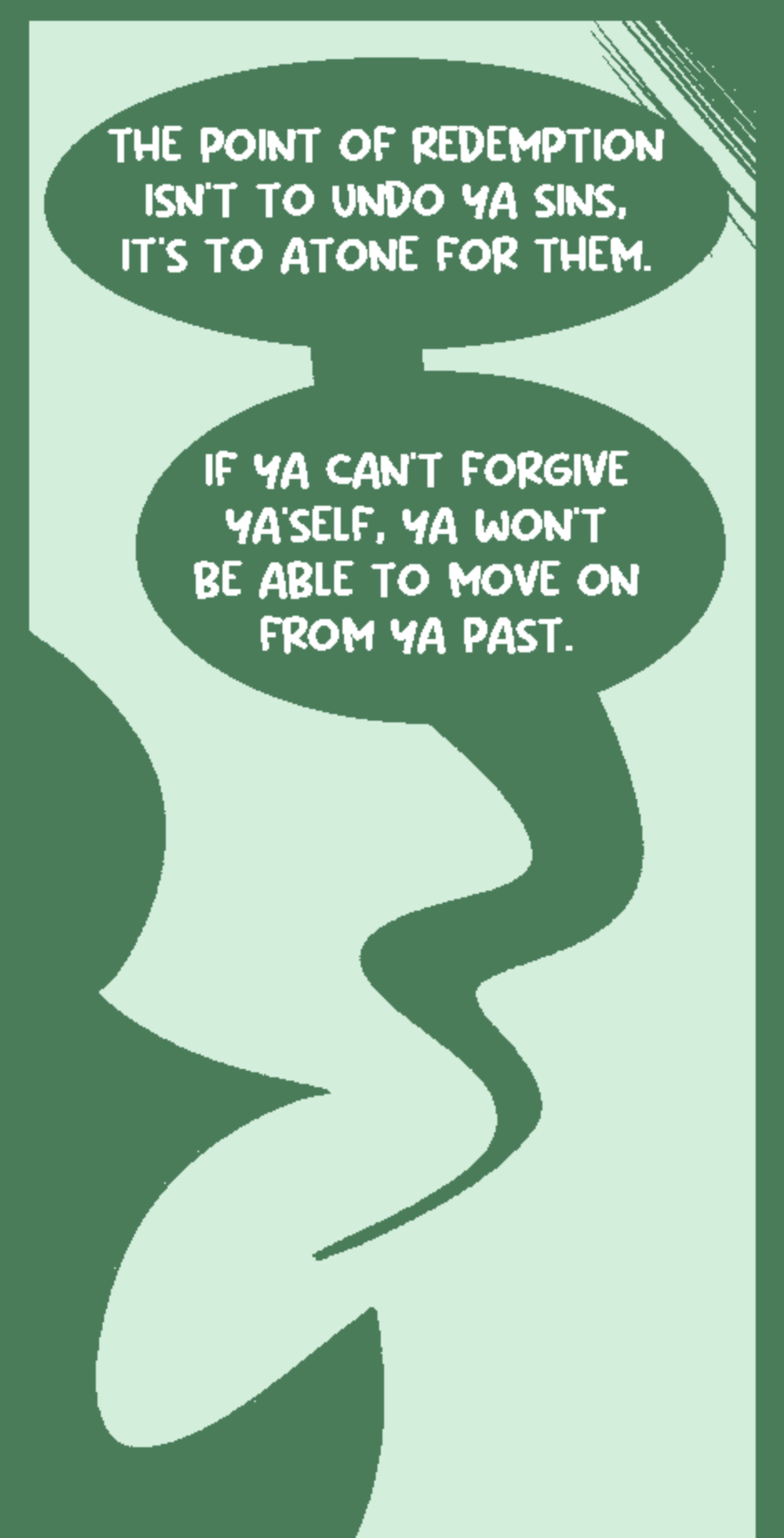


H-HOW DO I DO THAT?

SIMPLE. APOLOGIZE TO
YA'SELF, AND THEN
FORGIVE YA'SELF.

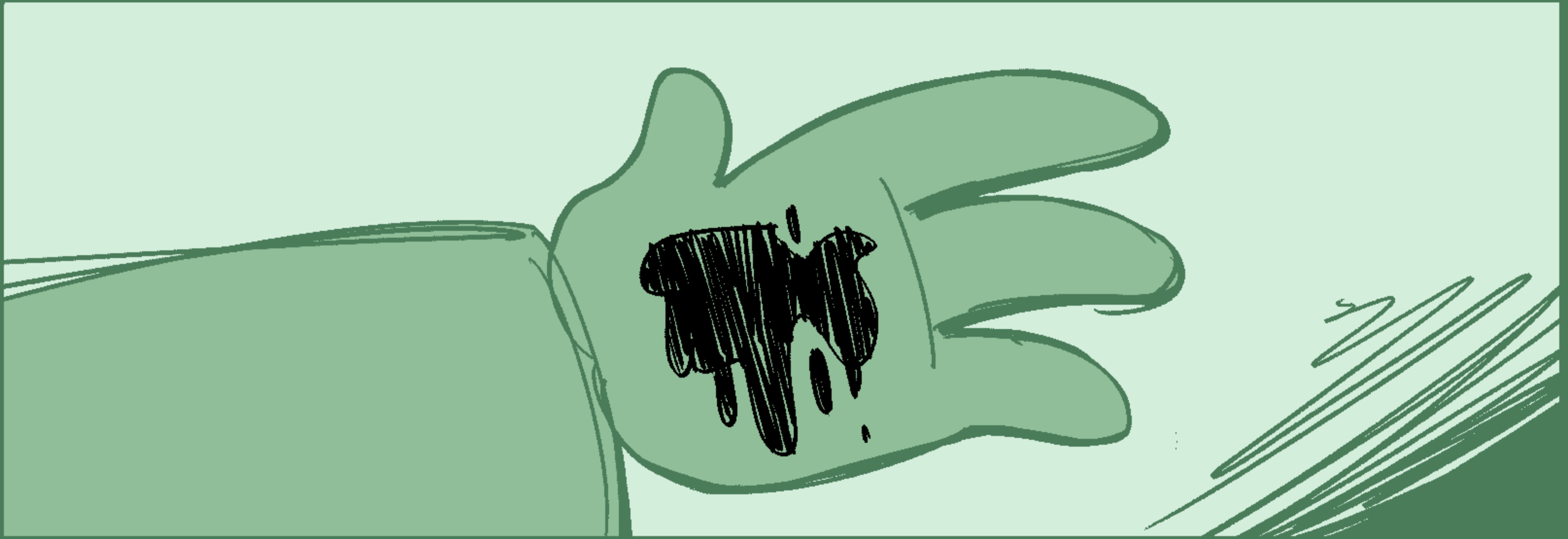
B-BUT THAT'S NOT GONNA
UNDO ALL THE AWFUL SHIT
I DID!!

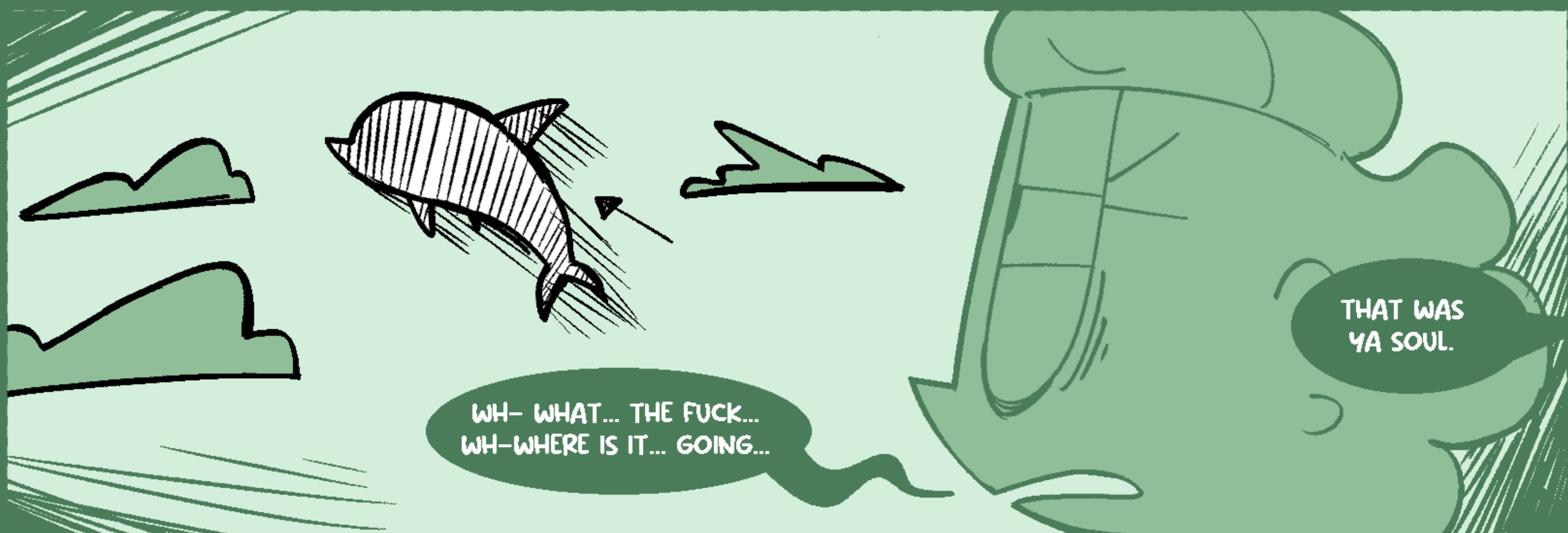
IT'S NOT SUPPOSED TO.
IT'S A BUILDING BLOCK.



THE POINT OF REDEMPTION
ISN'T TO UNDO YA SINS.
IT'S TO ATONE FOR THEM.

IF YA CAN'T FORGIVE
YA'SELF, YA WON'T
BE ABLE TO MOVE ON
FROM YA PAST.









WELL ISN'T THAT
JUST FUCKING GREAT.



CAN SYNTH SAVE HER SOUL??

**FIND OUT
NEXT TIME!**



#23

CHILI

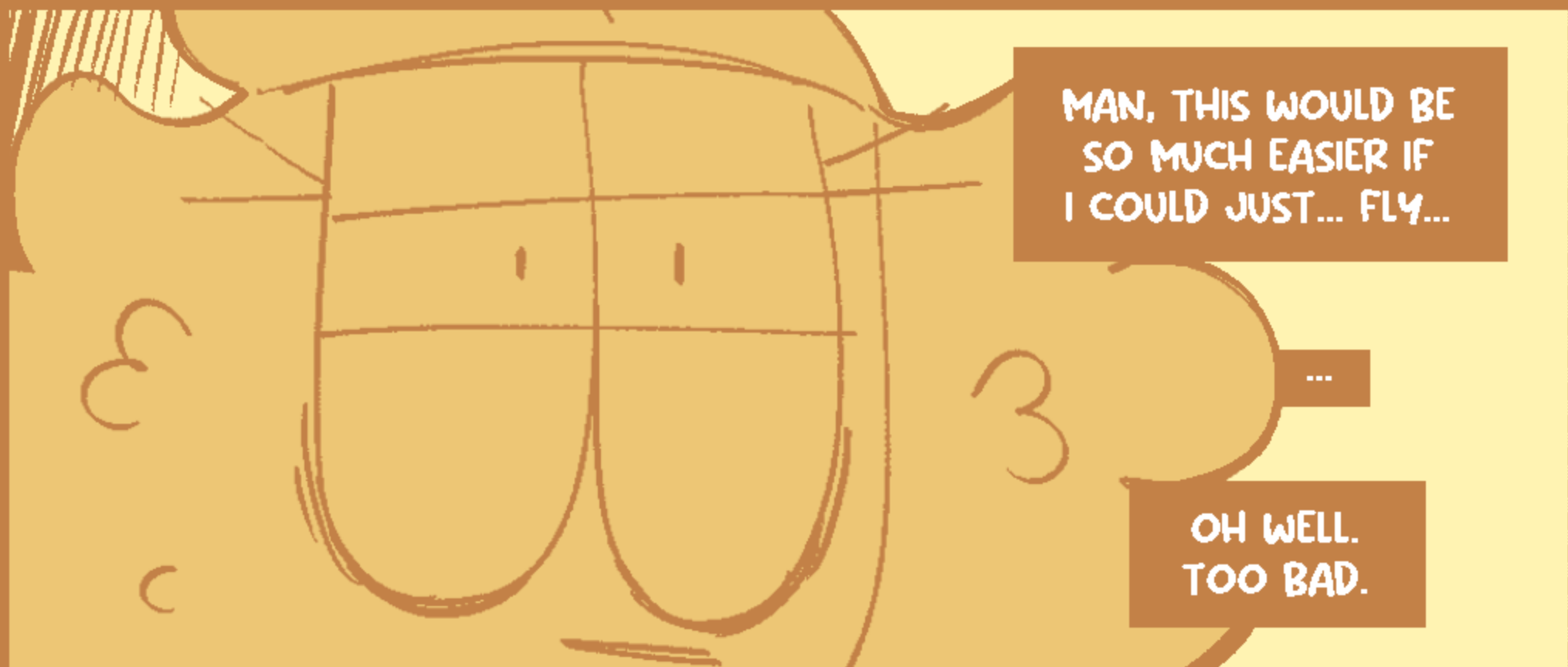
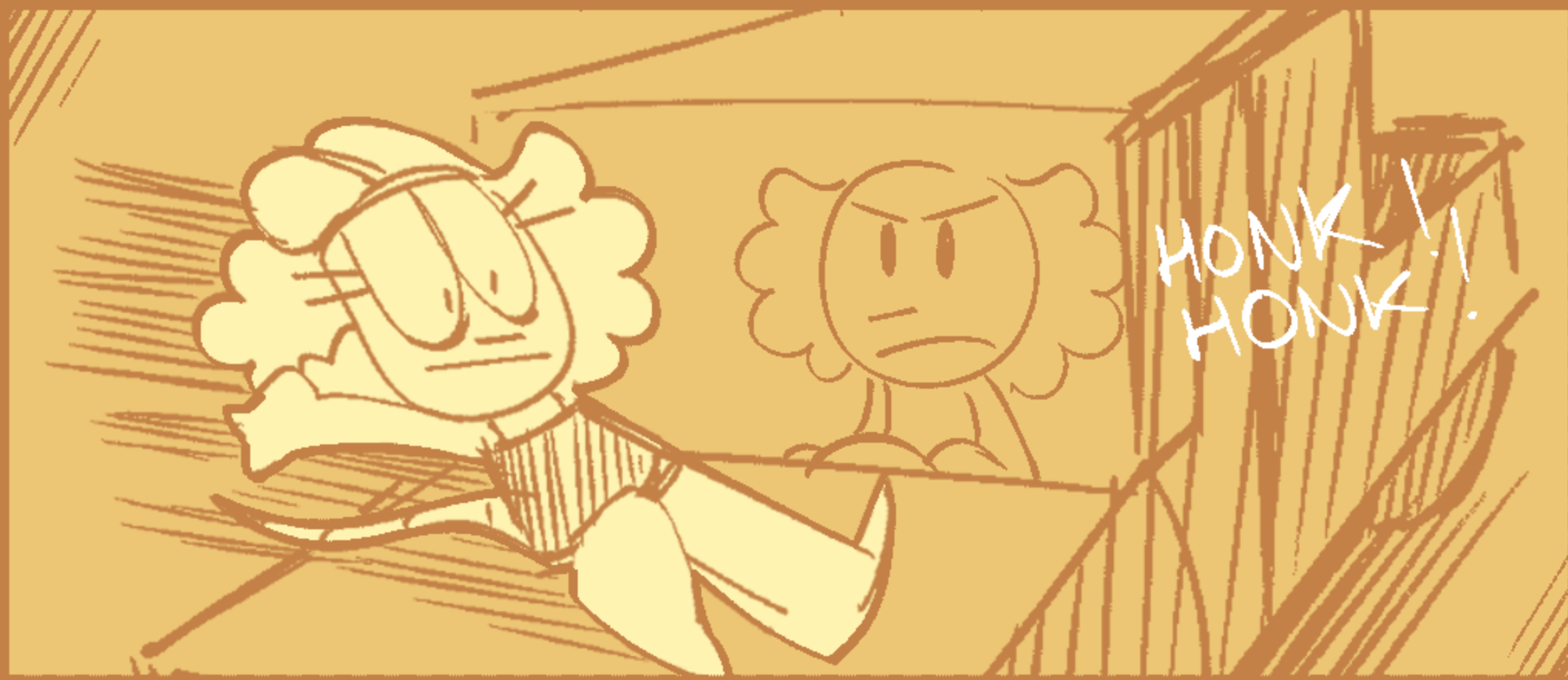
THE VAMPIRE OPOSSUM



"KEYLIME'S SUBLIME PARADE"
PART TWO

TW:

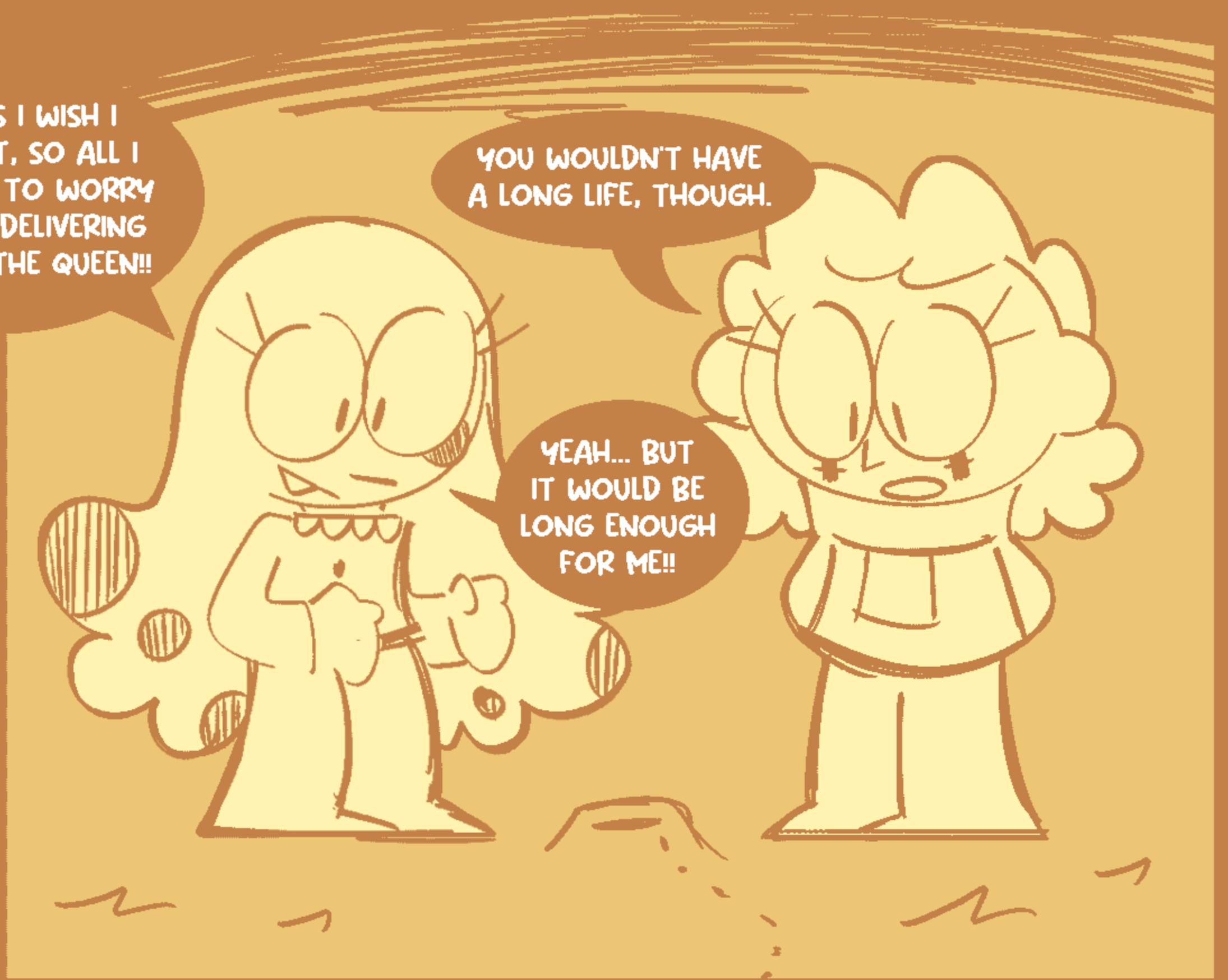
BREAKDOWN
BRIGHT COLORS
CORPSE
DEPERSONALIZATION
DEPRESSION
GORE
INSECTS (ANTS)
INTRUSIVE THOUGHTS
POSSESSION
PTSD
SUICIDAL IDEATION
THEMES OF SUICIDE
TRAUMA





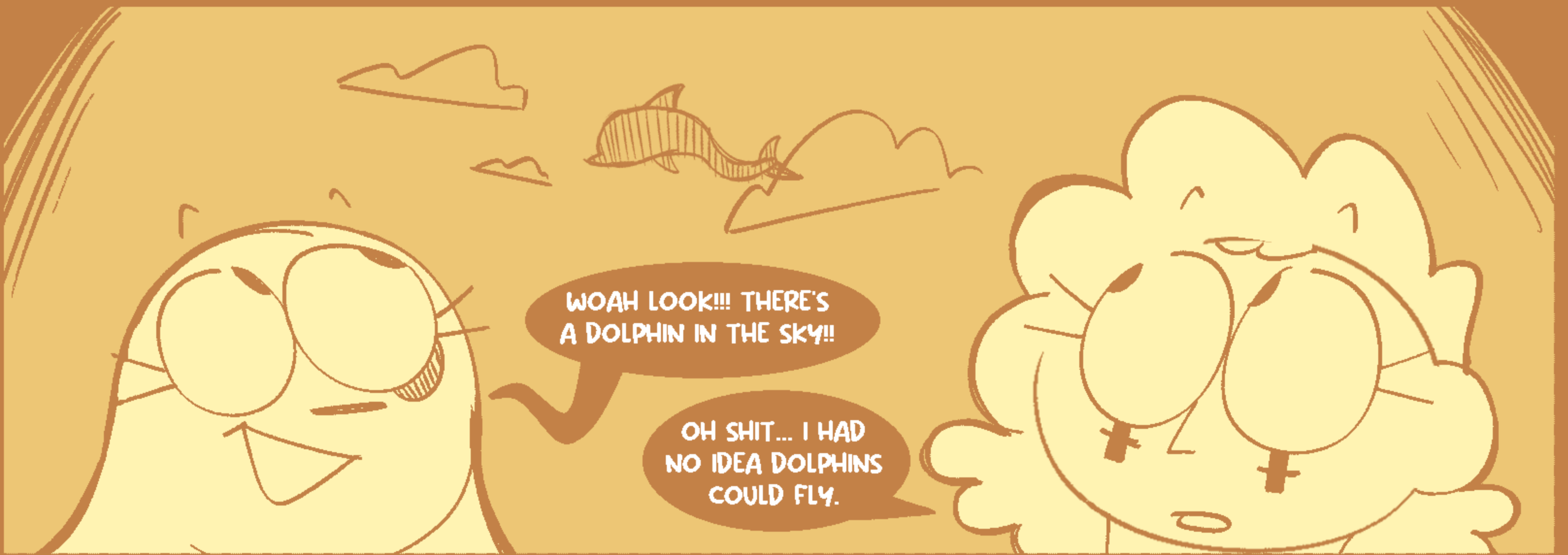
AAAA YES!!!!
ANTS!!!!

SOMETIMES I WISH I
WAS AN ANT, SO ALL I
WOULD HAVE TO WORRY
ABOUT WAS DELIVERING
CRUMBS TO THE QUEEN!!



YOU WOULDN'T HAVE
A LONG LIFE, THOUGH.

YEAH... BUT
IT WOULD BE
LONG ENOUGH
FOR ME!!



WOAH LOOK!!! THERE'S
A DOLPHIN IN THE SKY!!

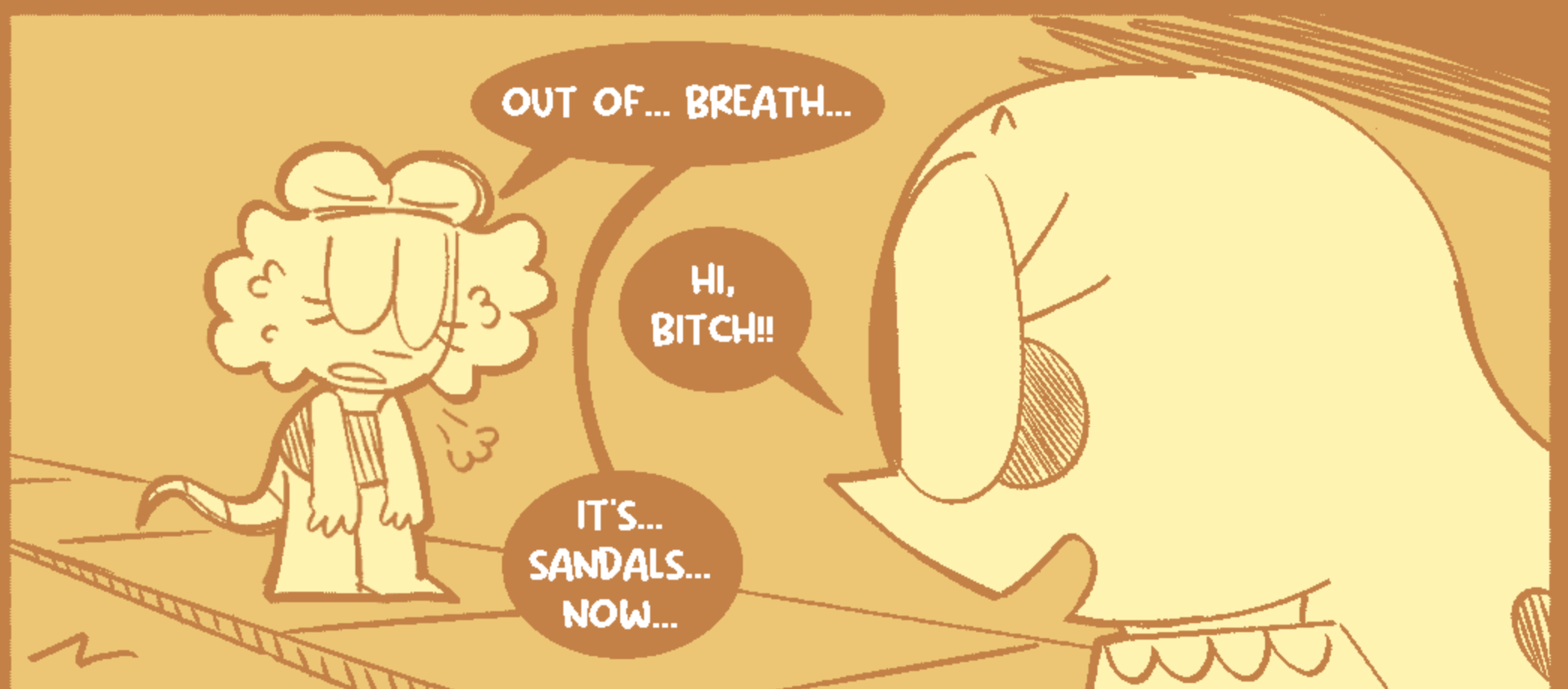
OH SHIT... I HAD
NO IDEA DOLPHINS
COULD FLY.



STOP!!!

DON'T...

GOOO....



OUT OF... BREATH...

HI,
BITCH!!

IT'S...
SANDALS...
NOW...

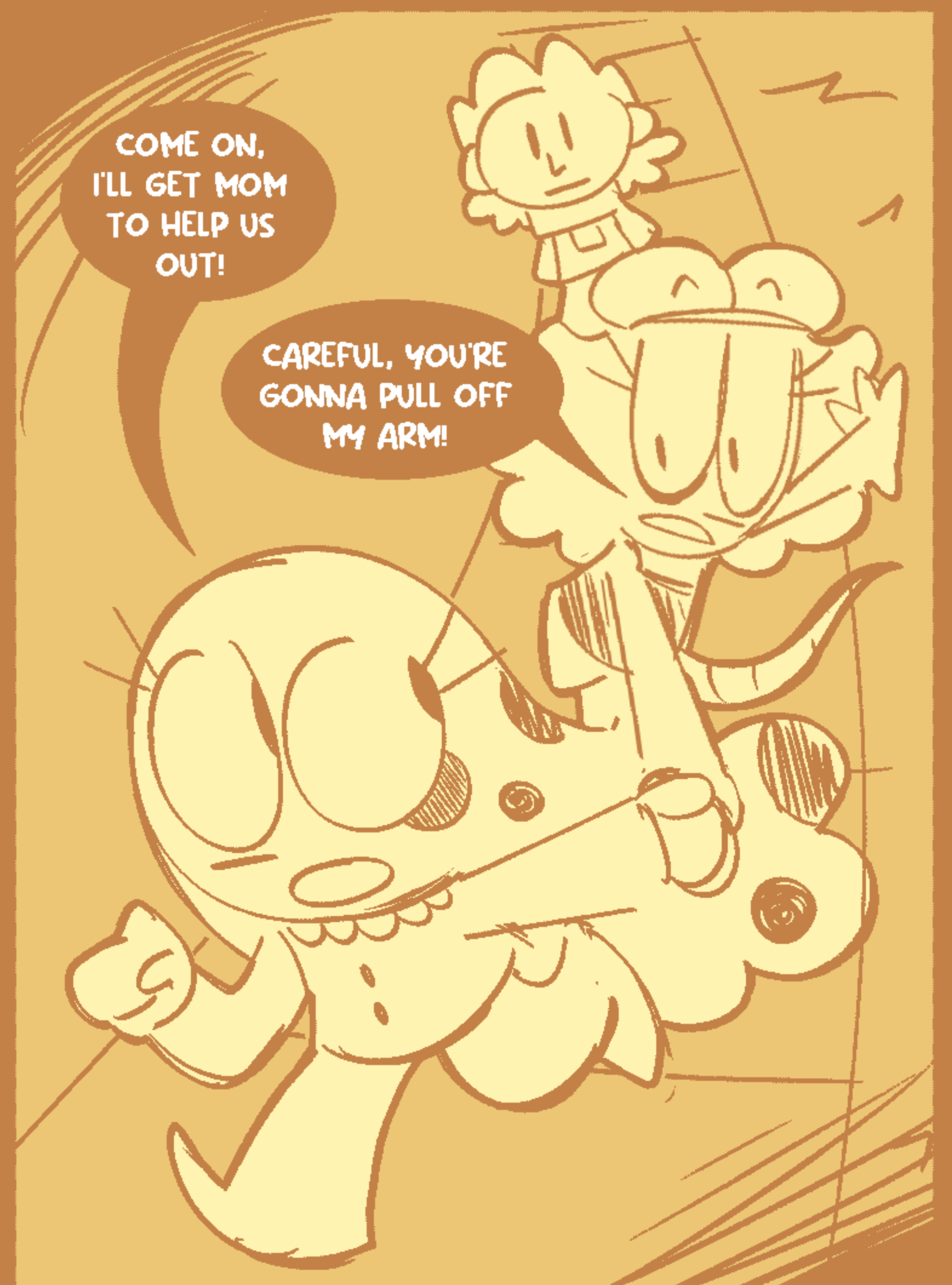
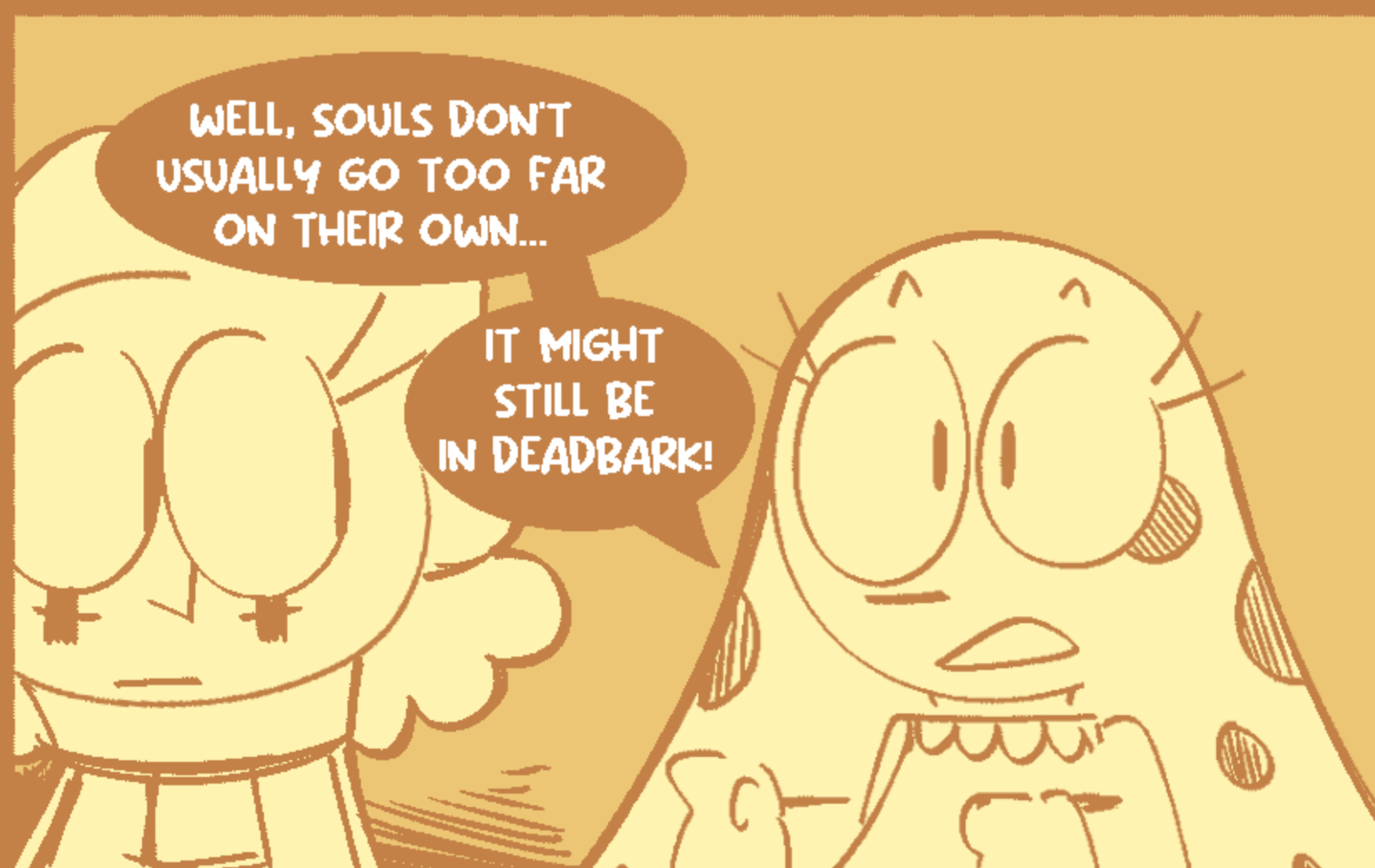
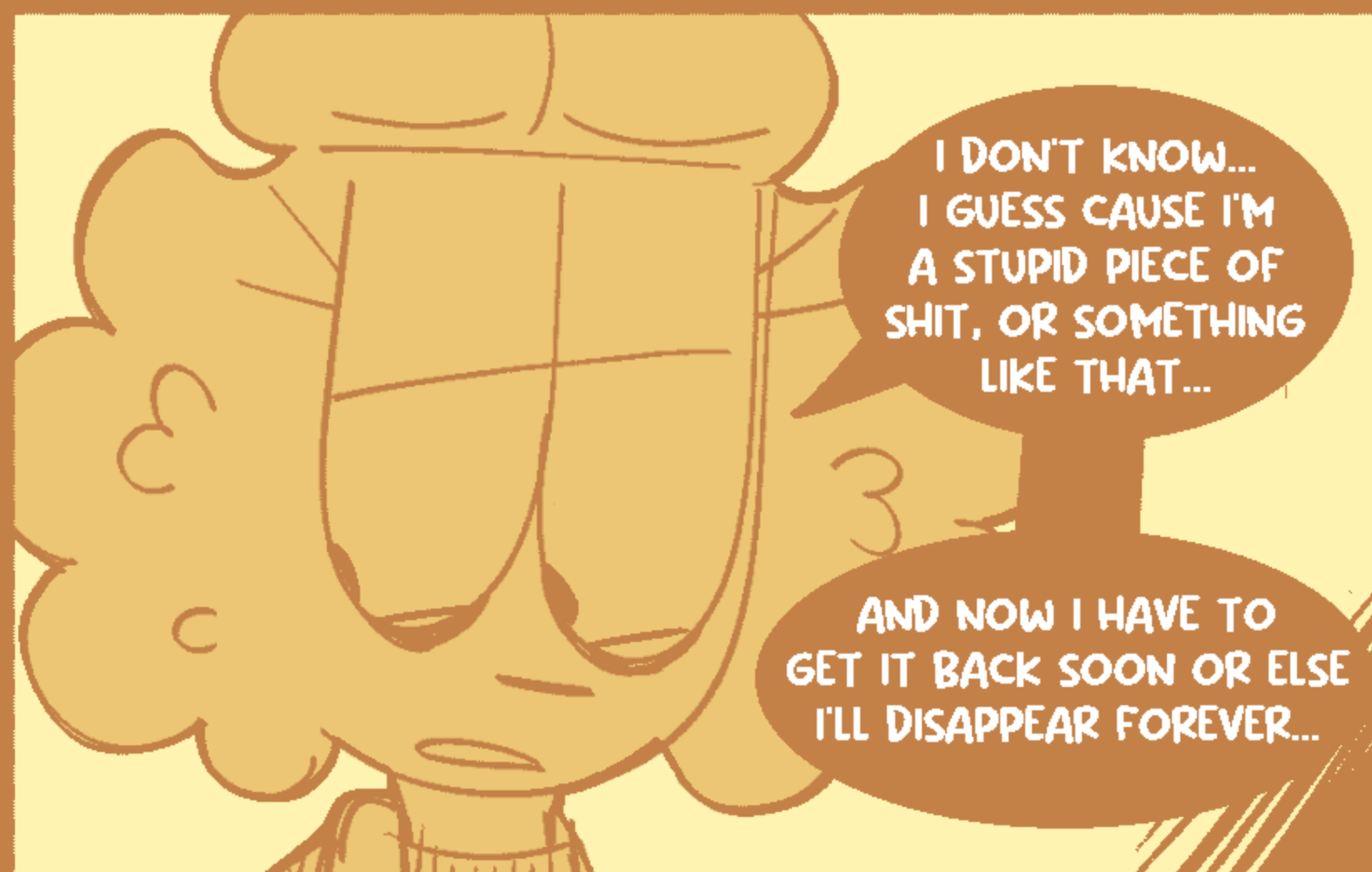
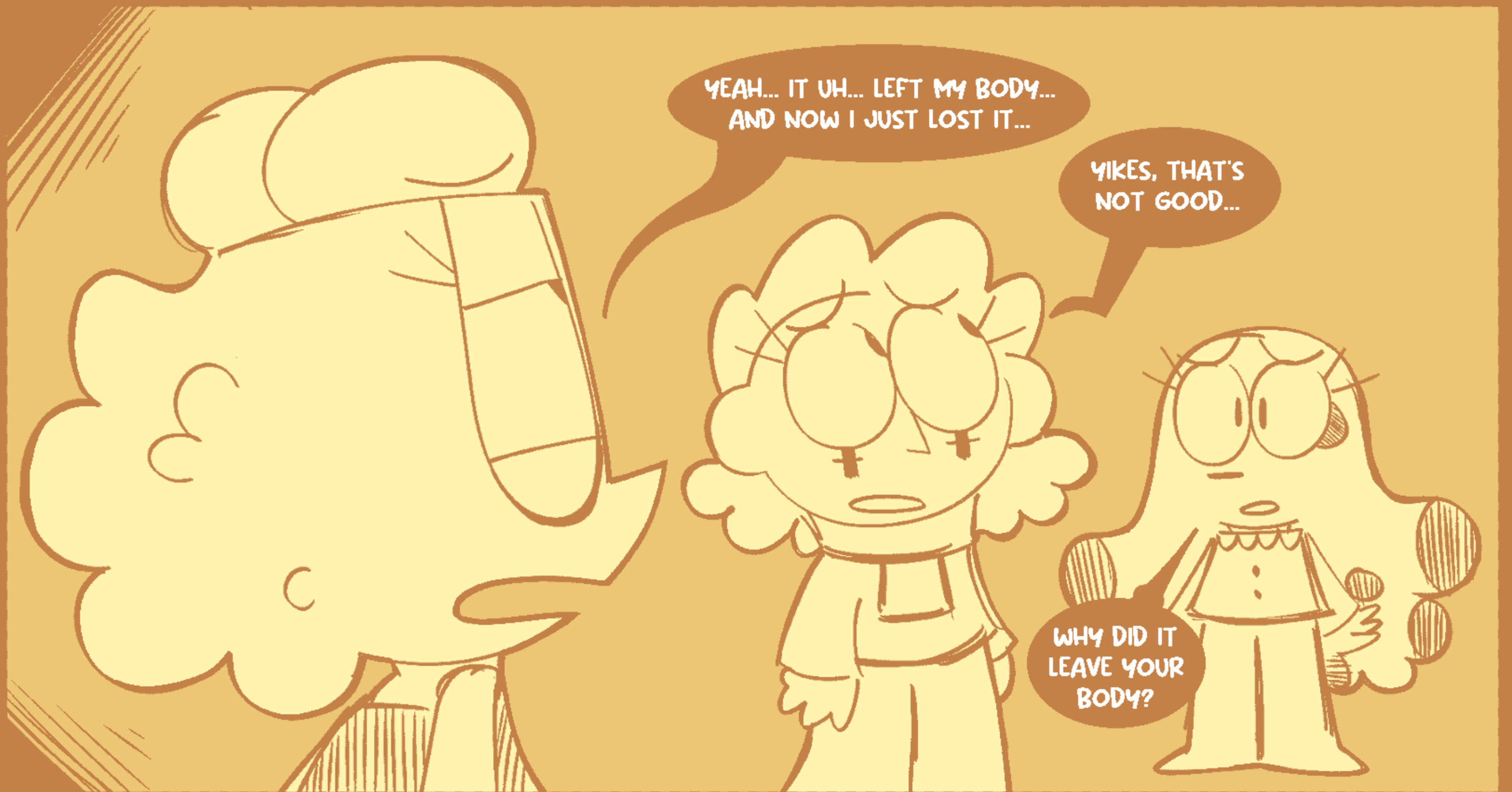
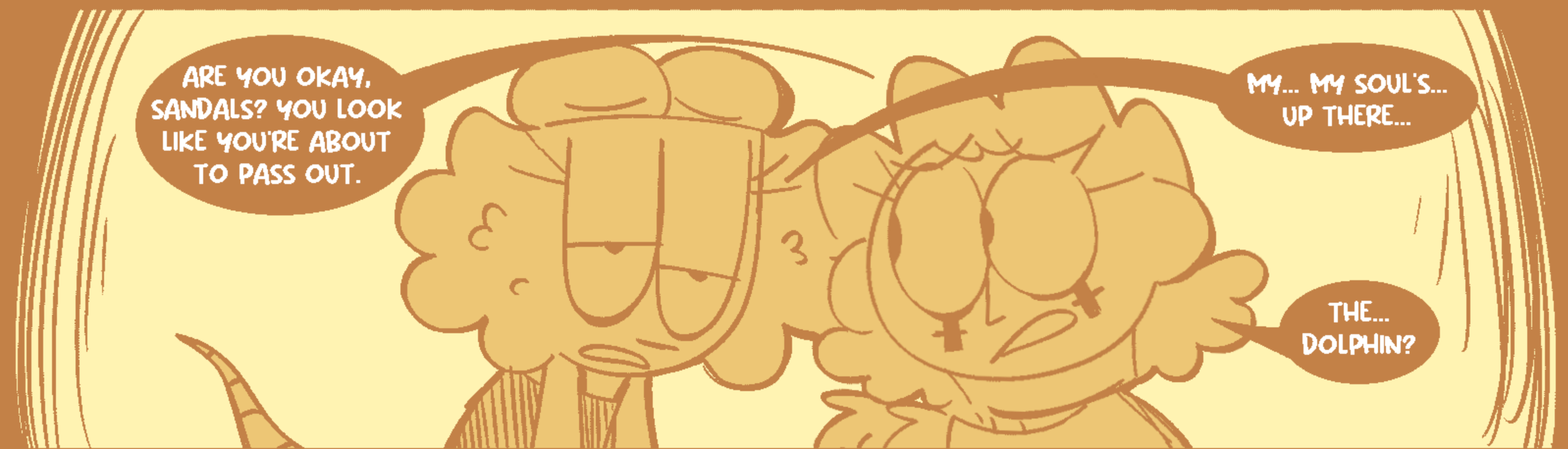


OOP, SORRY!!
HI, SUNDIALS!!!

NO, THE... THE
FUCKING... STUFF
ON YOUR FEET...

OH!! THOSE ARE
CALLED SHOES!! :)

OH MY FUCKING GOD

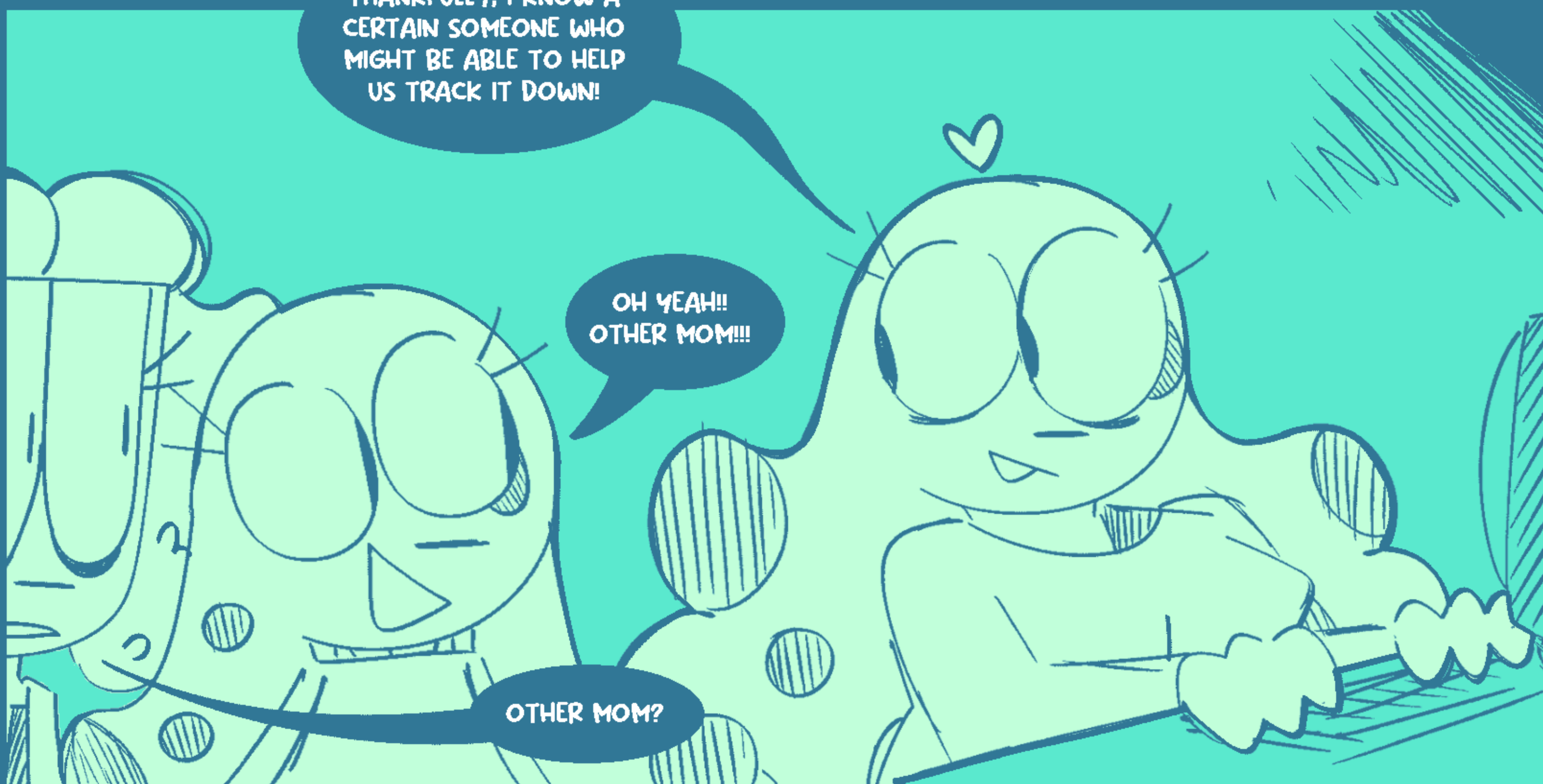




OH DEAR, A SOUL ESCAPE...

I'VE HEARD THOSE
ARE PRETTY PAINFUL...

THANKFULLY, I KNOW A
CERTAIN SOMEONE WHO
MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP
US TRACK IT DOWN!



OH YEAH!!
OTHER MOM!!!

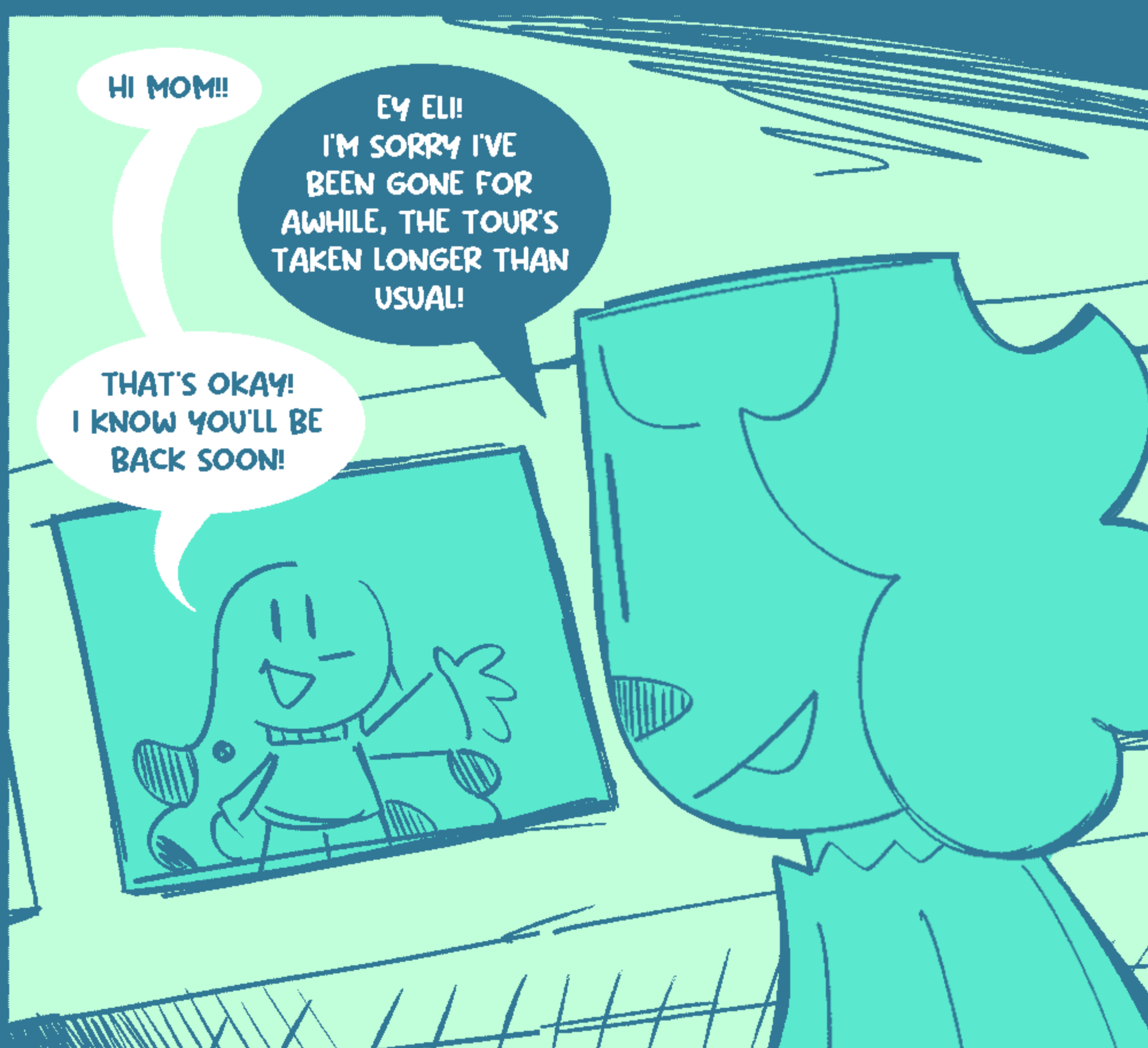
OTHER MOM?



HI HONEY!!

EY DEAR!!
HOW'S IT GOING
DOWN THERE?

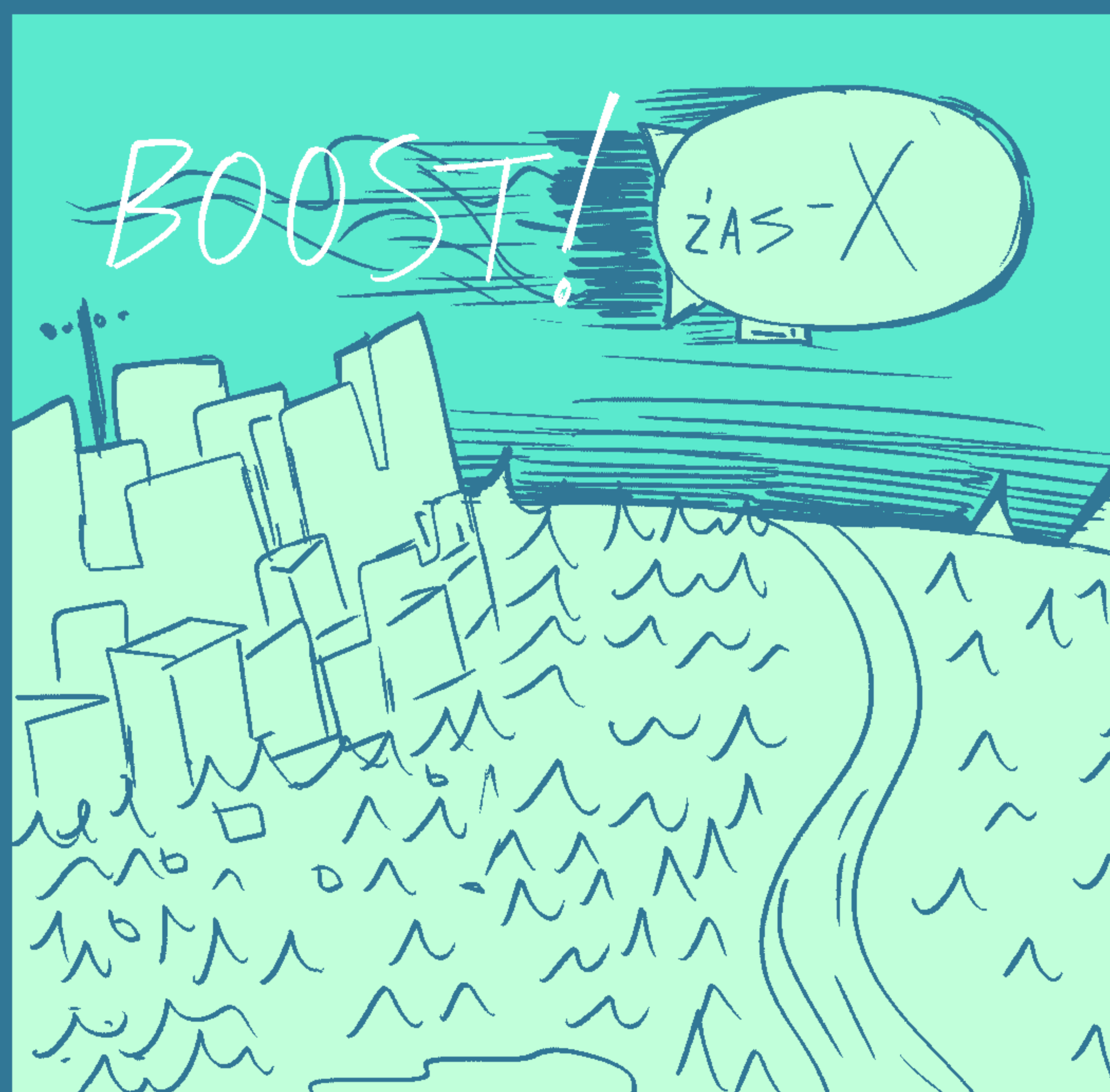
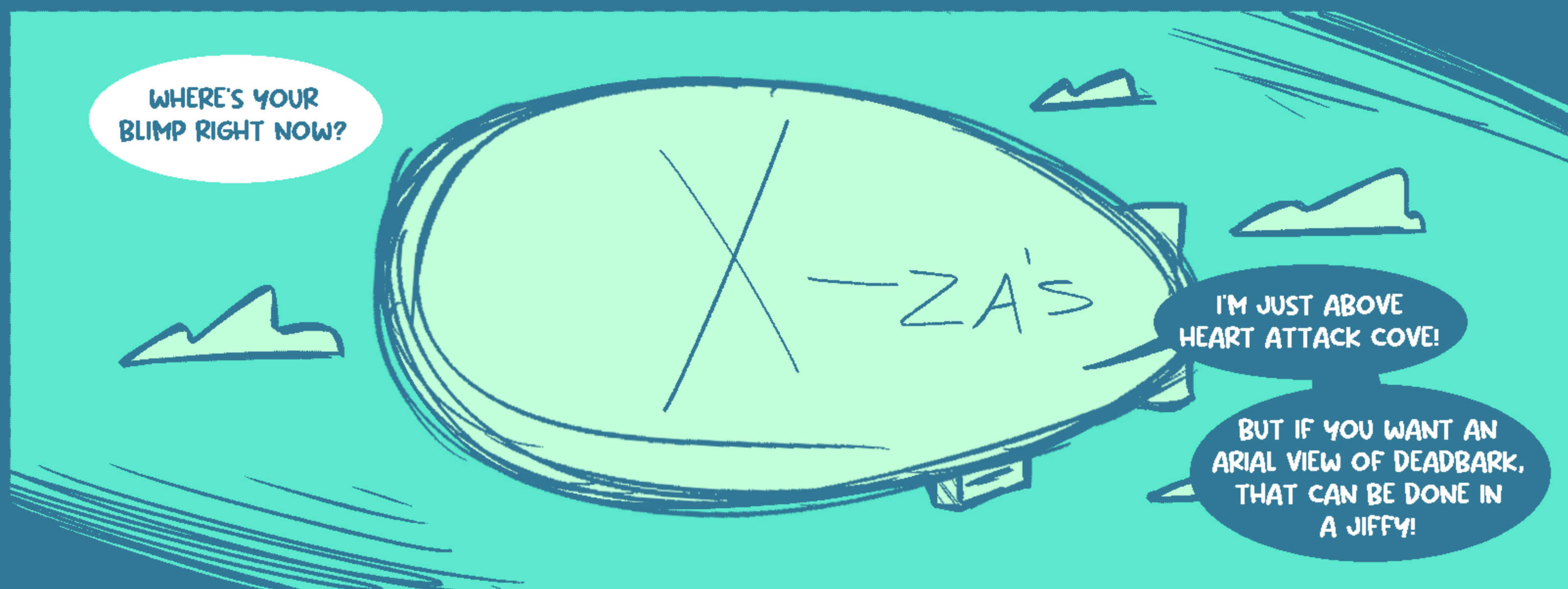
BORING, MOSTLY!!
WE MISS YOU SO MUCH!!!

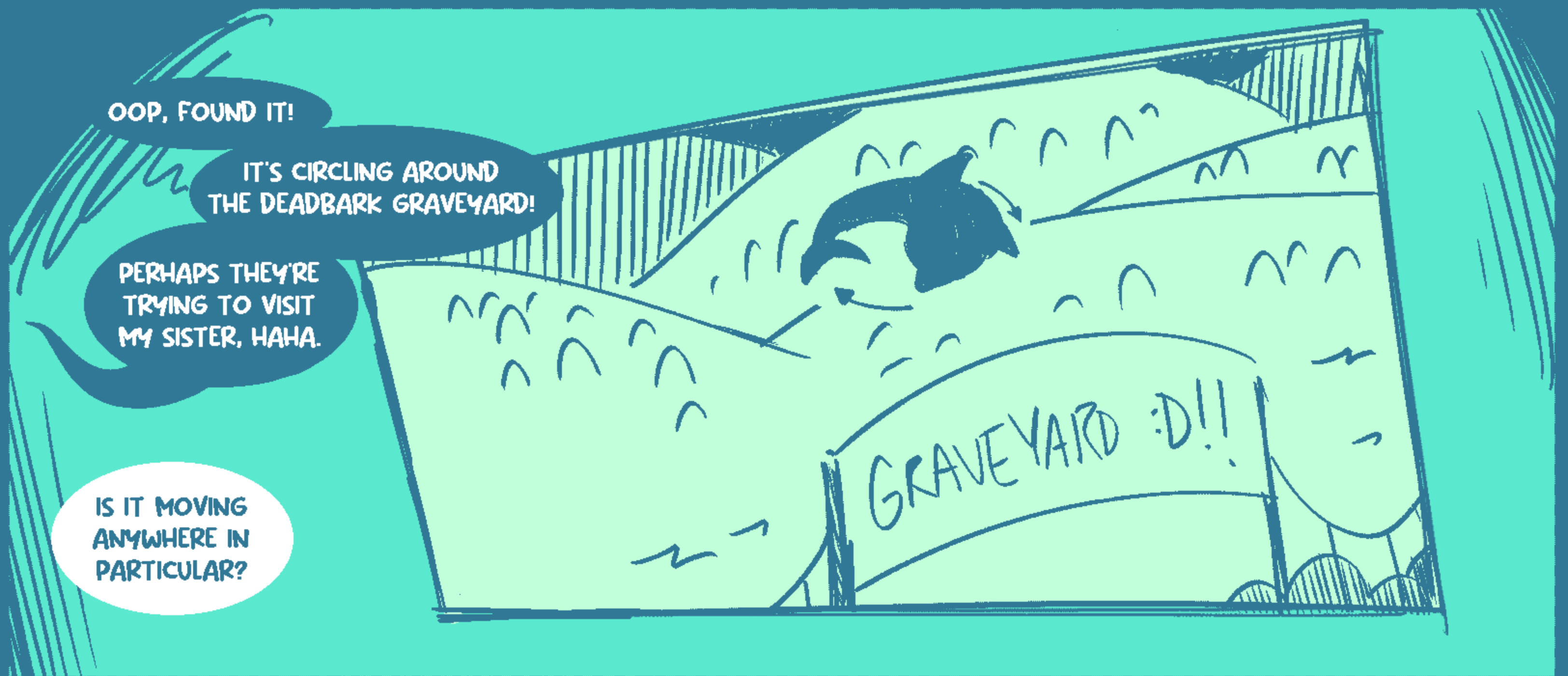
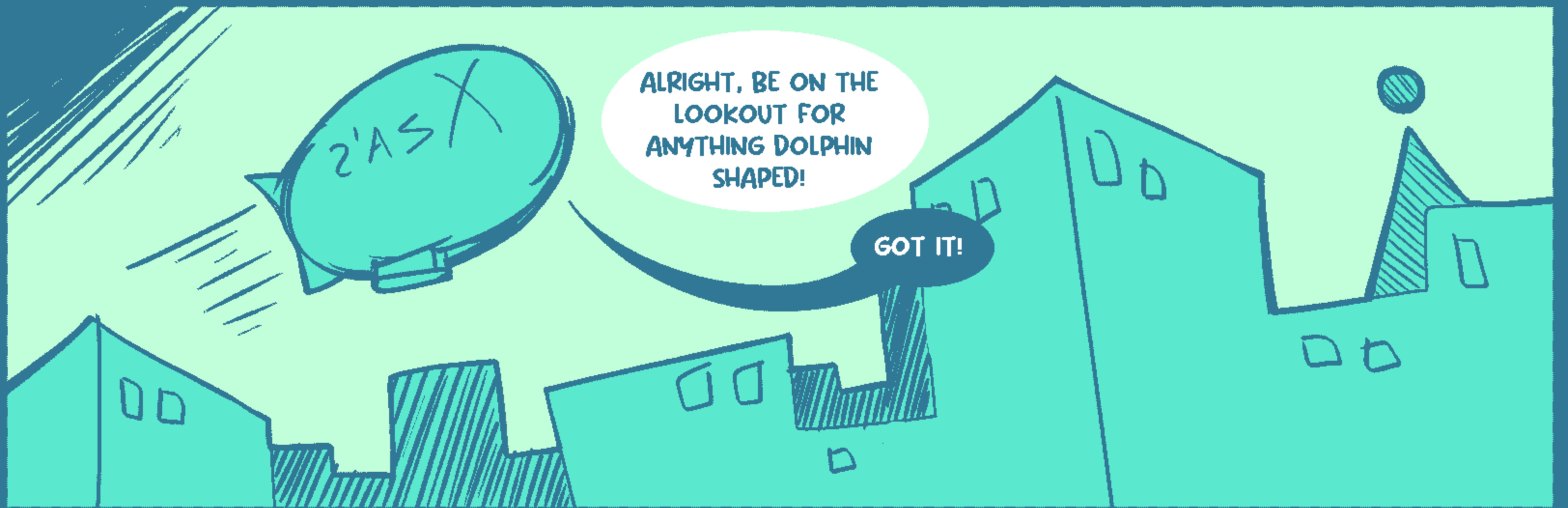


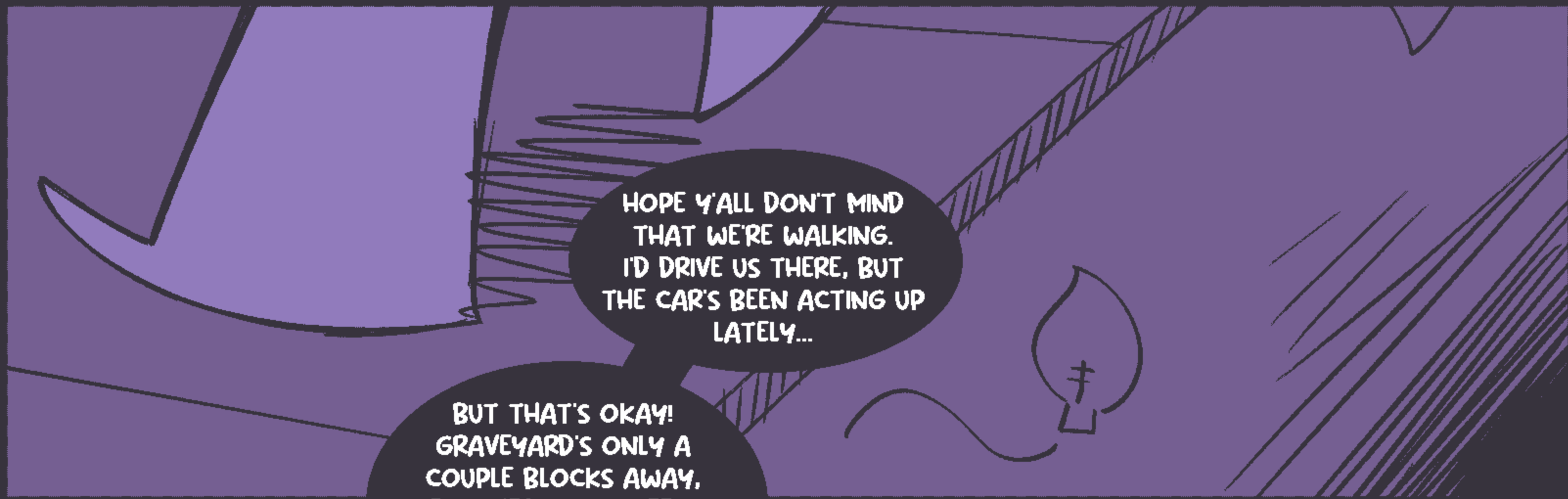
HI MOM!!

EY ELI!
I'M SORRY I'VE
BEEN GONE FOR
AWHILE, THE TOUR'S
TAKEN LONGER THAN
USUAL!

THAT'S OKAY!
I KNOW YOU'LL BE
BACK SOON!







HOPE Y'ALL DON'T MIND
THAT WE'RE WALKING.
I'D DRIVE US THERE, BUT
THE CAR'S BEEN ACTING UP
LATELY...

BUT THAT'S OKAY!
GRAVEYARD'S ONLY A
COUPLE BLOCKS AWAY,
AND OTHER MOM'S KEEPING
AN EYE ON THE DOLPHIN
IN CASE IT MOVES
ELSEWHERE.

WE'LL GET YOUR
SOUL BACK IN NO
TIME, SANDALS!!

I HOPE SO...



WHY DID YOU RESPOND TO
OTHER MOM LIKE THAT?

HM?



YEAH, AND SHE'S MINE TOO!
JUST LIKE HOW "MRS. AURORA" IS
MY MOM, AND ELI'S MY SISTER!

I ASSUMED THEY WERE
YOURS TOO! I ASSUMED
WE WERE SISTERS TOO!

HEY, WAIT
A MINUTE--



WHEN SHE ASKED
WHO WE WERE...

OH I UH... UM...
UHHH...

WHY DID YOU
REFER TO HER AS
"OTHER MOM?" SHE'S
ELI'S OTHER MOM...



KIDS, CALM DOWN...



STELLA, SANDALS HAS A LOT OF...
BAGGAGE, WHEN IT COMES
TO FAMILY...

THEY MIGHT STILL BE
BE FIGURING THINGS OUT...
GIVE THEM TIME.

I...

OKAY, MOM...



SORRY, SANDALS...

THAT'S FAIR.

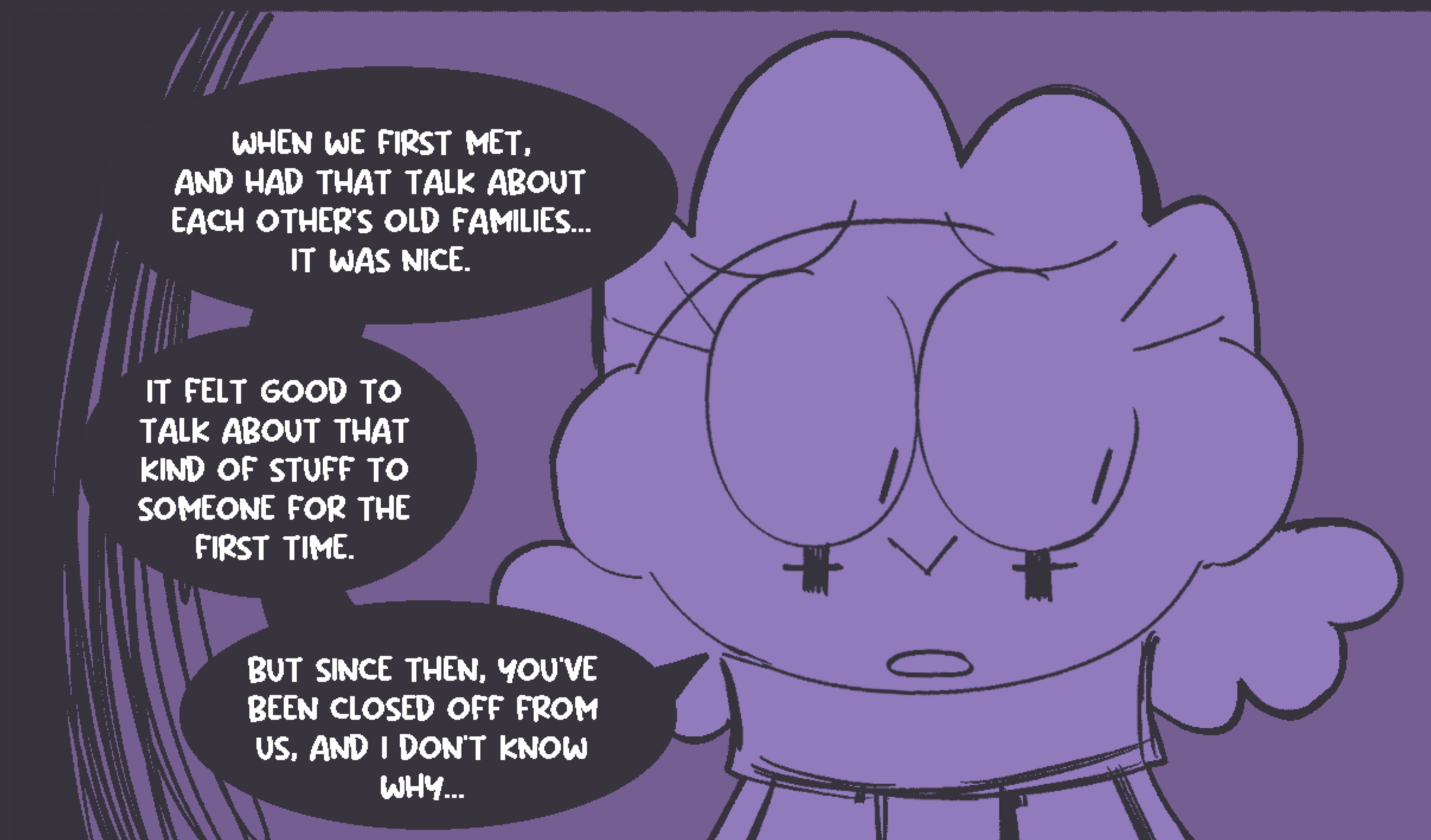
I... I GUESS I WAS JUST
UPSET THAT YOU TALKED
OVER ME ON THAT CHAT
WITH OTHER MOM...

I DON'T WANNA FORCE YOU
TO BE IN OUR FAMILY...



I JUST...
I JUST WISH I
KNEW YOU BETTER!
I WISH YOU'D
TALK TO
US MORE!

BESIDES SCHOOL
AND DINNER, YOU'RE
ALWAYS IN YOUR ROOM.
I RARELY GET TO
CHAT TO YOU...



WHEN WE FIRST MET,
AND HAD THAT TALK ABOUT
EACH OTHER'S OLD FAMILIES...
IT WAS NICE.

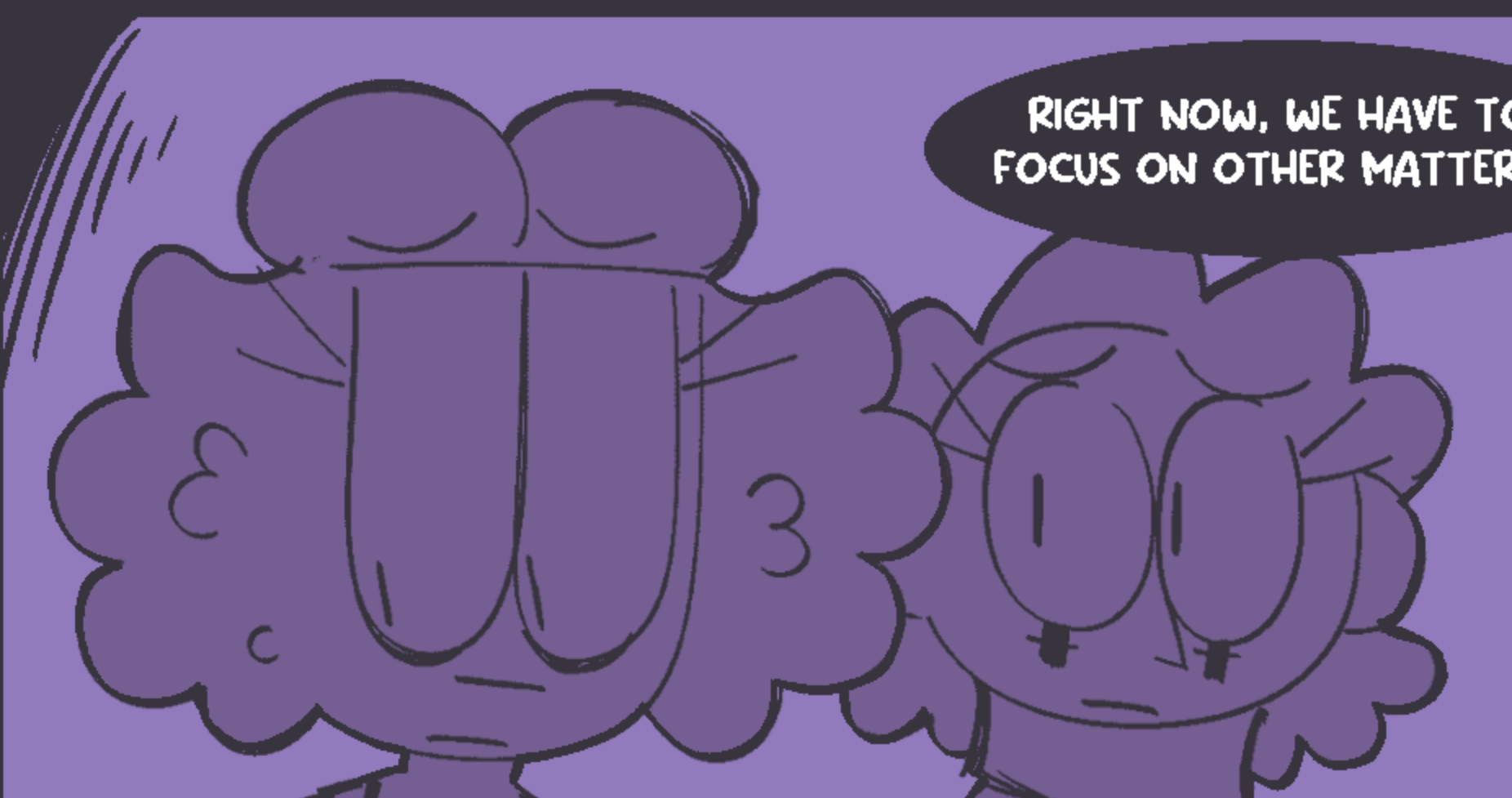
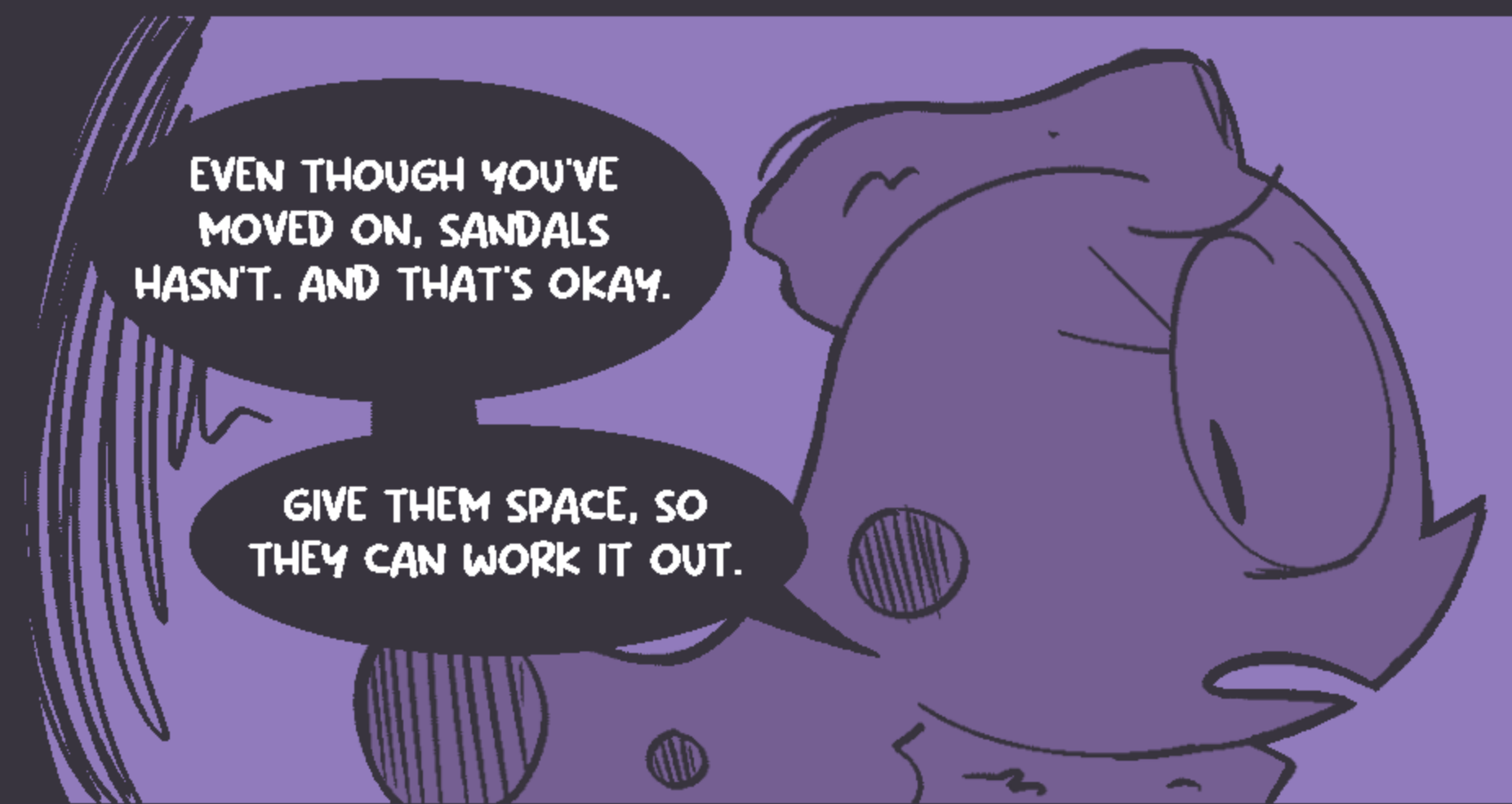
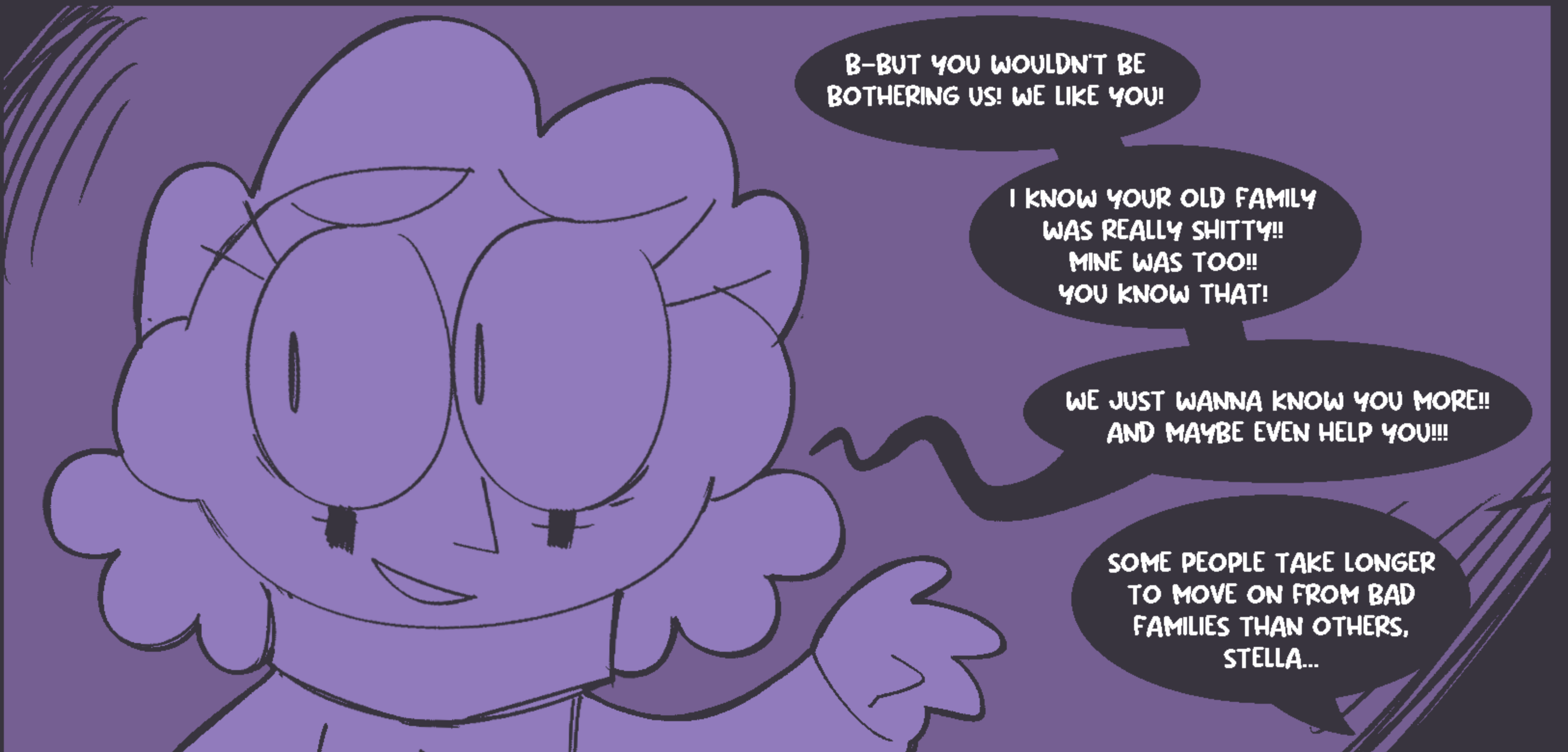
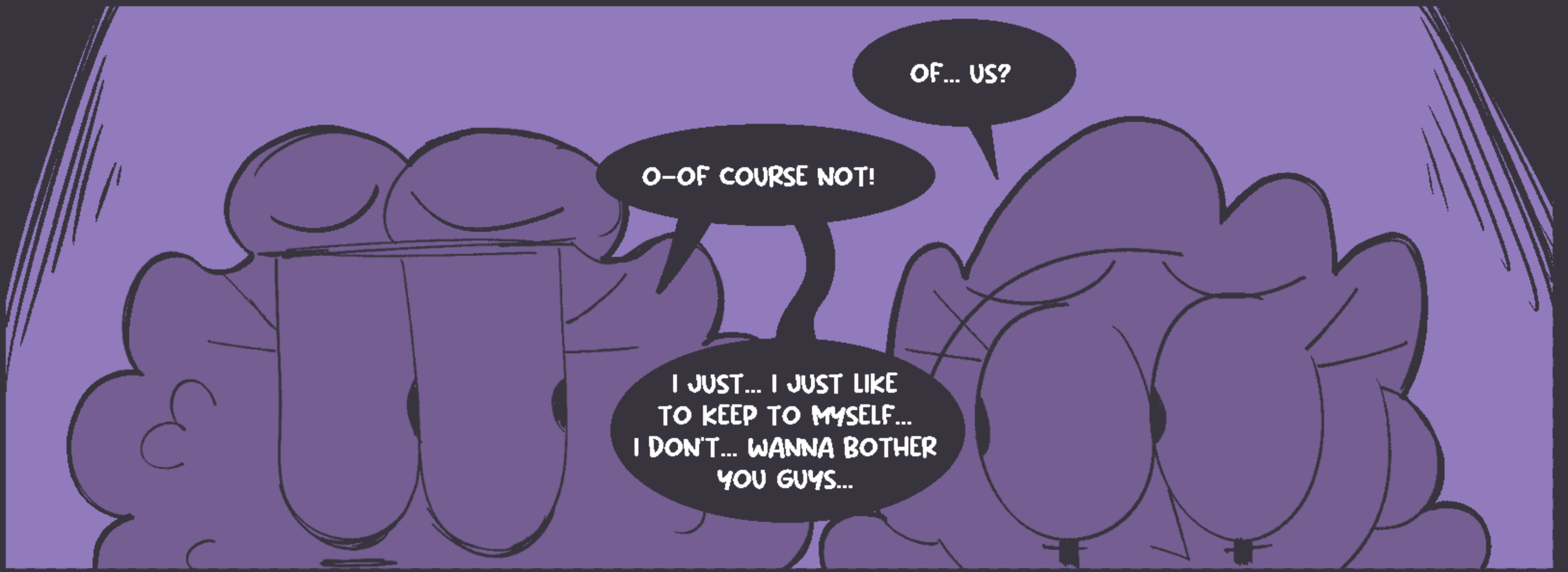
IT FELT GOOD TO
TALK ABOUT THAT
KIND OF STUFF TO
SOMEONE FOR THE
FIRST TIME.

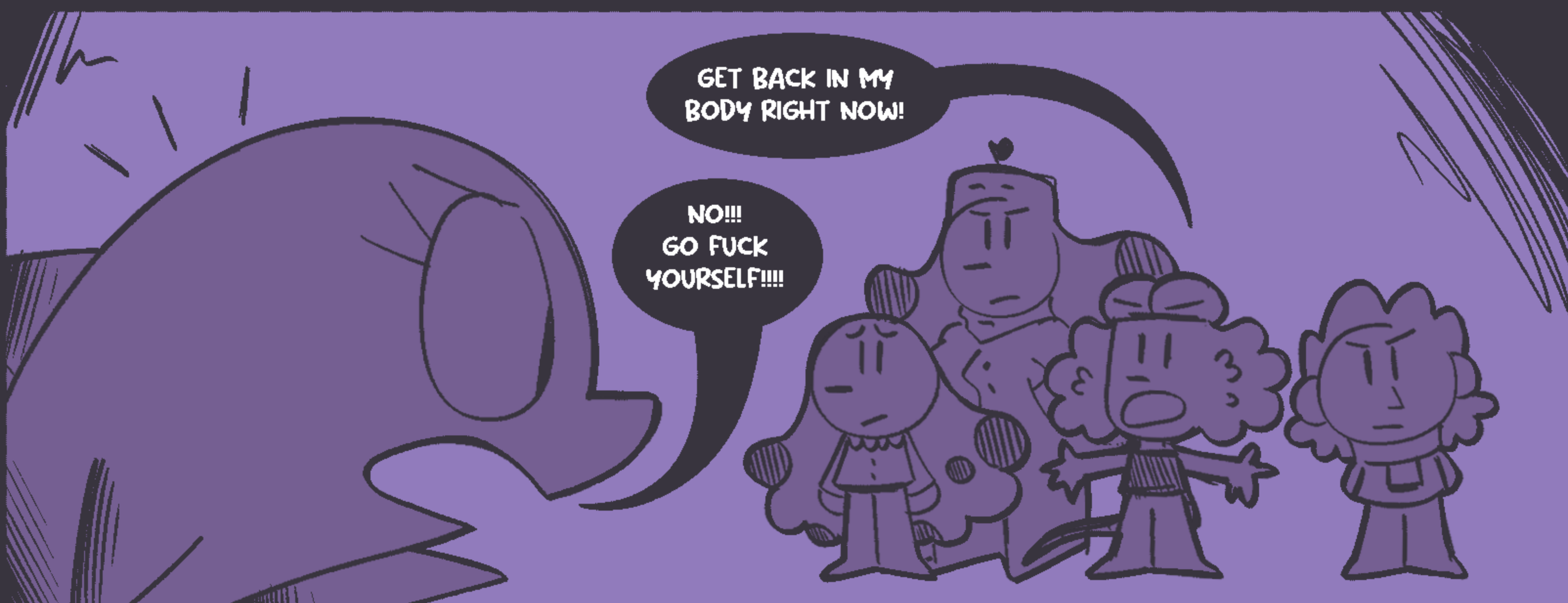
BUT SINCE THEN, YOU'VE
BEEN CLOSED OFF FROM
US, AND I DON'T KNOW
WHY...

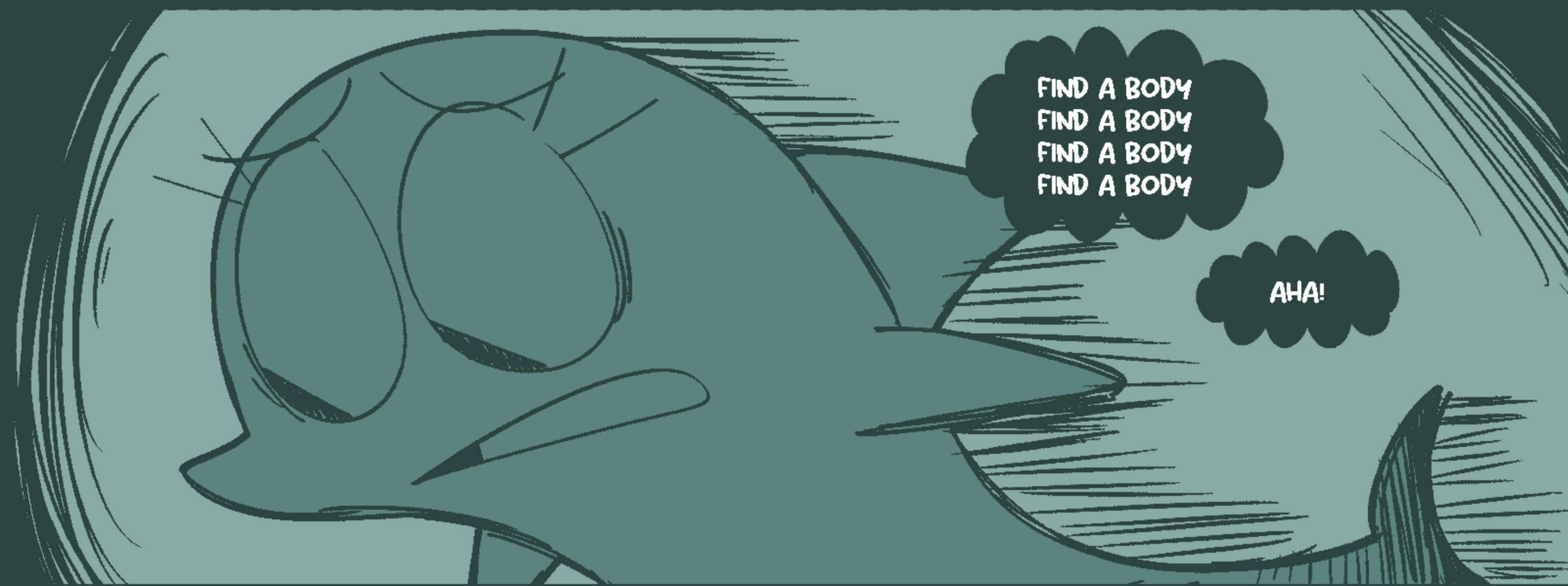


ARE YOU... AFRAID?

... OF
WHAT?







FIND A BODY
FIND A BODY
FIND A BODY
FIND A BODY

AHA!



LEAVE ME ALONE!!

I DON'T WANNA
TALK TO YOU!!!

COME ON, MAN...



IF WE'RE BOTH SEPERATED
FOR TOO LONG, WE'LL DIE!

I WON'T. I HAVE
A BODY NOW!



YOU CAN'T HONESTLY
TELL ME YOU PREFER
THAT BODY OVER MINE!

ANYTHING'S
FUCKING BETTER
THAN YOU.

OH YOU LITTLE SHIT-



ARE YOU POSSESSING
MY DAD'S BODY?!

YOUR DAD'S BODY??
WHEN THE HELL
DID HE DIE?

OH AWHILE AGO.
I HEARD IT ON
THE NEWS, I
THINK.

DIDN'T REALLY
GIVE IT MUCH
THOUGHT.



STOP POSSESSING MY DAD'S BODY,
IT WEIRDS ME OUT! AND CAN YOU PLEASE
STOP WASTING EVERYONE'S TIME
AND GET BACK WITH SANDALS?

NO!!!!!! YOU CAN'T MAKE ME!!!!
CYNTHIA'S TOO MEAN TO ME!!

THAT'S NOT MY NAME!
N-NOT ANYMORE, AT LEAST-

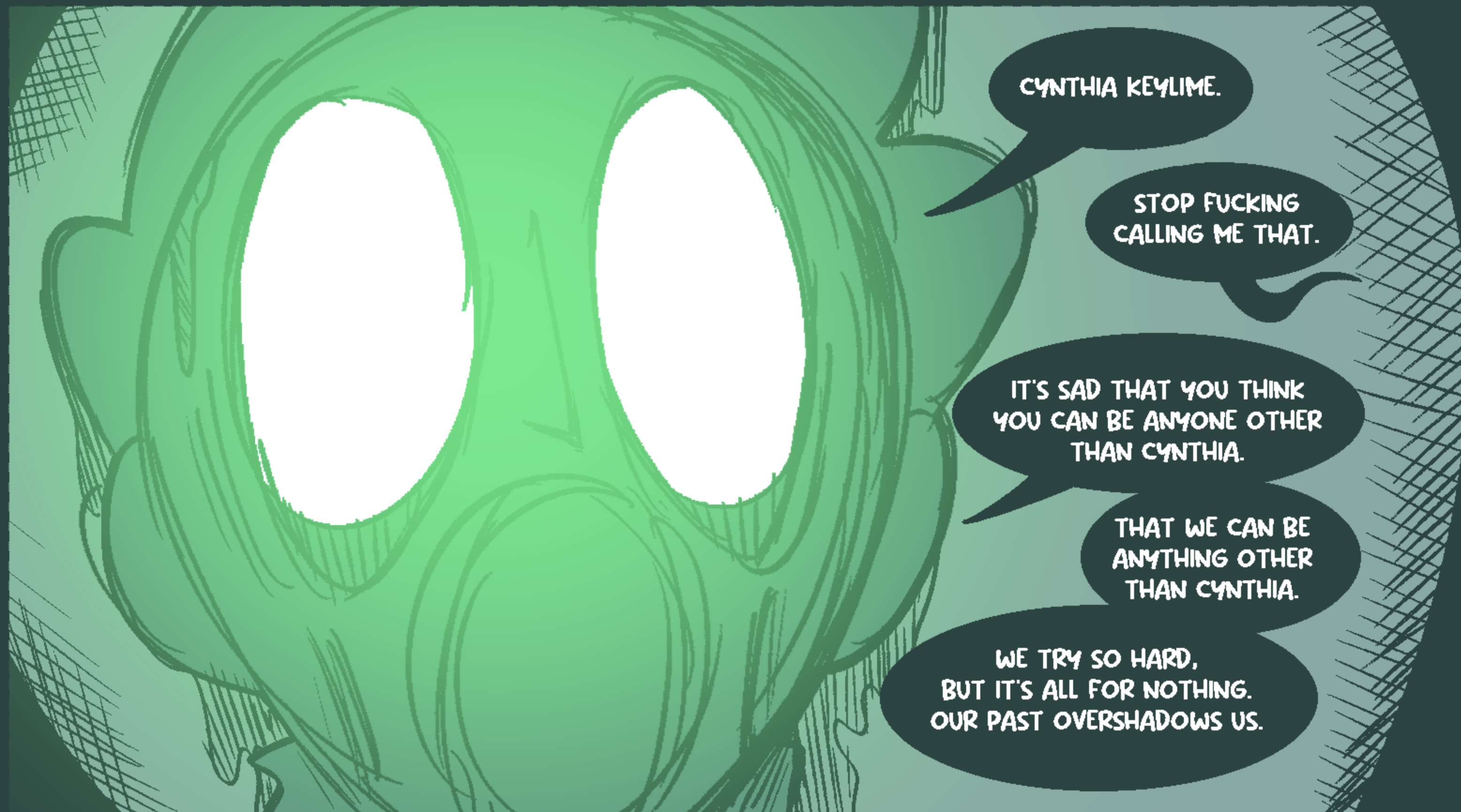


WHAT DO YOU MEAN I'M "MEAN TO YOU?"

I BARELY EVEN KNOW WHAT
"YOU" ARE!

I'M YOUR SOUL.

I'M YOU.



CYNTHIA KEYLIME.

STOP FUCKING
CALLING ME THAT.

IT'S SAD THAT YOU THINK
YOU CAN BE ANYONE OTHER
THAN CYNTHIA.

THAT WE CAN BE
ANYTHING OTHER
THAN CYNTHIA.

WE TRY SO HARD,
BUT IT'S ALL FOR NOTHING.
OUR PAST OVERSHADOWS US.



N-NO IT DOESN'T!
N-NOT NECESSARILY-

WE WERE SUPPOSED
TO BE BETTER THAN DAD.

WH-WHAT...



HE CALLED US WORTHLESS.
HE SAID WE'D BE BETTER OFF DEAD.
AND WE WERE SUPPOSED TO
PROVE HIM WRONG. THAT WE
HAD WORTH. THAT UNLIKE HIM,
WE COULD DO GOOD IN THIS
WORLD...

WHAT HAPPENED, CYNTHIA...
WHY DID WE TURN OUT
THIS WAY...

I-IT'S NOT TOO LATE!!
W-WE'RE GETTING BETTER!

ARE WE?

CAN YOU HONESTLY LOOK ME IN THE EYE,
AND TELL ME FROM THE BOTTOM OF YOUR HEART,
THAT YOU'RE BETTER THAN THE PERSON YOU WERE
TWO MONTHS AGO?

HEY, LEAVE
HER ALONE!

WE'VE SEEN HER CHANGE!
EVEN IF JUST A LITTLE BIT!!
SHE'S TRYING!!

THAT'S CUTE.

BUT TRYING
ISN'T ENOUGH.

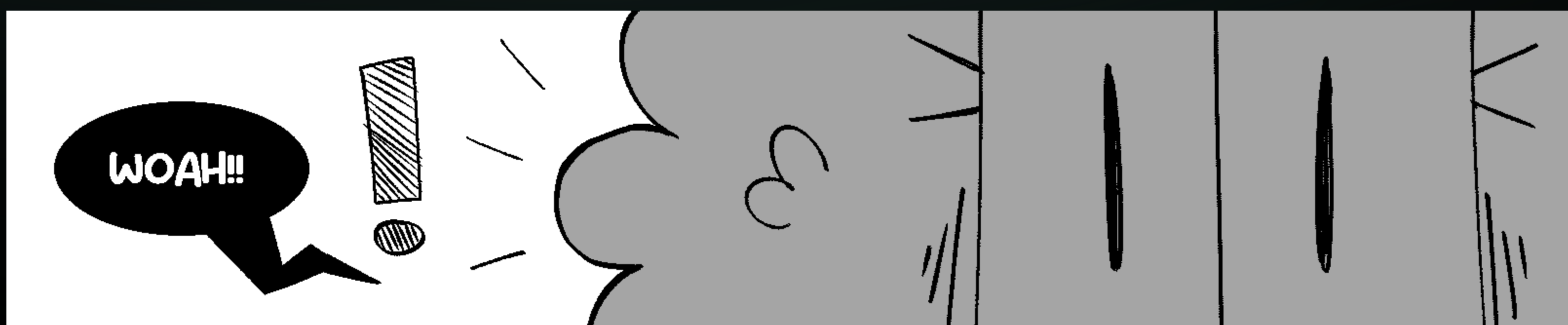
HOW DO YOU GUYS
KNOW THAT SHE'S NOT
GONNA HURT YOU,
JUST LIKE SHE HURT
EVERYONE ELSE?

YOU DON'T!

GRAB!

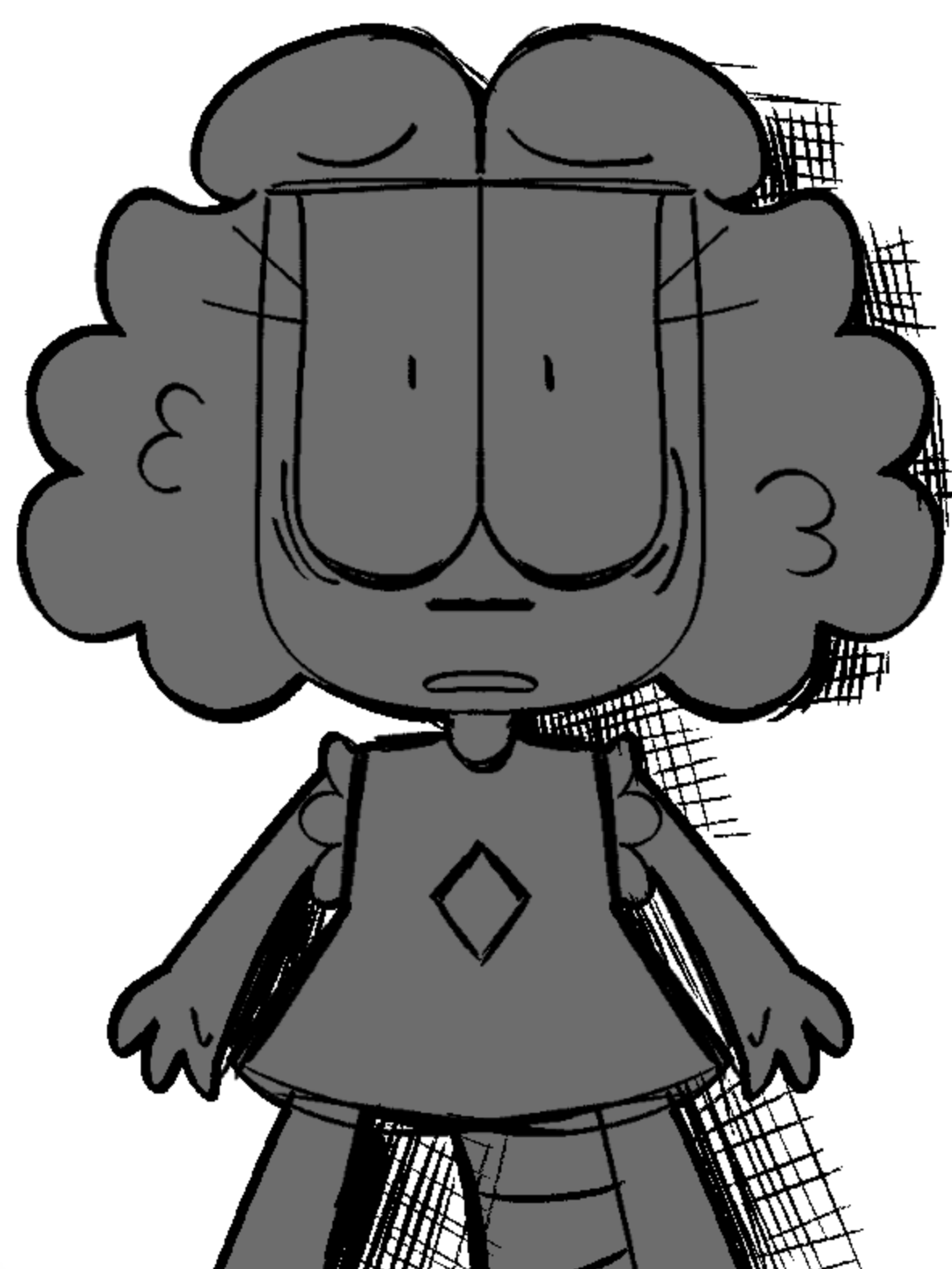
HEY!!

ONLY I KNOW
WHO YOU REALLY
ARE!!!!



WHAT IS THIS...

WH-WHERE AM I...



WHERE ELSE,
CYNTHIA?

YOU'RE IN YOUR
OWN SELF-MADE
PRISON.

YOU SHALL STAY HERE
UNTIL THE REST OF YOUR
24 HOURS ARE UP.

YOU WILL DIE HERE,
AS YOU SHOULD.

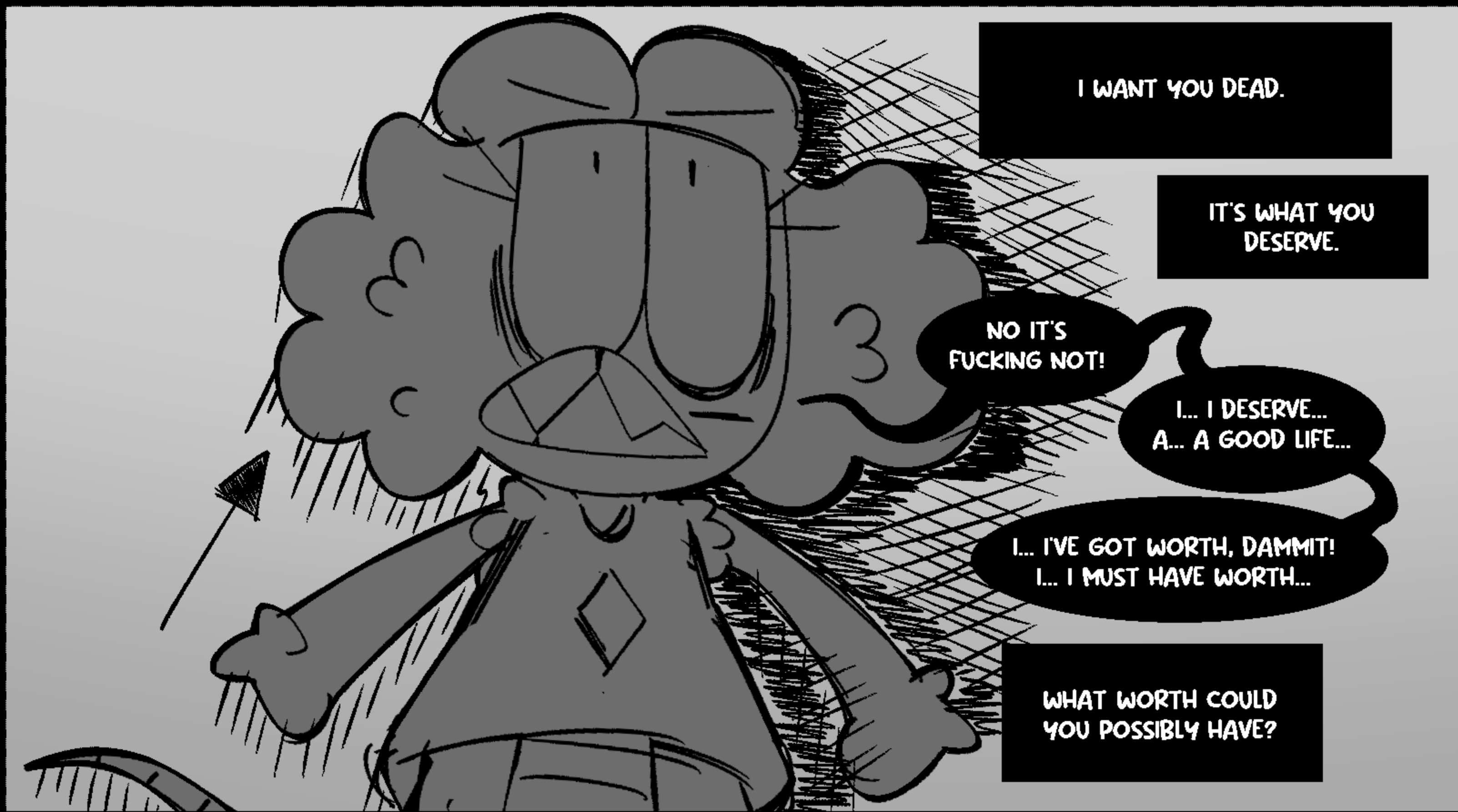


WH-WHY ARE YOU
DOING THIS....

WHY ARE YOU TRYING
TO KILL ME?

I THOUGHT I MADE IT
PRETTY CLEAR TO YOU WHY.





I WANT YOU DEAD.

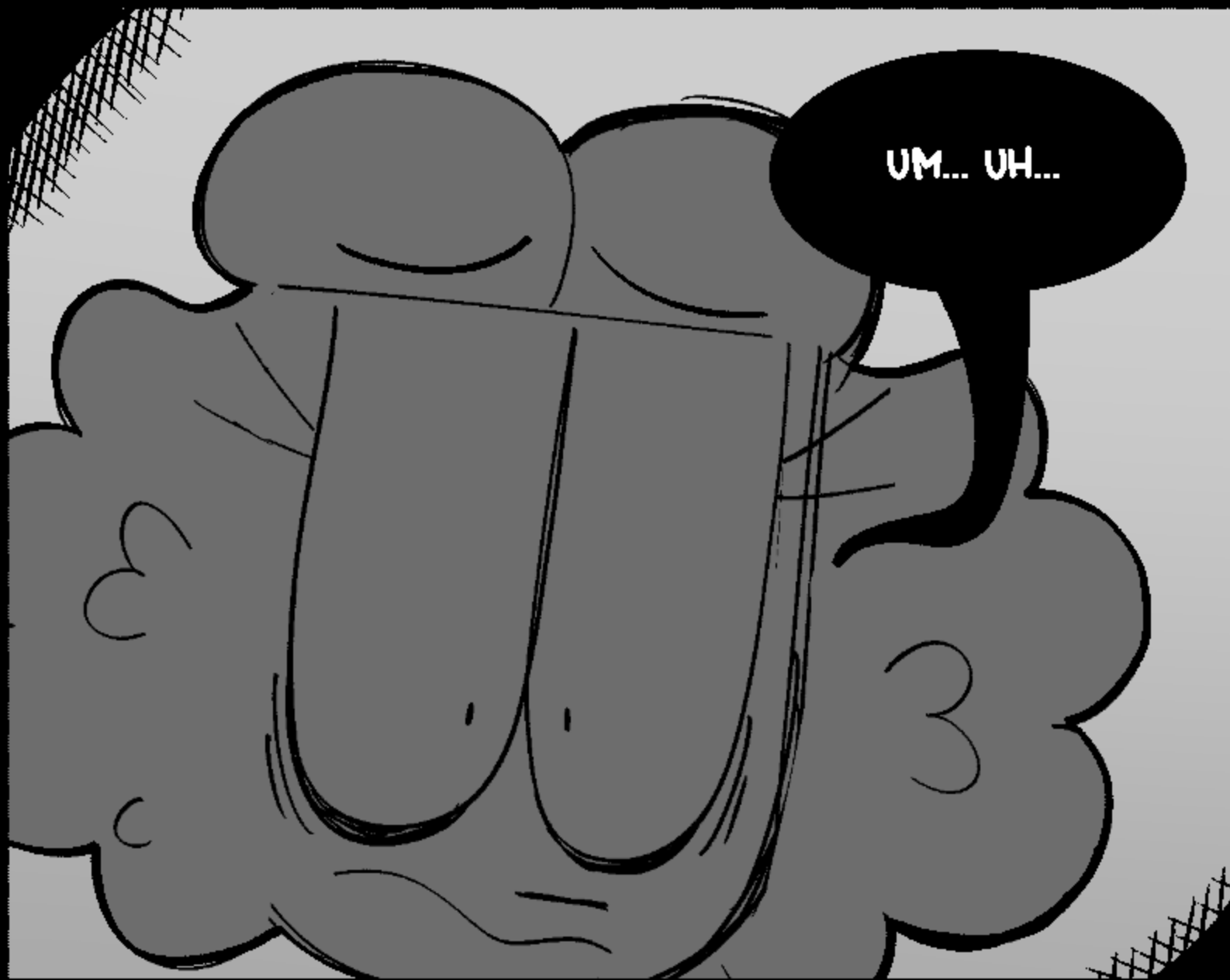
IT'S WHAT YOU DESERVE.

NO IT'S
FUCKING NOT!

I... I DESERVE...
A... A GOOD LIFE...

I... I'VE GOT WORTH, DAMMIT!
I... I MUST HAVE WORTH...

WHAT WORTH COULD
YOU POSSIBLY HAVE?



UM... UH...

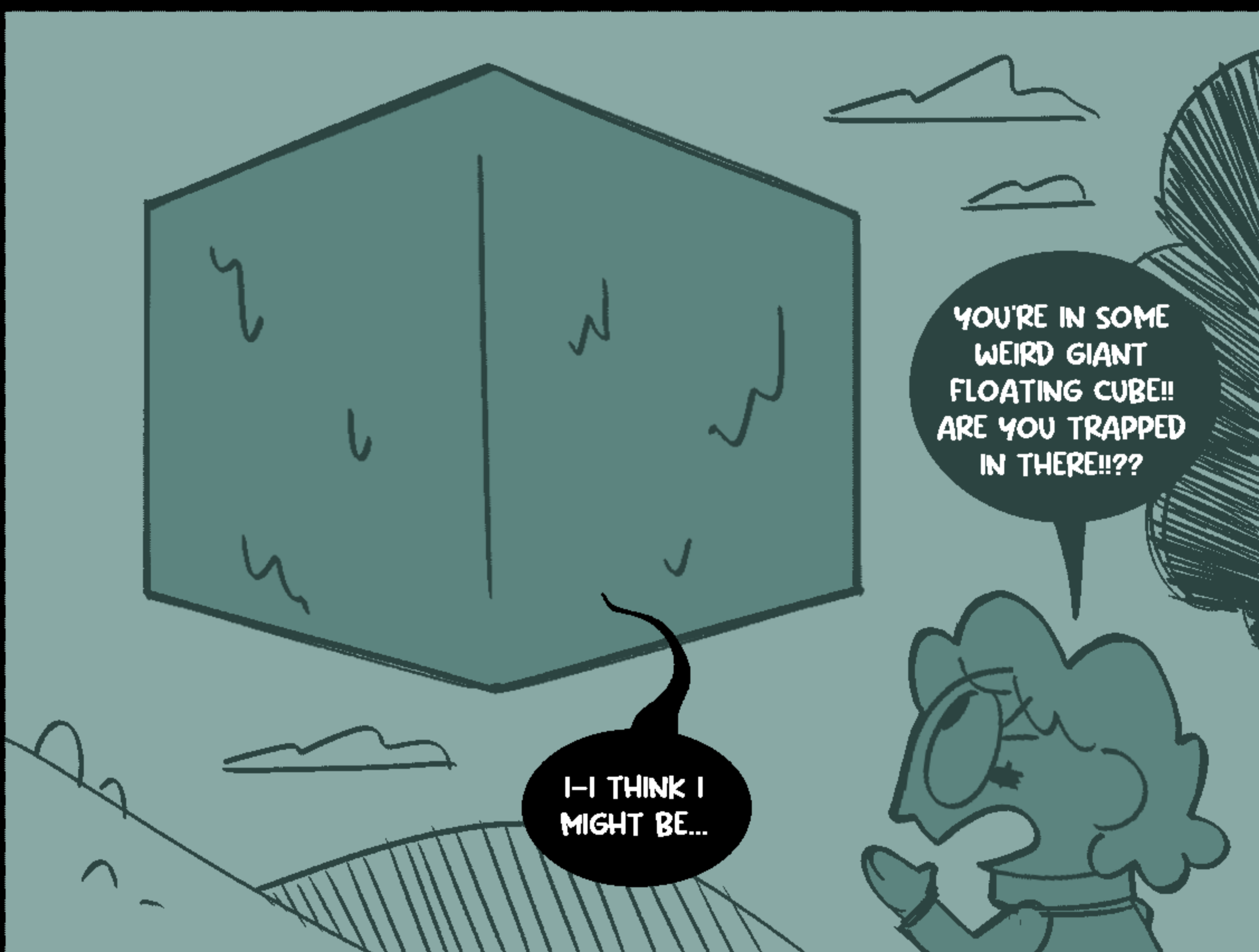


SANDALS!!
SANDALS, ARE YA
IN THERE??



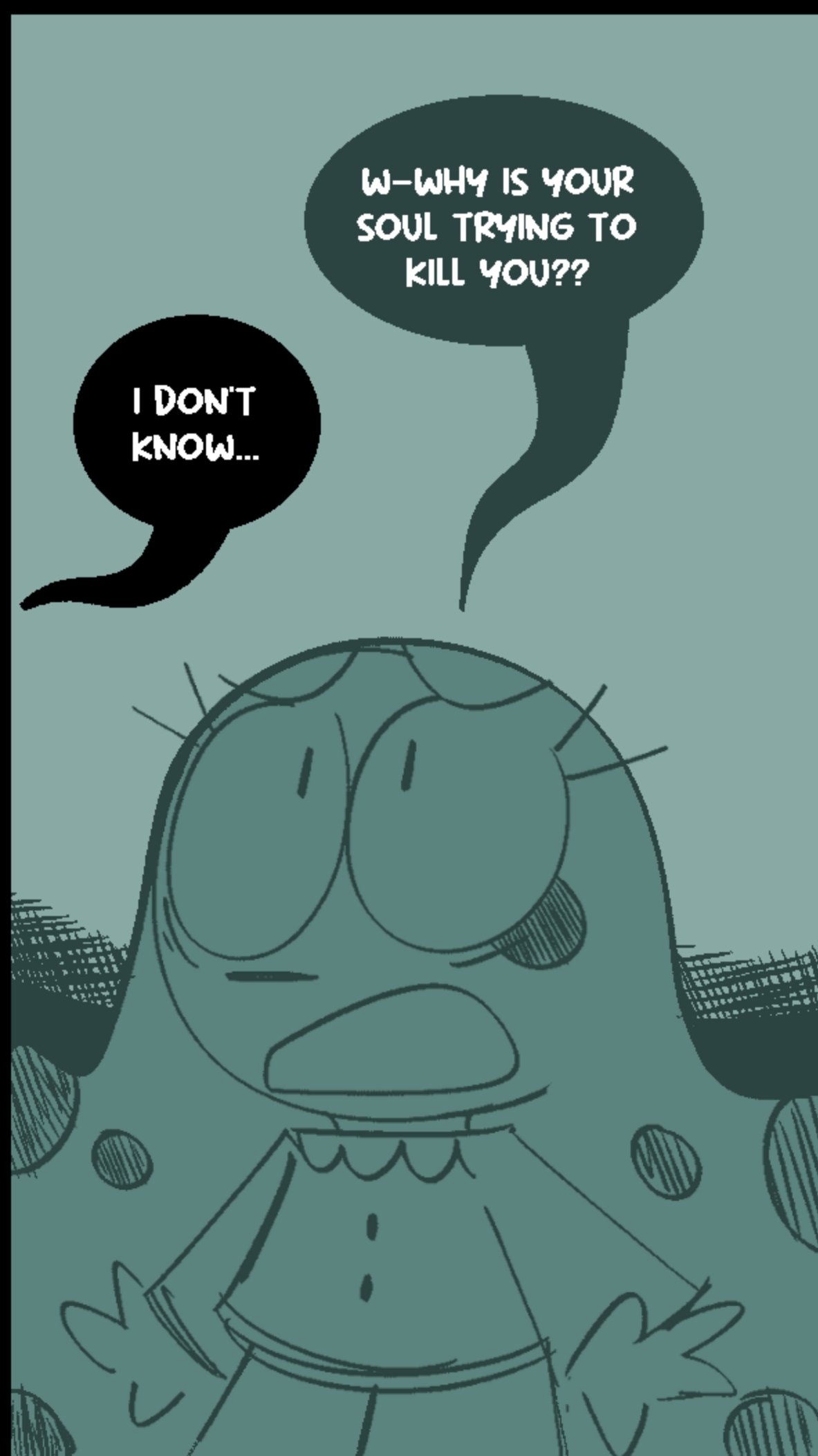
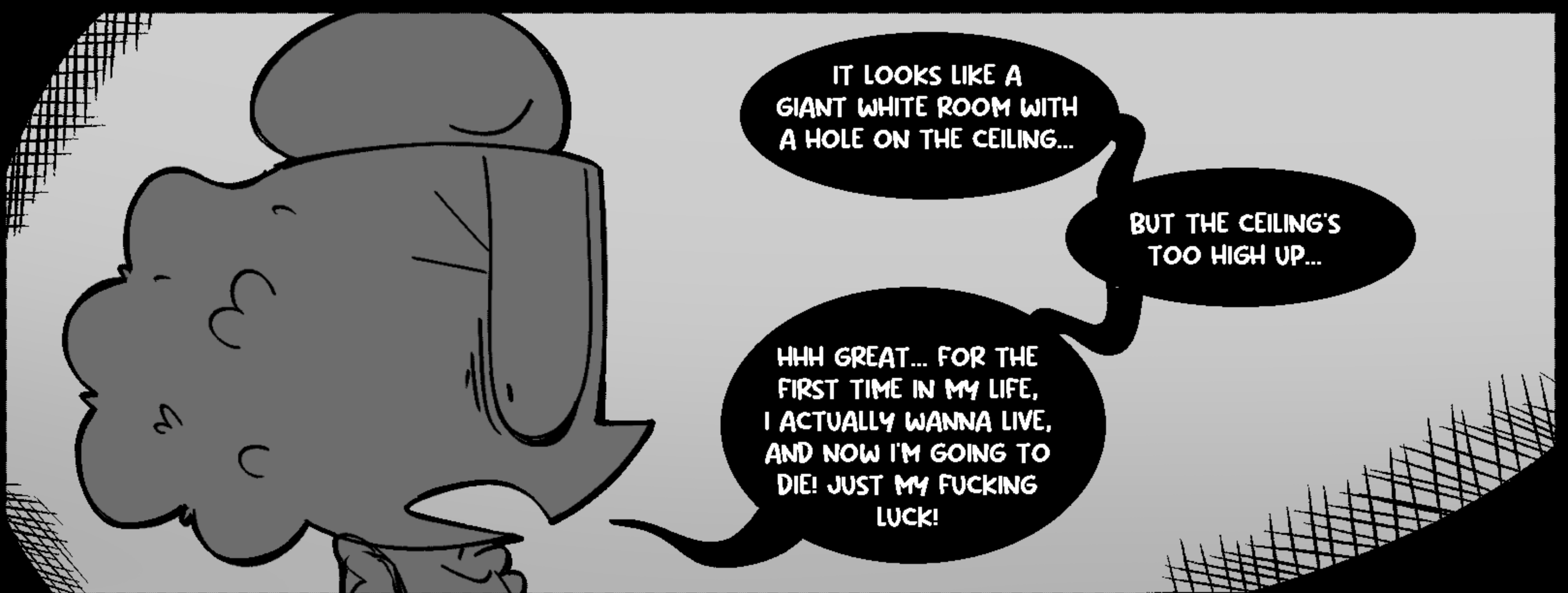
S-STELLA??
W-WHERE THE
HELL ARE YOU?

WE'RE OUTSIDE!!



YOU'RE IN SOME
WEIRD GIANT
FLOATING CUBE!!
ARE YOU TRAPPED
IN THERE!??

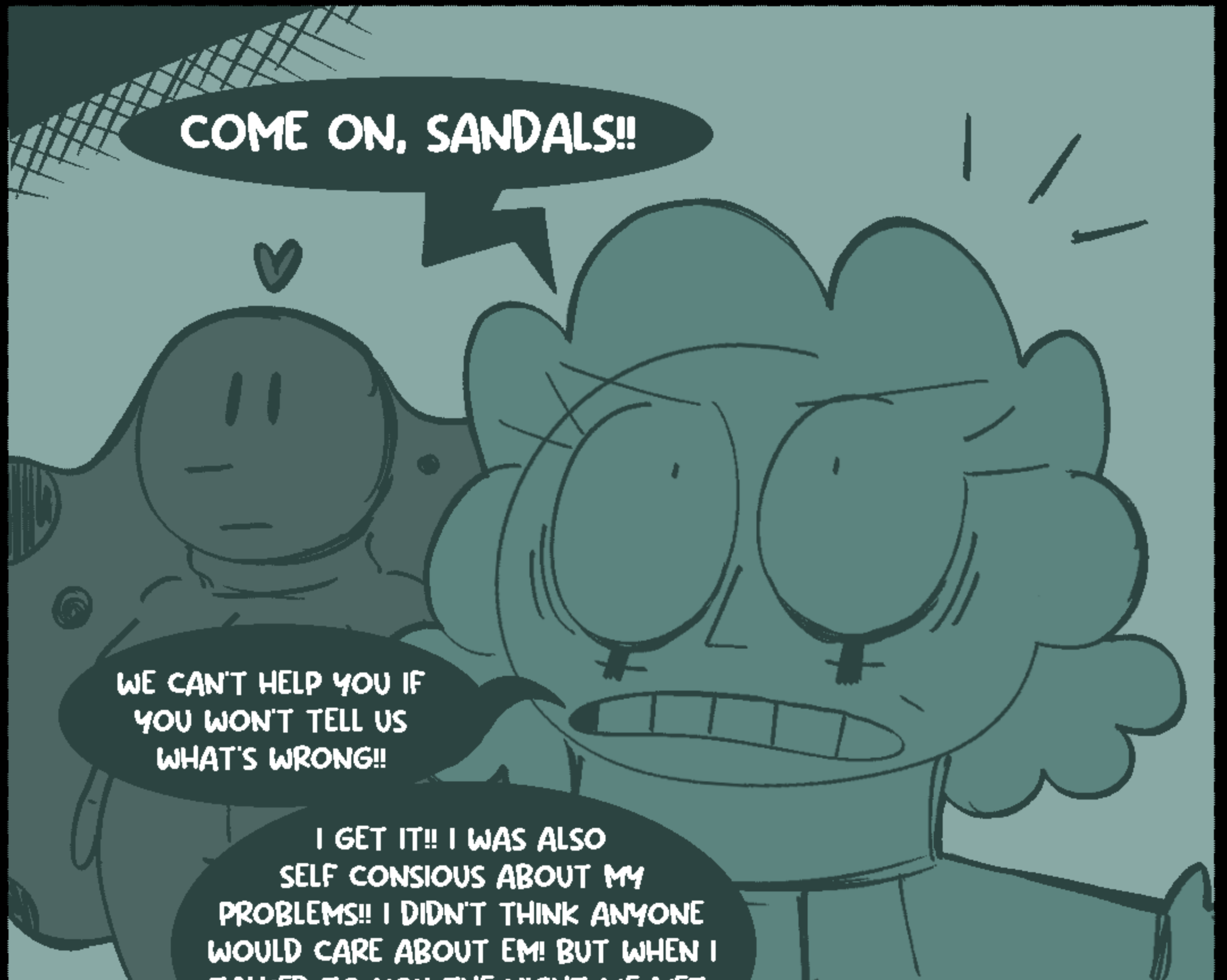
I-I THINK I
MIGHT BE...





WELL... HOW COME?

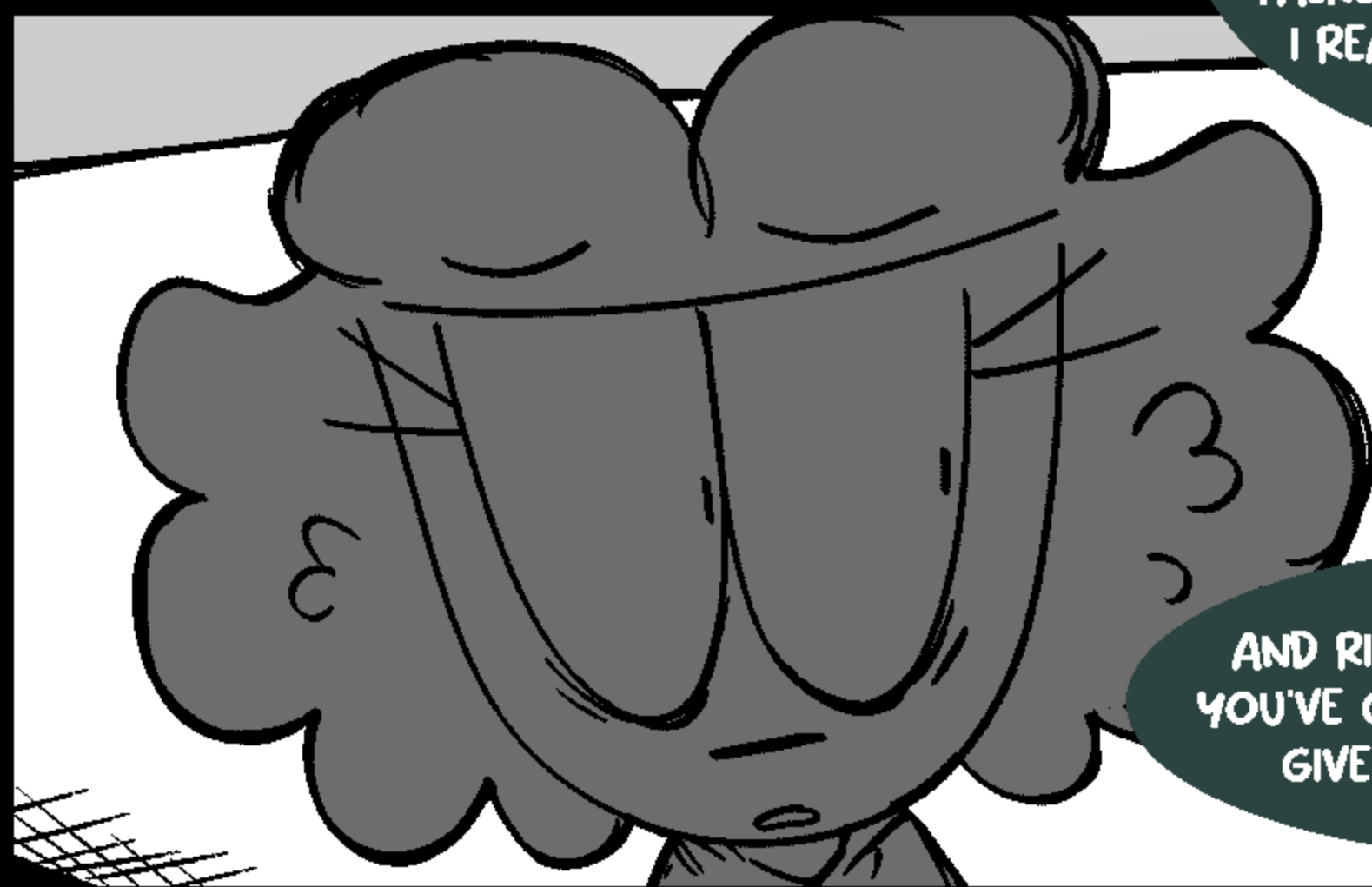
WELL... UH...



COME ON, SANDALS!!

WE CAN'T HELP YOU IF
YOU WON'T TELL US
WHAT'S WRONG!!

I GET IT!! I WAS ALSO
SELF CONSOUS ABOUT MY
PROBLEMS!! I DIDN'T THINK ANYONE
WOULD CARE ABOUT EM! BUT WHEN I
TALKED TO YOU THE NIGHT WE MET,
I REALIZED THAT MY ISSUES WERE
VALID!!

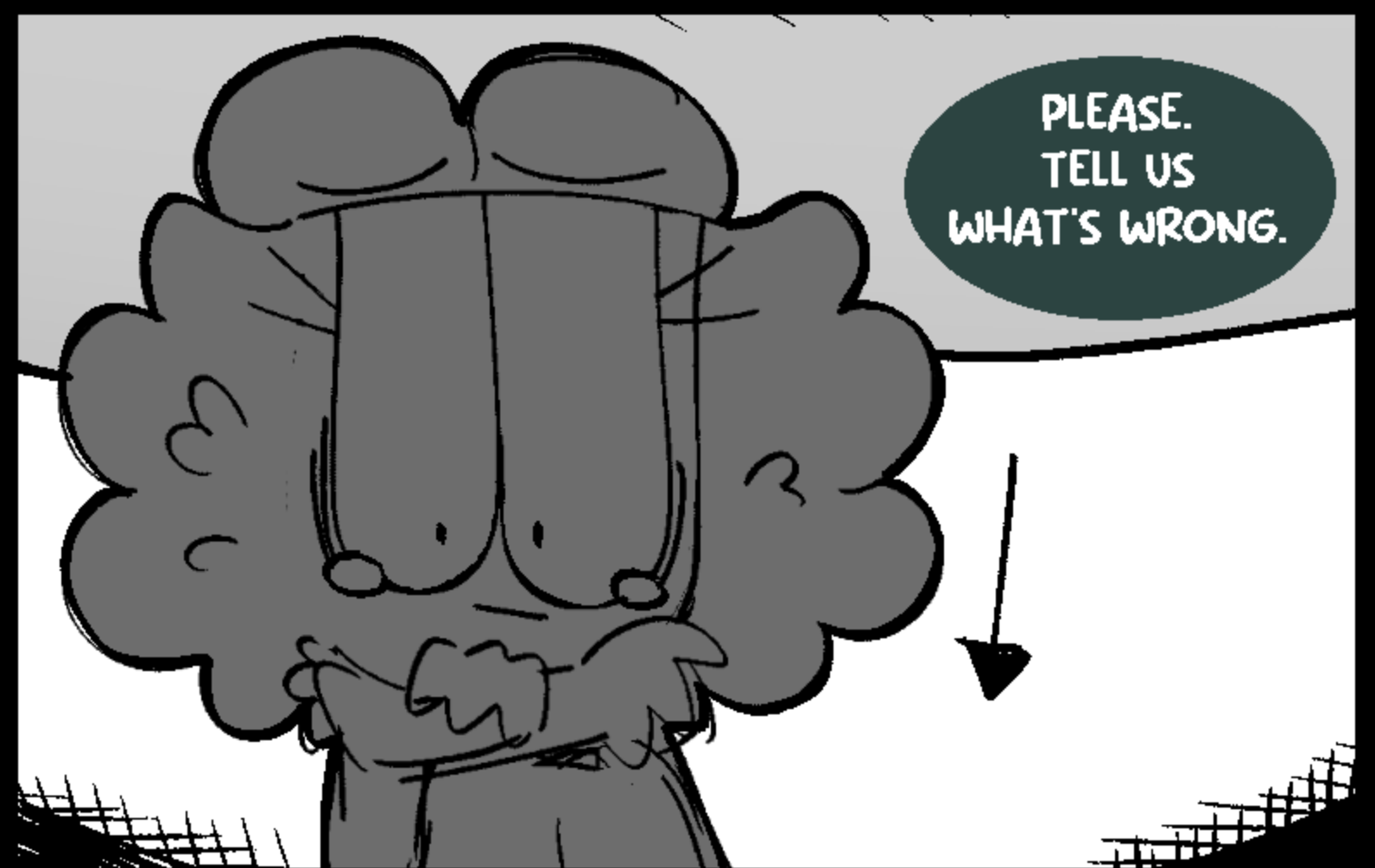


IT TOOK ONE PERSON GIVING A SHIT
TO MAKE ME SEE MY WORTH AS A PERSON!!

AND RIGHT NOW, RIGHT HERE,
YOU'VE GOT THREE PEOPLE THAT
GIVE A SHIT ABOUT YOU!!



WE DON'T WANT YOU TO DIE!
WE LOVE YOU!!



PLEASE.
TELL US
WHAT'S WRONG.





I'M... I'M AFRAID
OF MYSELF...

AND WHAT I HAVE
AND MIGHT DO...

I'M AFRAID THAT
I HAVEN'T CHANGED.
THAT ONE DAY, I'LL HURT YOU
LIKE I'VE HURT EVERYONE
ELSE.

THAT I'LL REVERT BACK
TO THE SHITTY JACKASS
I USED TO BE.

I'VE... I'VE NEVER KNOWN
WHAT IT'S LIKE TO HAVE A
CARING FAMILY...

AND I ALWAYS FELT GUILTY
FOR THINKING OF YOU GUYS AS...
AS MY FAMILY...

I DIDN'T THINK I DESERVED A...
A CARING MOTHER L-LIKE MRS. AURORA...
O-OR WONDERFUL SISTERS
LIKE ELI AND STELLA...

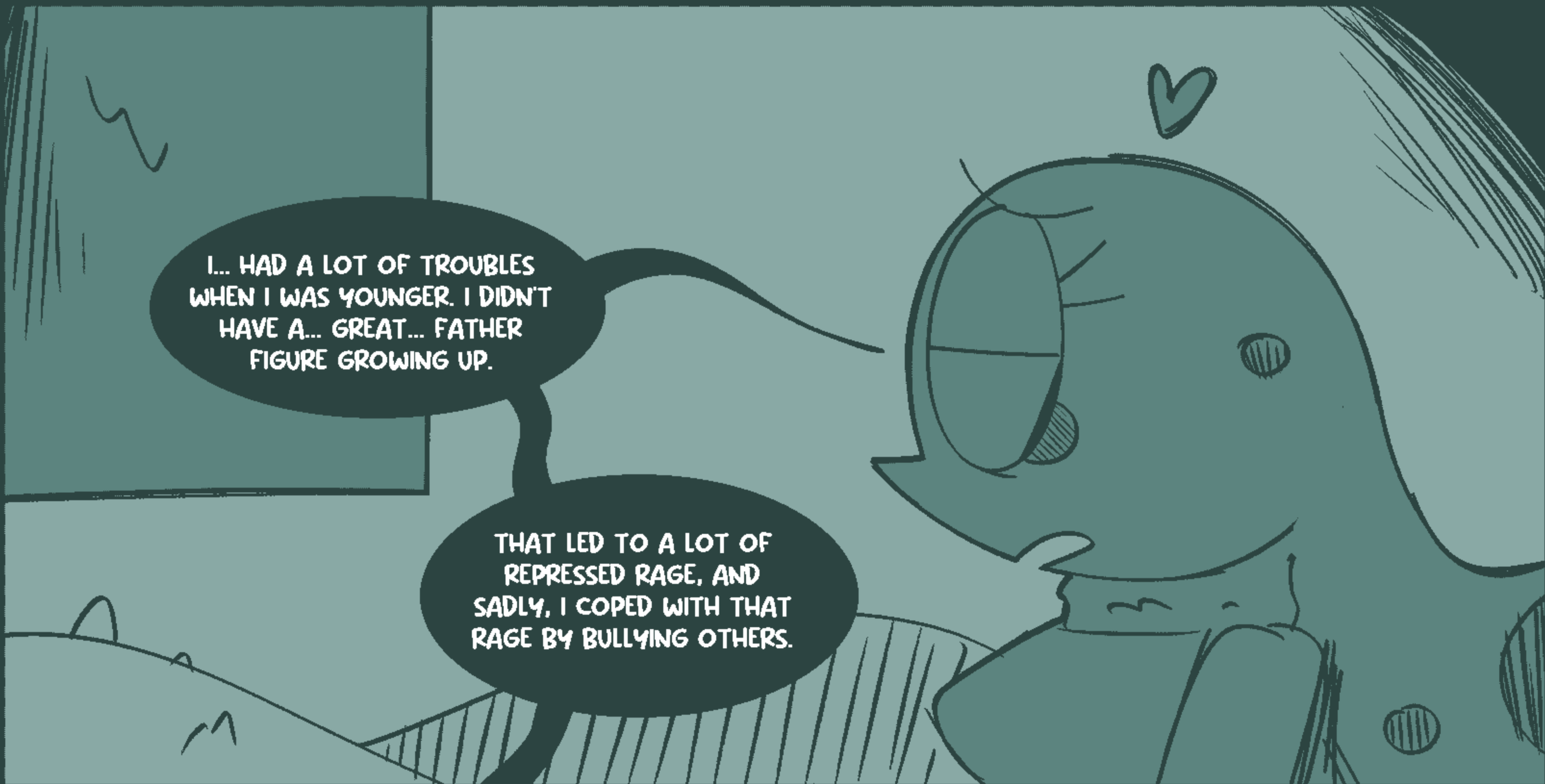
OR... HAVING A ROOF
OVER MY HEAD...

OR... BEING GIVEN
LOVE AND WARMTH...

AND EVERY TIME...
EVERY GOD DAMN TIME...
THAT I TRY TO TELL MYSELF
THAT I DO DESERVE THESE
GOOD THINGS...

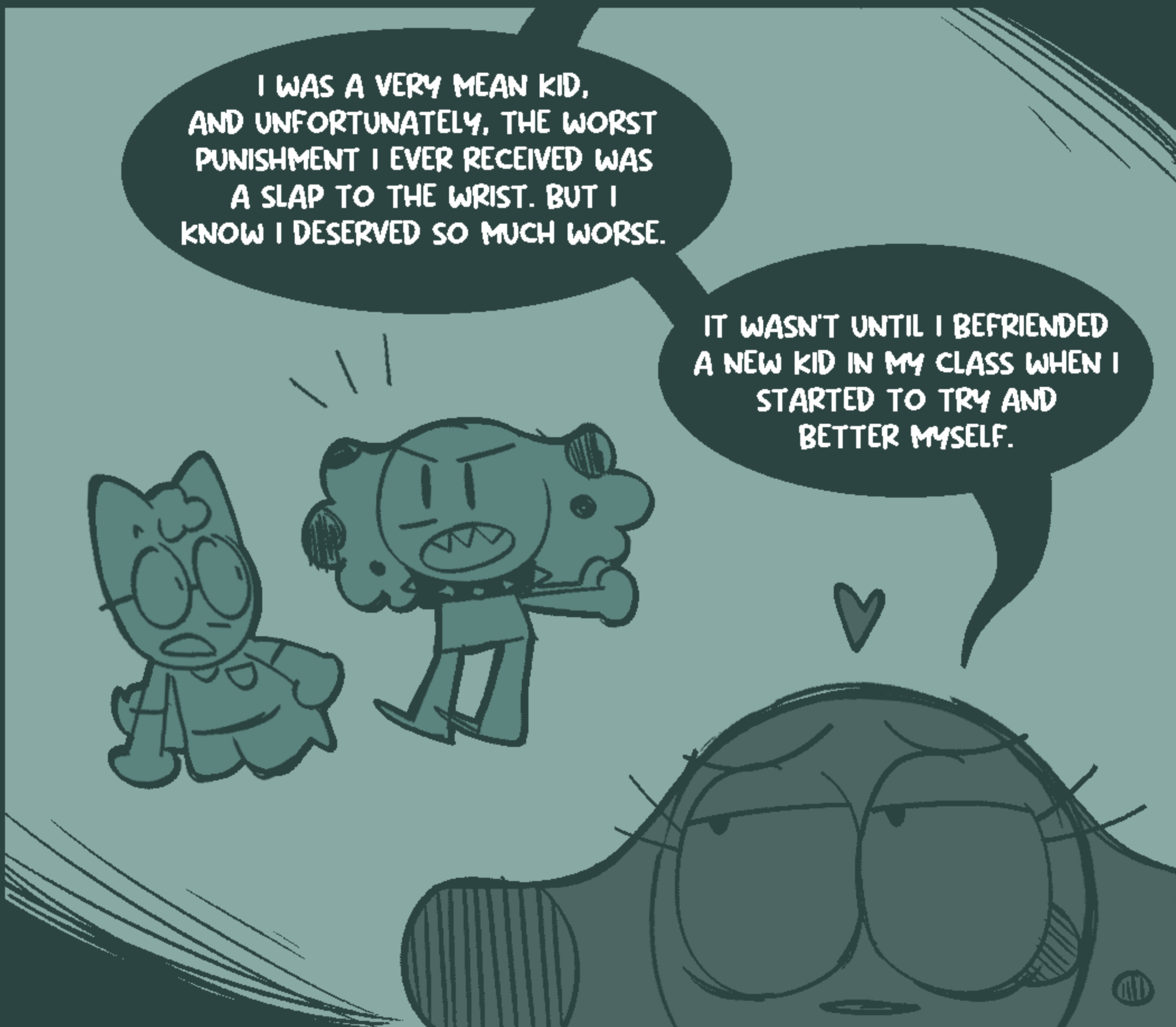
INEVITABLY...
THE FEAR RETURNS.

I WISH I KNEW
HOW TO STOP BEING
AFRAID OF MYSELF...



I... HAD A LOT OF TROUBLES WHEN I WAS YOUNGER. I DIDN'T HAVE A... GREAT... FATHER FIGURE GROWING UP.

THAT LED TO A LOT OF REPRESSED RAGE, AND SADLY, I COPE WITH THAT RAGE BY BULLYING OTHERS.



I WAS A VERY MEAN KID, AND UNFORTUNATELY, THE WORST PUNISHMENT I EVER RECEIVED WAS A SLAP TO THE WRIST. BUT I KNOW I DESERVED SO MUCH WORSE.

IT WASN'T UNTIL I BEFRIENDED A NEW KID IN MY CLASS WHEN I STARTED TO TRY AND BETTER MYSELF.



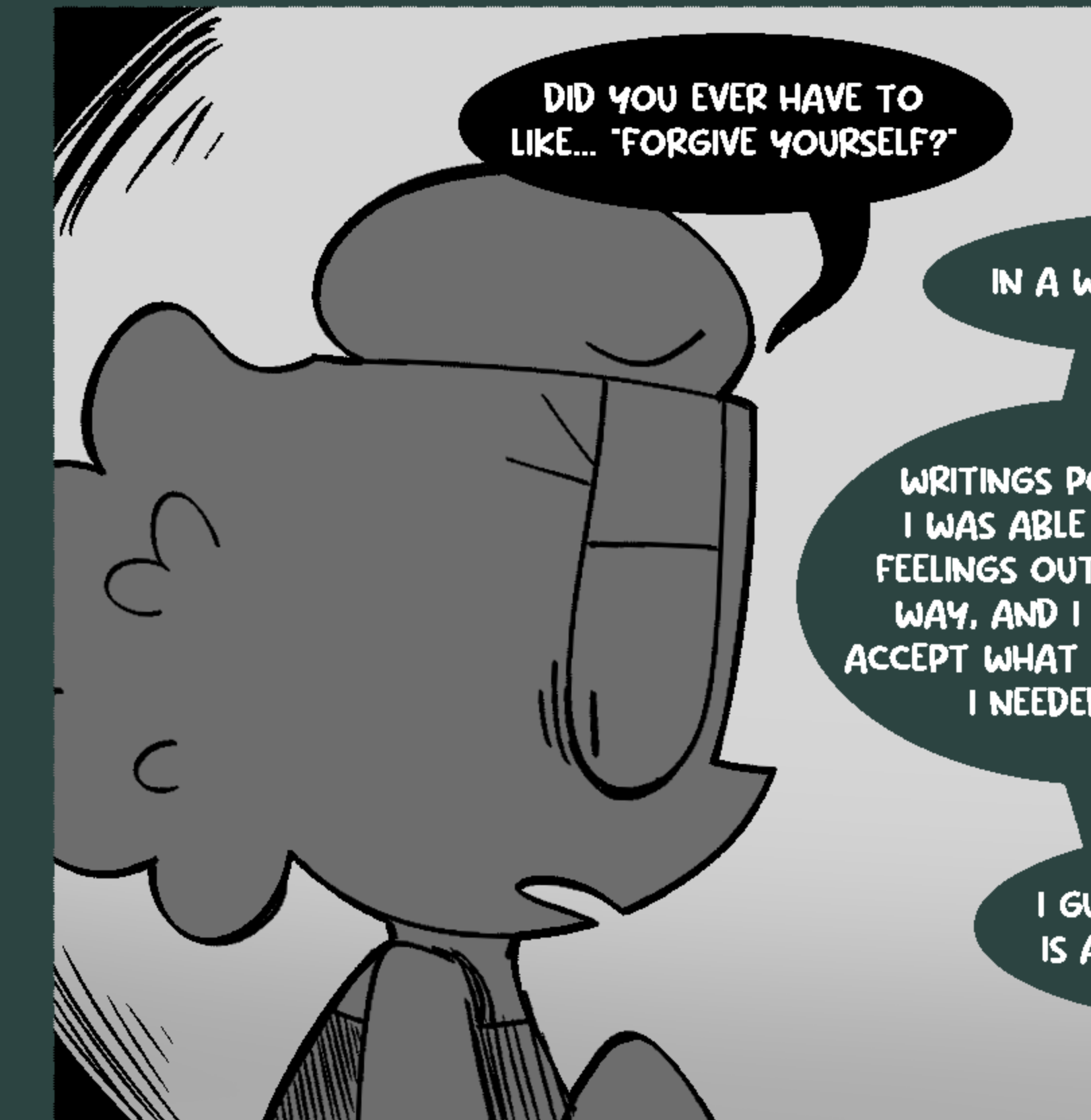
OF COURSE MY FATHER LEAVING HELPED TOO, BUT THANKS TO THE SUPPORT OF MY MOM AND MY NEW FRIEND, I OUTGREW MY BAD TENDENCIES.

BUT EVENTUALLY, I HAD TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE HURT I'VE CAUSED TO OTHERS.

A panel showing two cartoon characters. On the left is a character with cat ears and a bow, wearing a light blue shirt and pants. On the right is a character with long, wavy hair, wearing a light blue shirt and pants. They are both holding hands. The background is a simple light blue.

AND THAT WASN'T EASY.
MOST OF THE PEOPLE I
BULLIED AND APOLOGIZED TO
DIDN'T FORGIVE ME. AND THAT
WAS OKAY. THEY WERE IN THEIR
RIGHT TO NOT FORGIVE ME.
BUT SOME DID!

WHAT WAS IMPORTANT WAS
THAT I APOLOGIZED, AND I
WAS ABLE TO MOVE ON FROM
THAT PART OF MY LIFE.

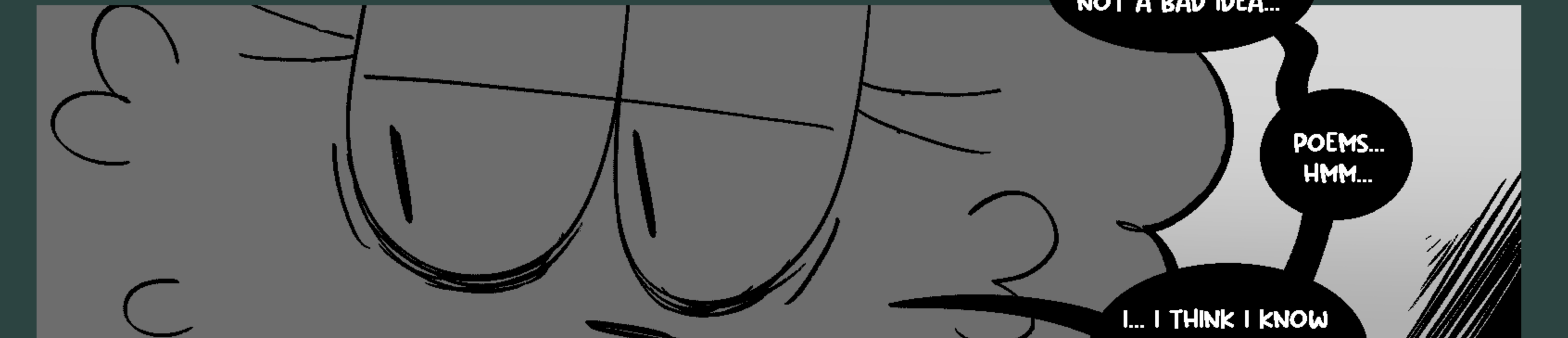
A panel showing a close-up of a character with a large, bulbous nose and a small mouth. The character has dark, curly hair. The background is a simple light blue.

DID YOU EVER HAVE TO
LIKE... 'FORGIVE YOURSELF'?

IN A WAY I GUESS, YEAH.

WRITINGS POEMS HELPED.
I WAS ABLE TO VENT MY
FEELINGS OUT IN A HEALTHY
WAY, AND I WAS ABLE TO
ACCEPT WHAT I DID, AND WHAT
I NEEDED TO DO.

I GUESS 'FORGIVING MYSELF'
IS A GOOD WAY TO PUT IT!

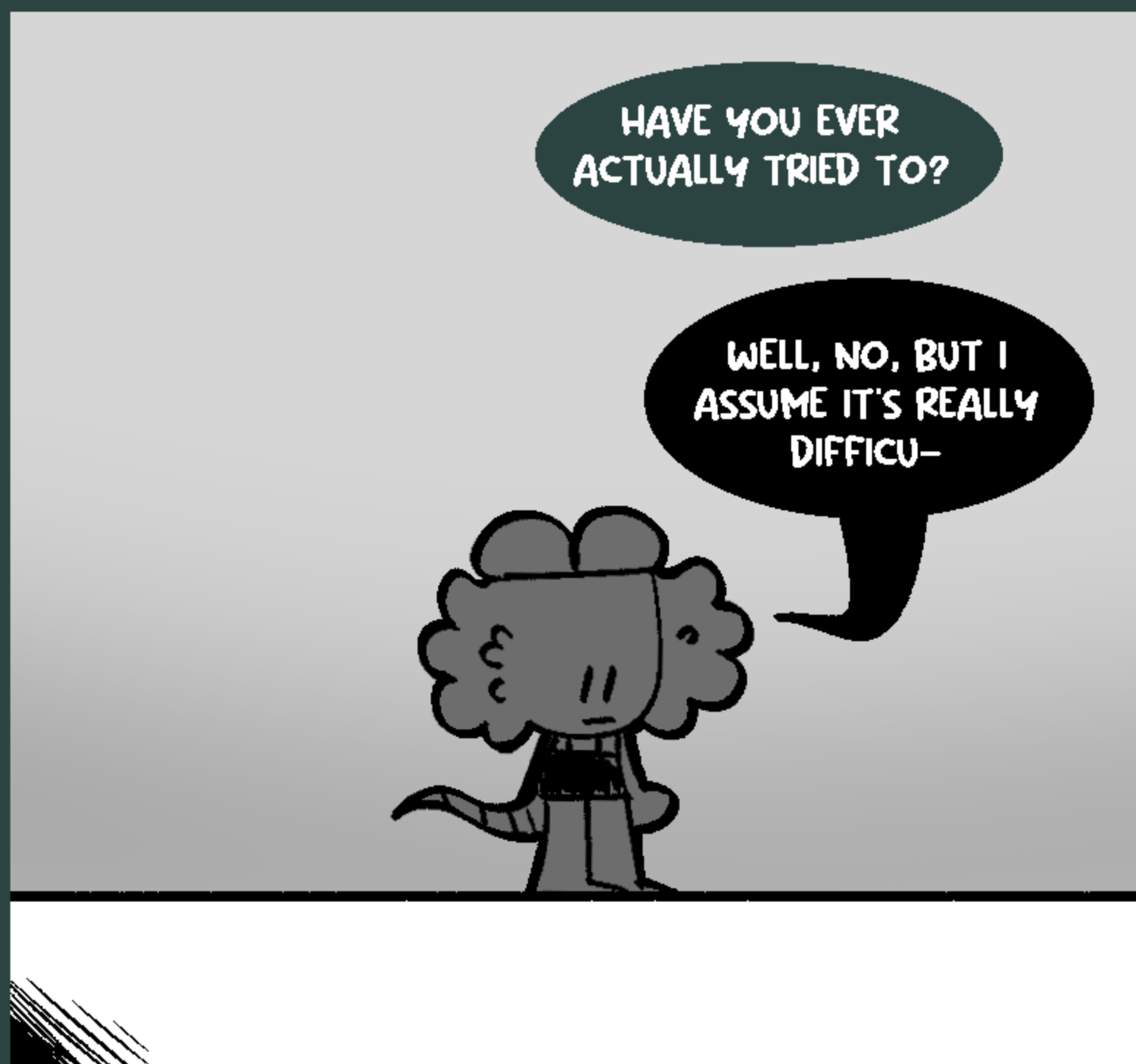
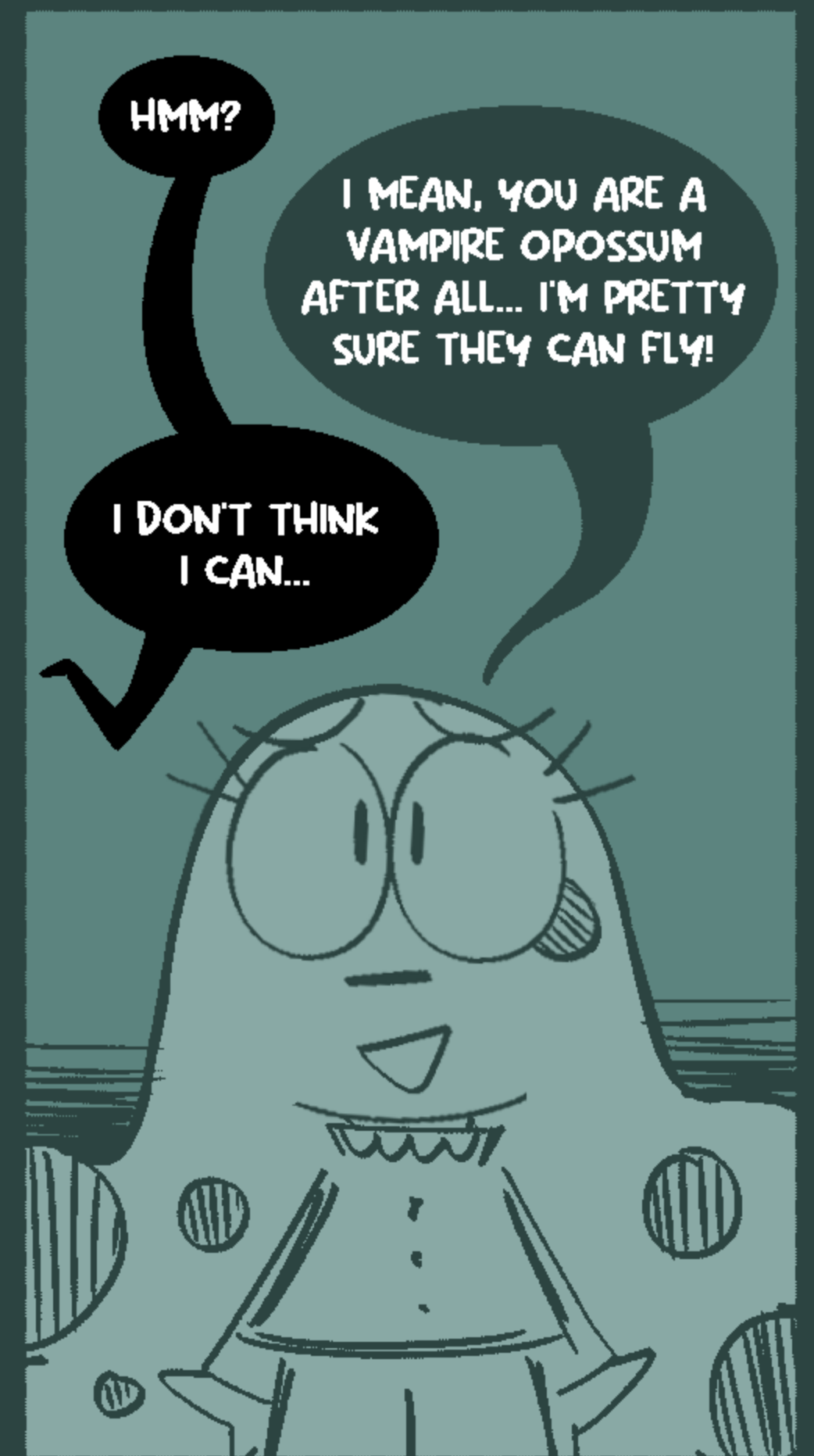
A panel showing a close-up of the same character with the large nose, looking down. The background is a simple light blue.

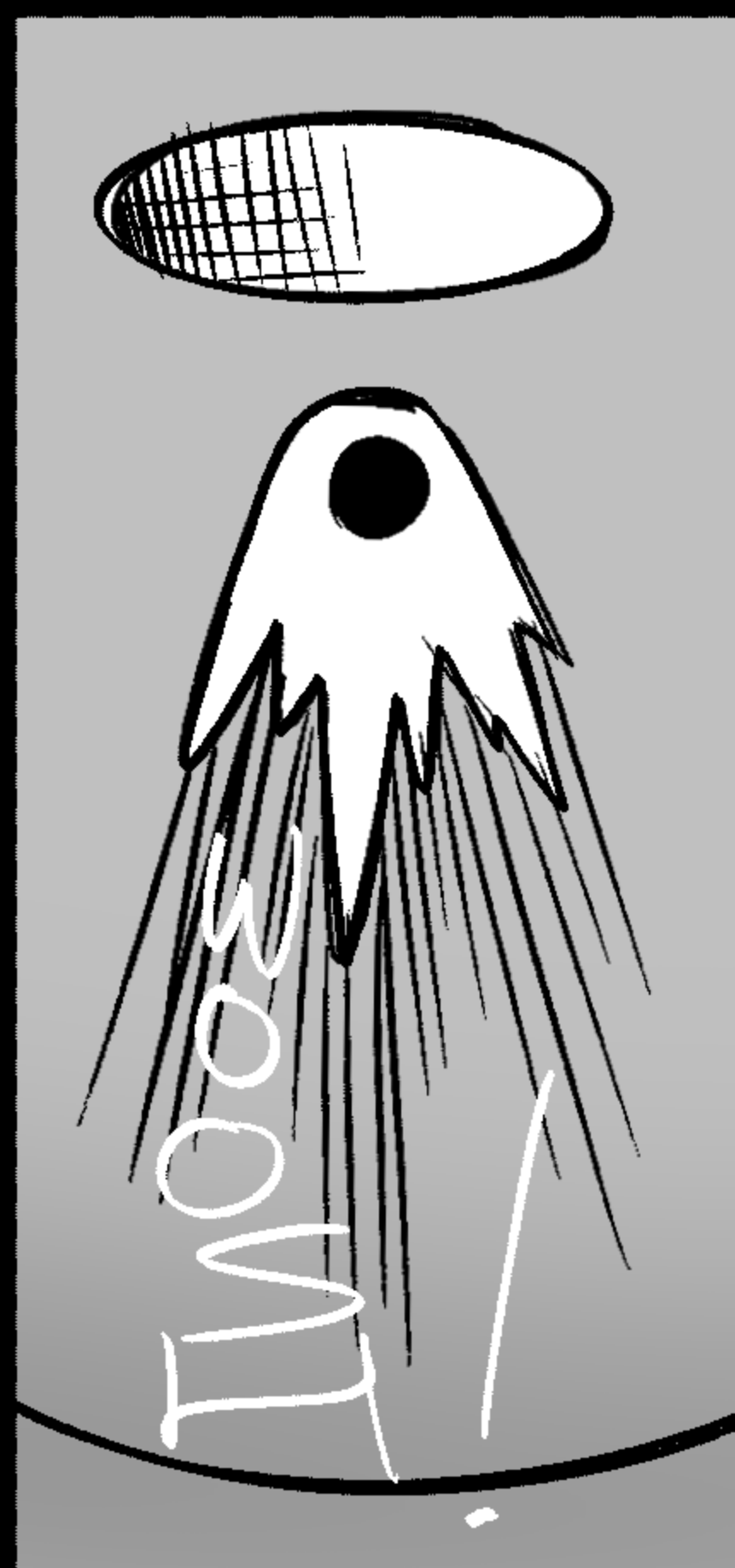
THAT'S... THAT'S
NOT A BAD IDEA...

POEMS...
HMM...

I... I THINK I KNOW
A WAY TO TRY TO
FIX ALL OF THIS...







**NEXT TIME:
SANDALS WRITES A POEM.**



#24

CHILLI

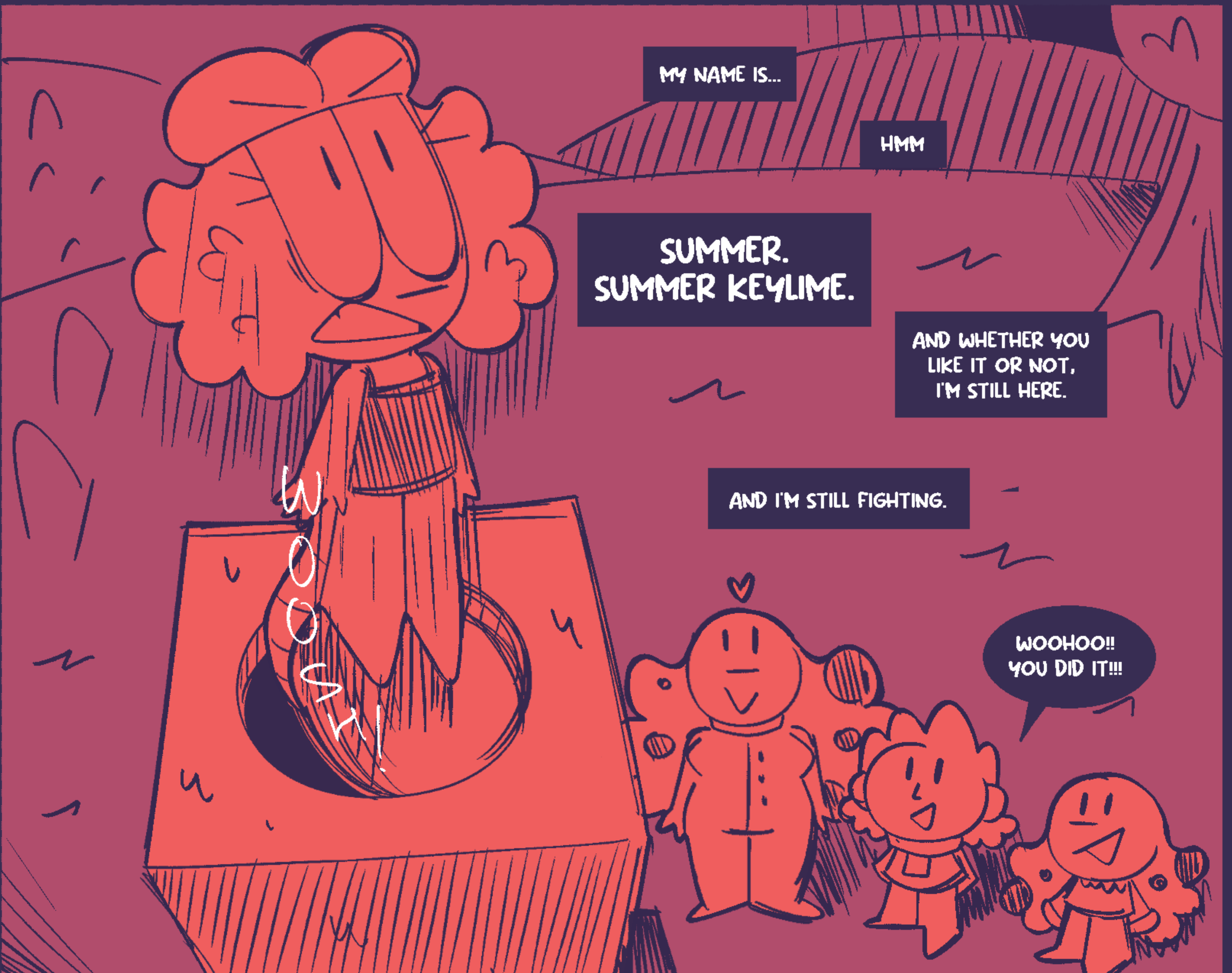
THE VAMPIRE OPOSSUM



"KEYLIME'S SUBLIME PARADE"
PART THREE

TW:

BRIGHT COLORS
DEPRESSION
THEMES OF SUICIDE



MY NAME IS...

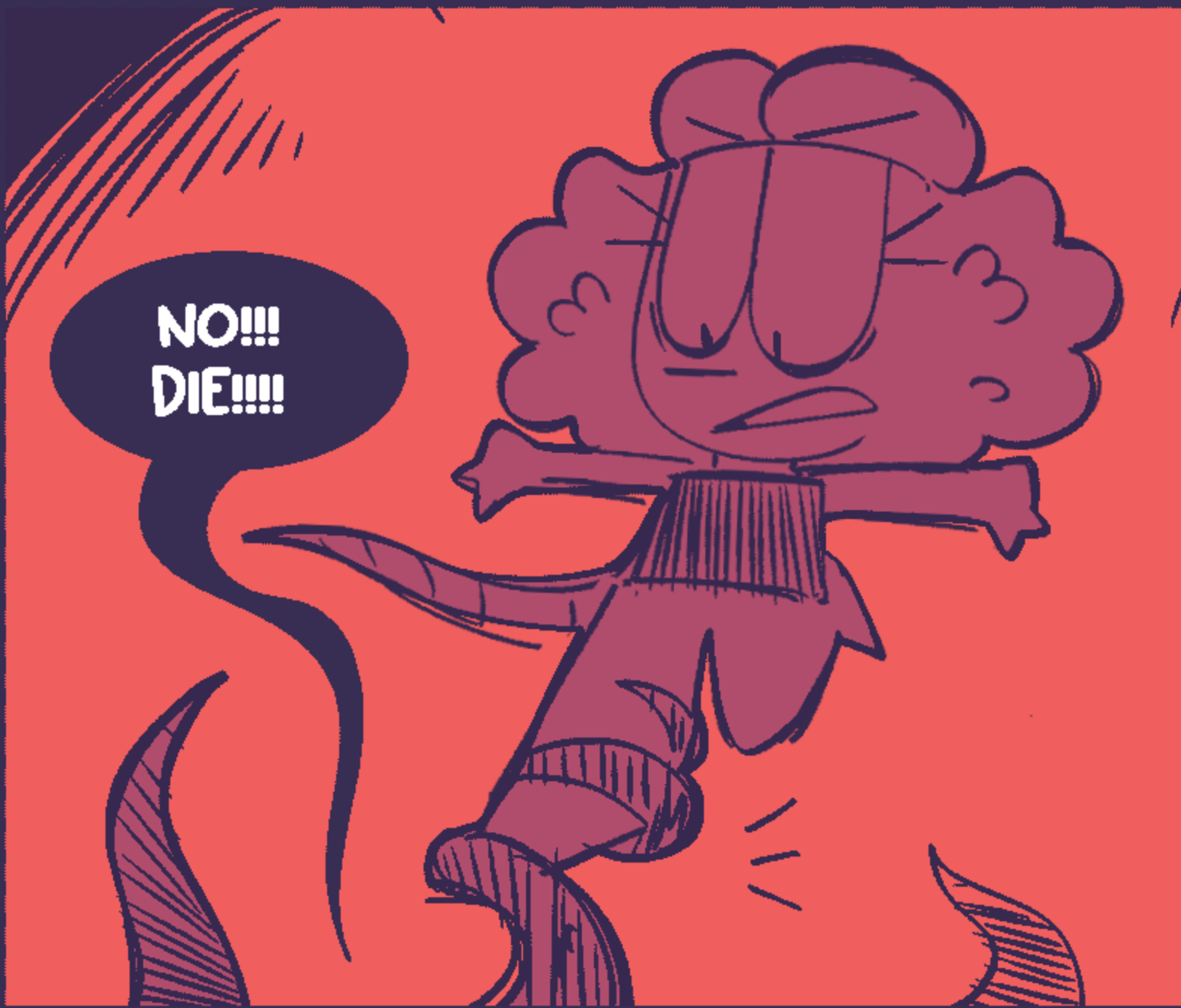
HMM

SUMMER.
SUMMER KEYLIME.

AND WHETHER YOU
LIKE IT OR NOT,
I'M STILL HERE.

AND I'M STILL FIGHTING.

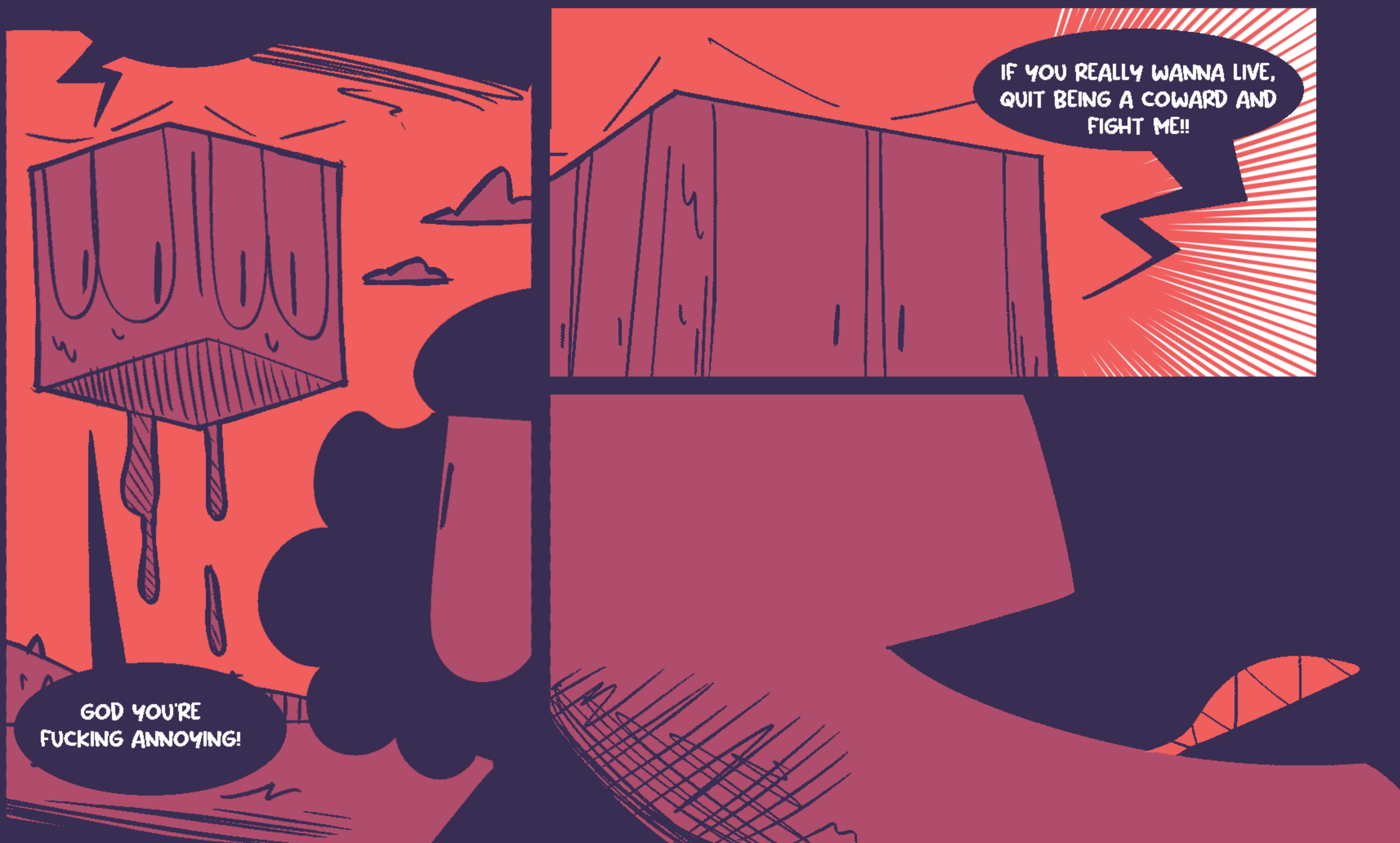
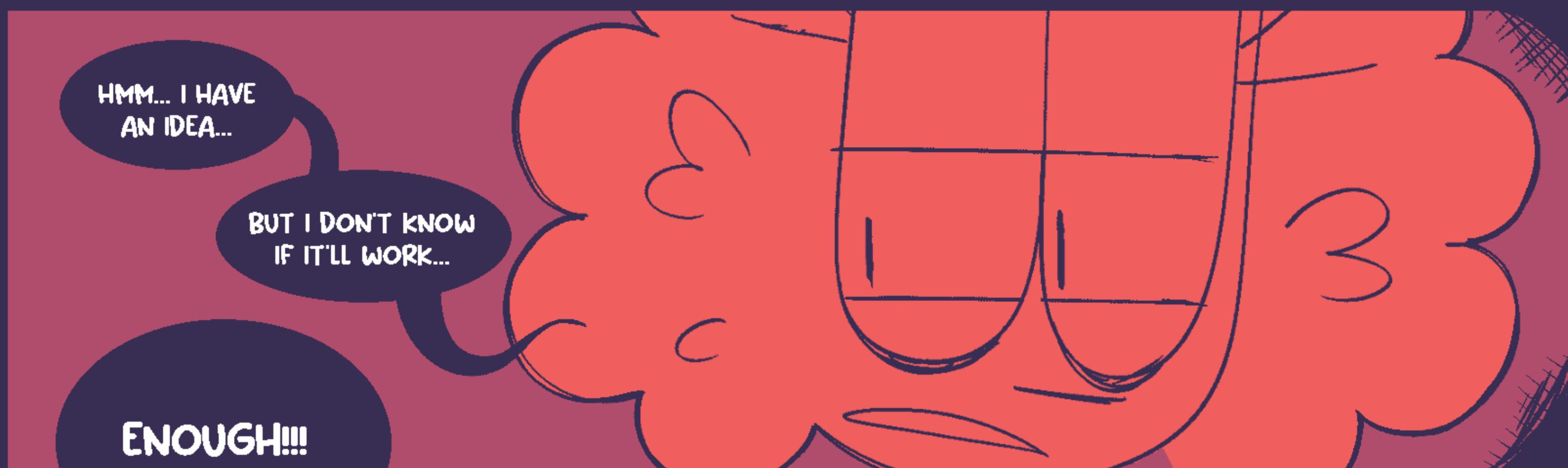
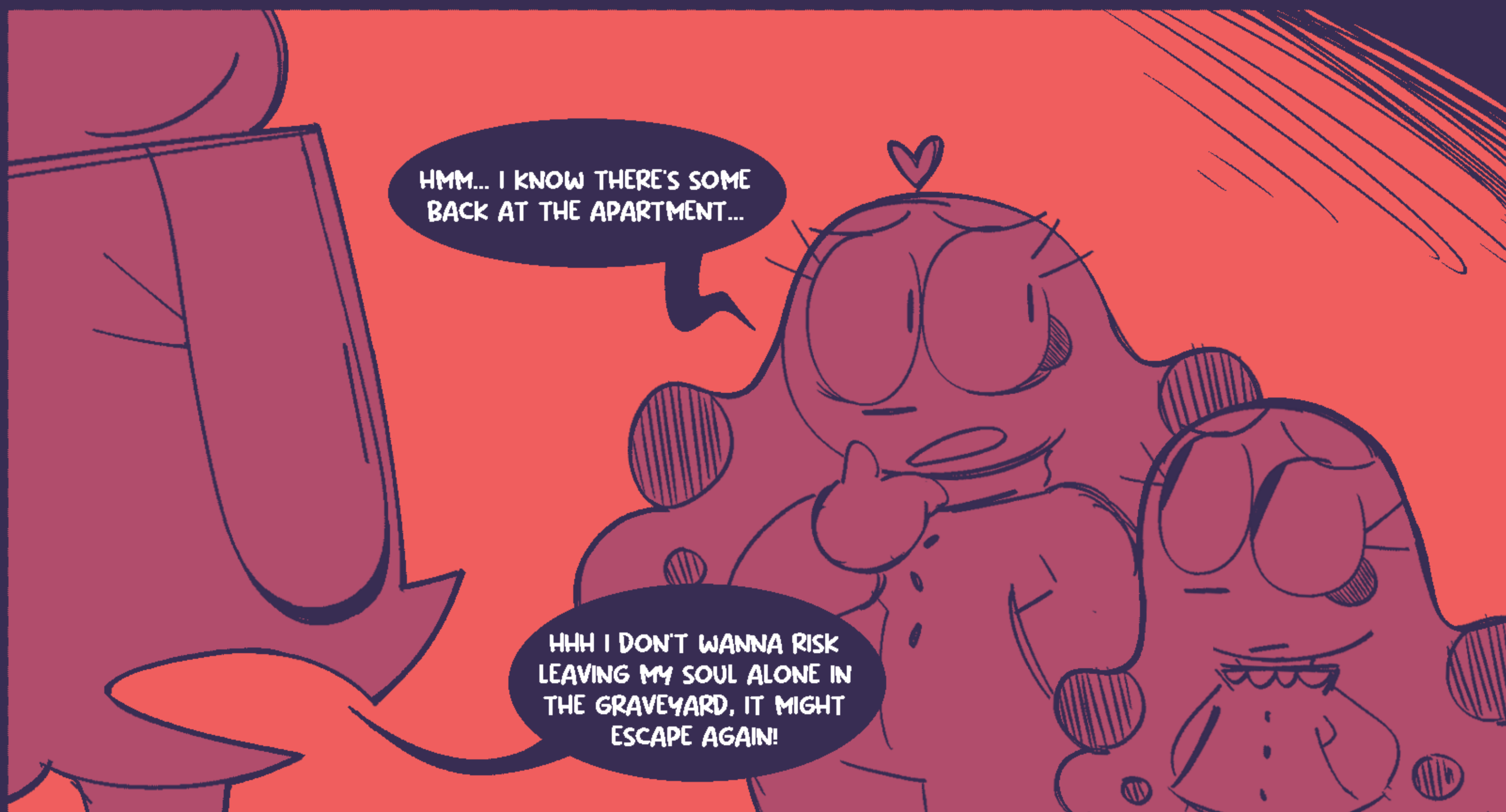
WOOHOO!!
YOU DID IT!!!

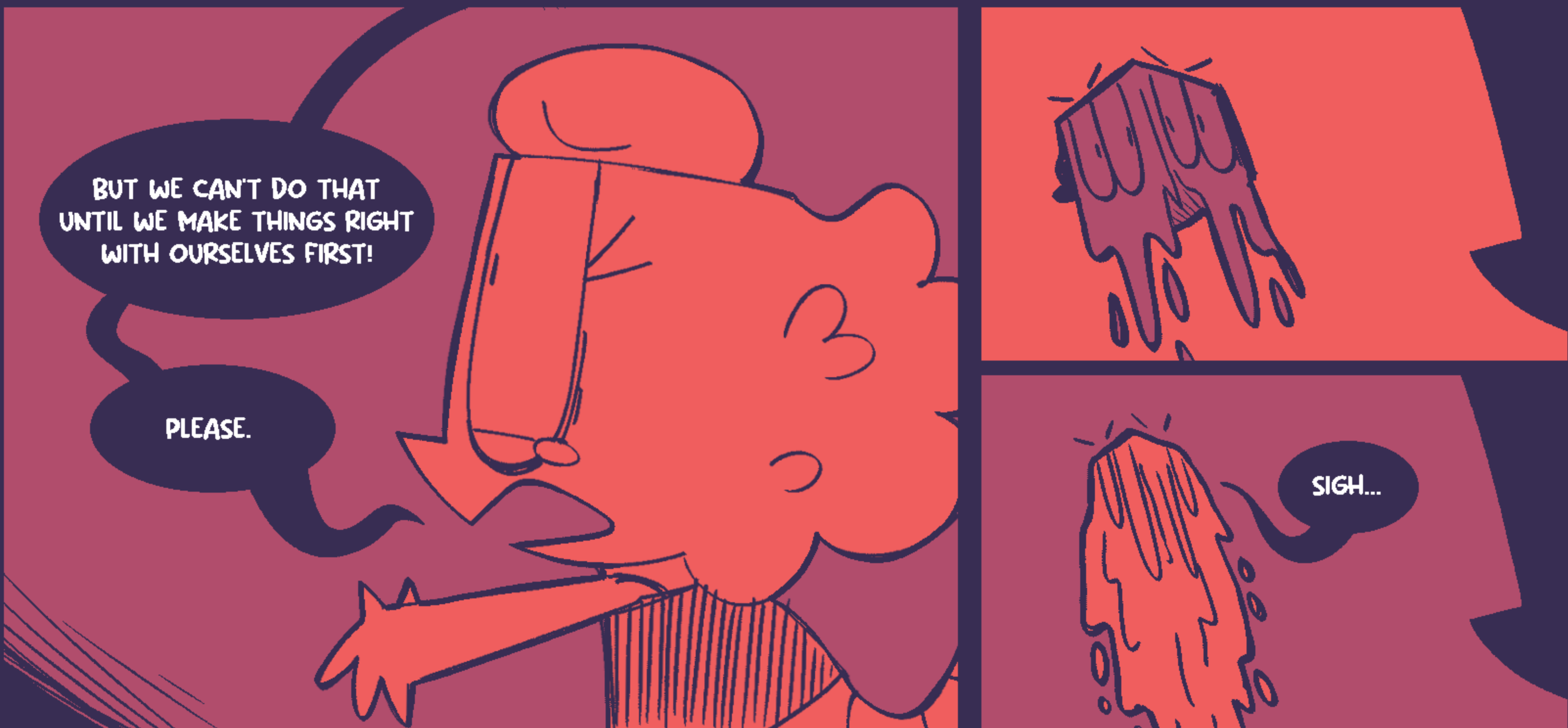
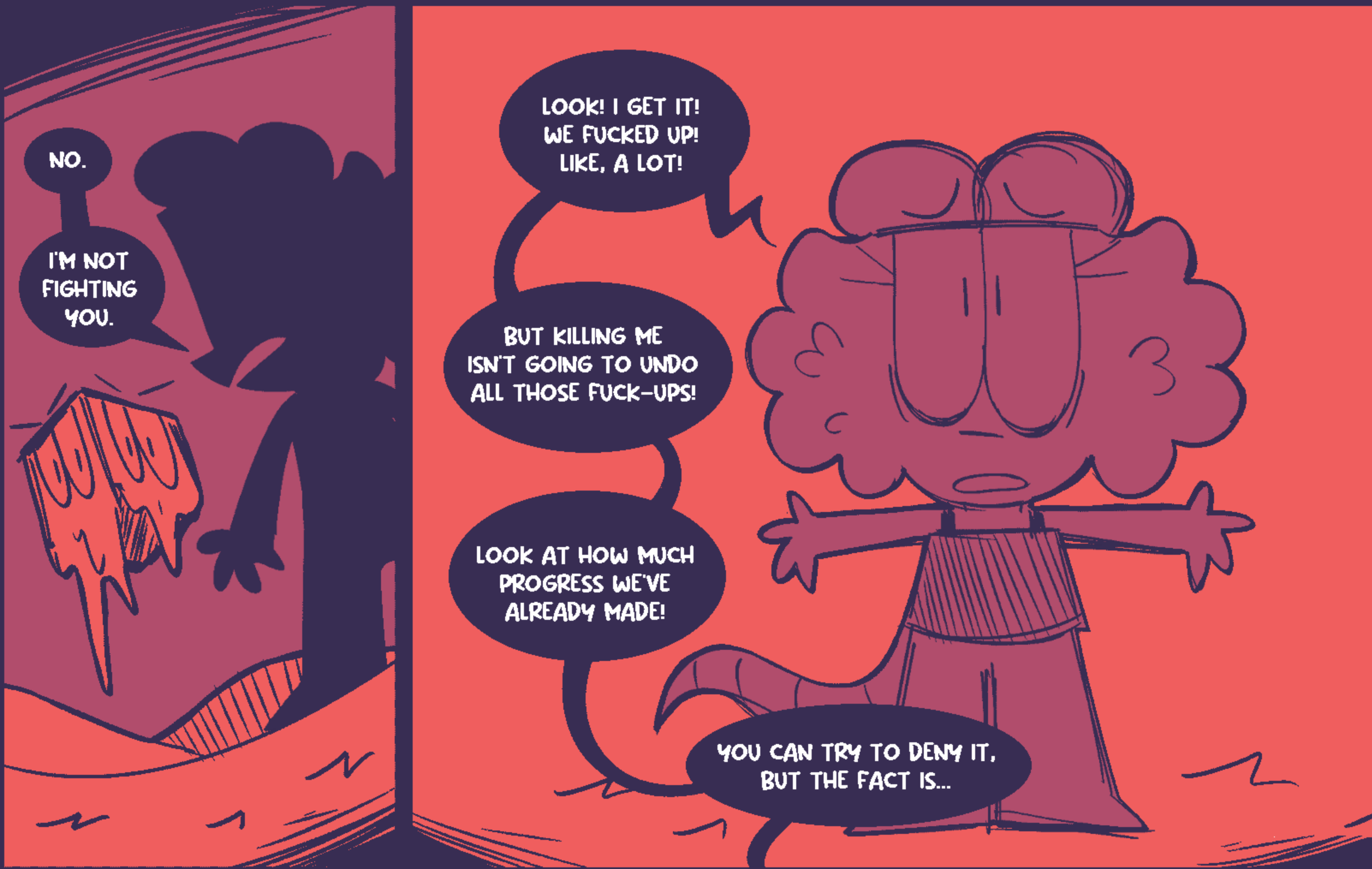


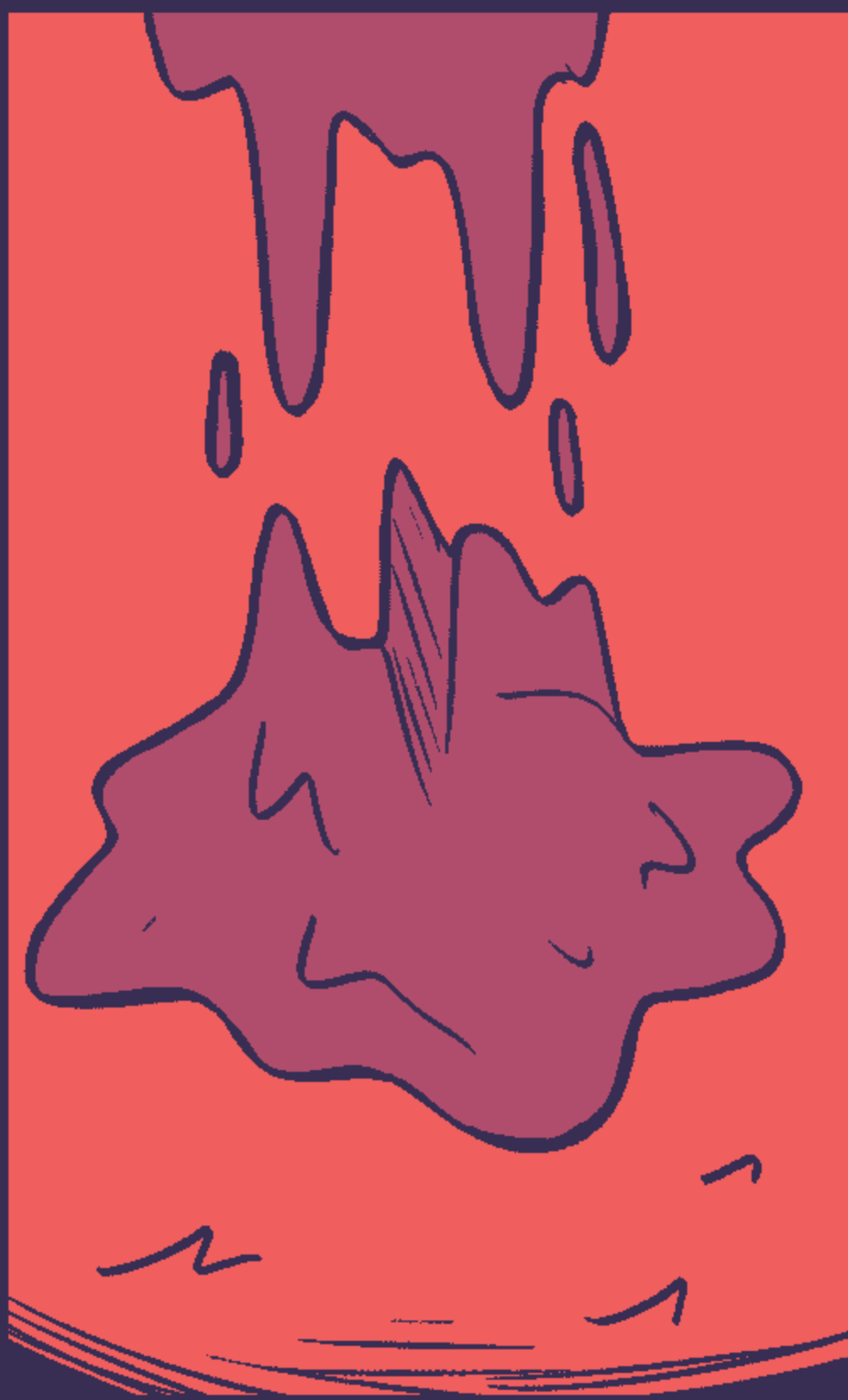
YOU OKAY, SANDALS?!

IT'S SUMMER NOW.

AND YEAH. PRETTY OKAY.
BUT RIGHT NOW I NEED A
PENCIL AND PAD. I HAVE TO
WRITE SOMETHING DOWN.





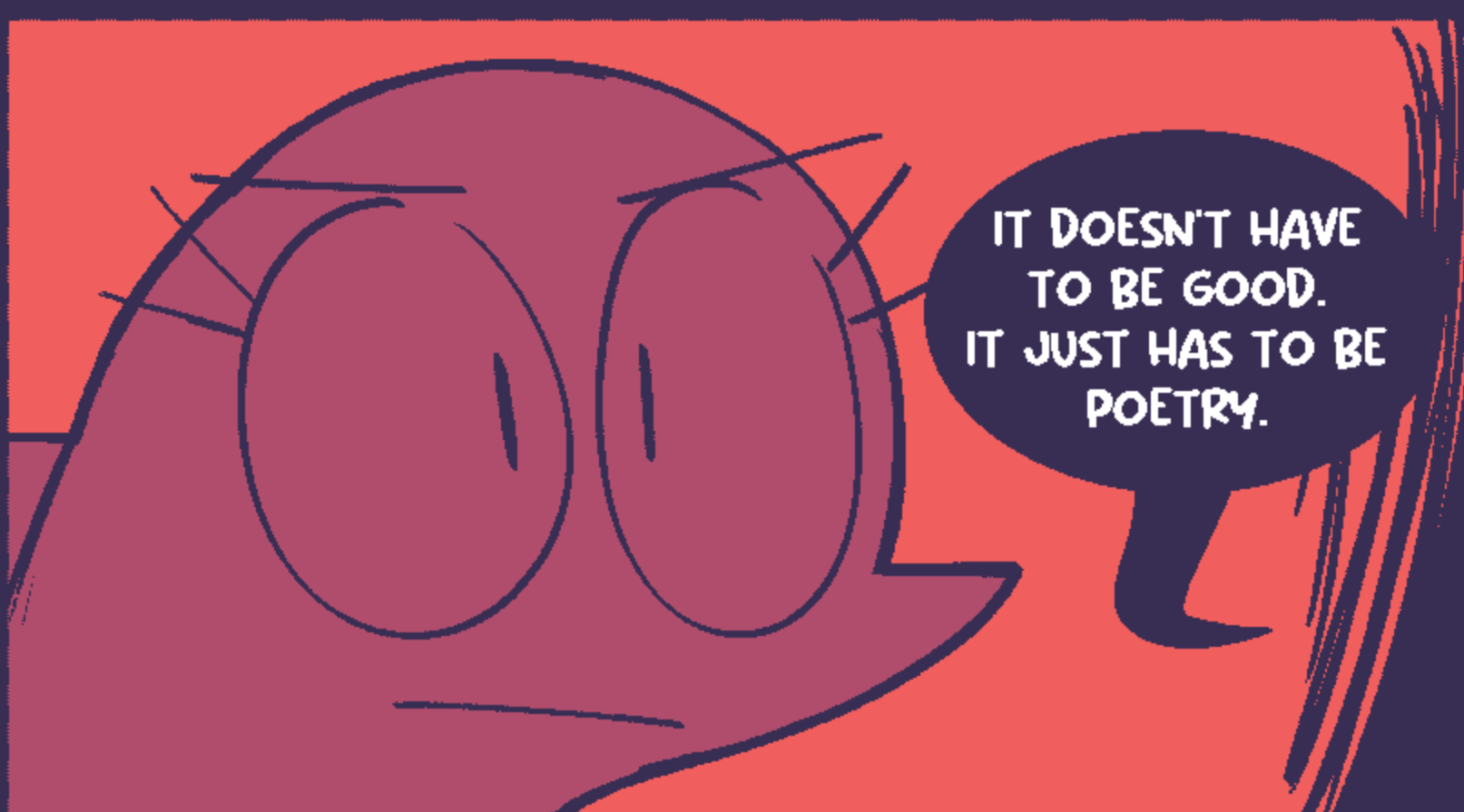


WELL?? HOW DO WE
"MAKE THINGS RIGHT"
WITH OURSELVES?

WELL... I THOUGHT MAYBE
WE COULD MAKE LIKE...
APOLOGY POEMS.

WE WRITE POETRY WHERE
WE APOLOGIZE AND THEN
FORGIVE EACH OTHER.

THAT'S STUPID.
WE CAN'T EVEN WRITE
GOOD POETRY.

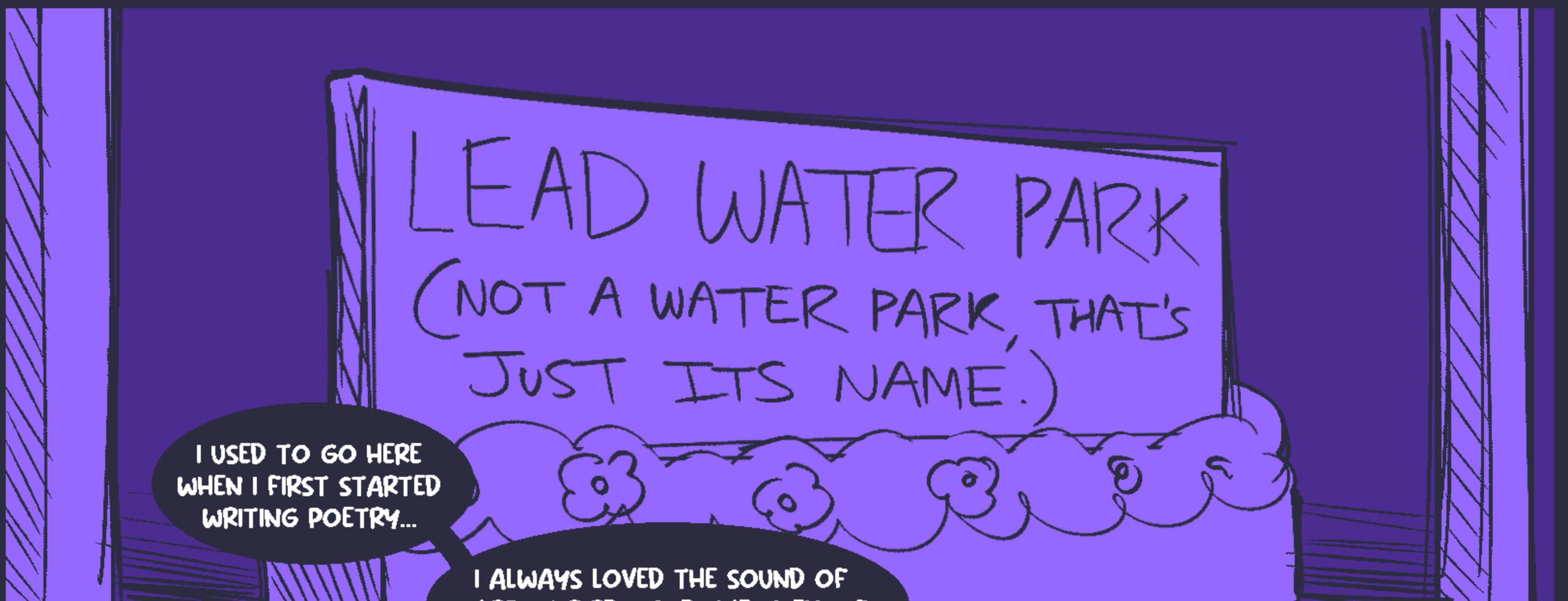


IT DOESN'T HAVE
TO BE GOOD.
IT JUST HAS TO BE
POETRY.



FINE.

I WON'T
LIKE IT, THOUGH.



I USED TO GO HERE
WHEN I FIRST STARTED
WRITING POETRY...

I ALWAYS LOVED THE SOUND OF
CHIRPING BIRDS, AND THE SMELL OF
THE GRASS AND TREES.

THE FIRST TIME I
CAME HERE, IT FELT LIKE I
WALKED INTO HEAVEN...

I FOUND A COOL
BUG HERE ONCE!
IT WAS RED AND GREEN!



SO LIKE... DO WE
JUST... WRITE? NOW?

I GUESS SO, YEAH.



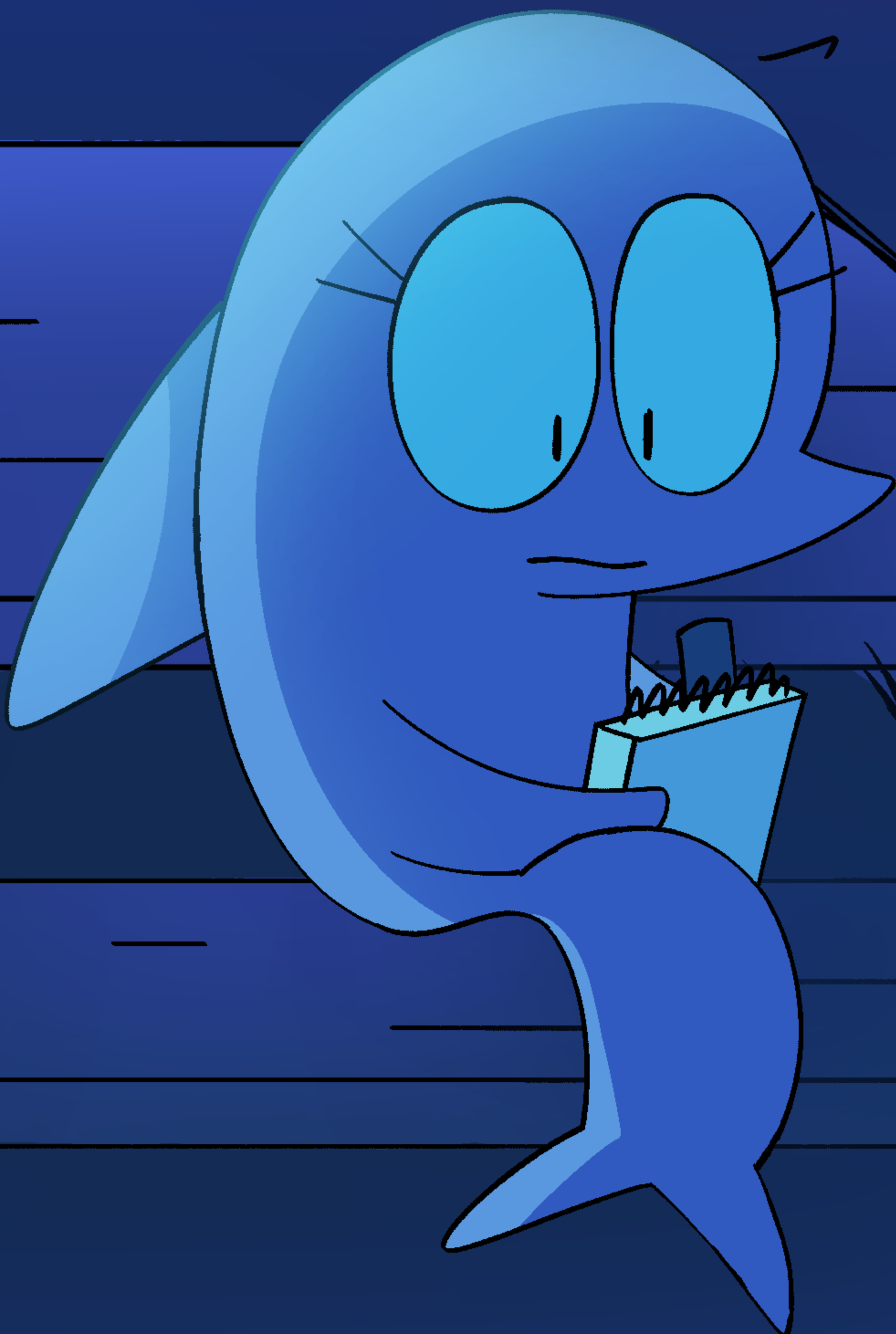
I'M SORRY FOR THE PAIN I'VE BROUGHT
I'M SORRY FOR THE BLOOD I'VE SHED
THE SPARROW KEEPS ON FLYING,
UNAWARE OF WHAT I SAID

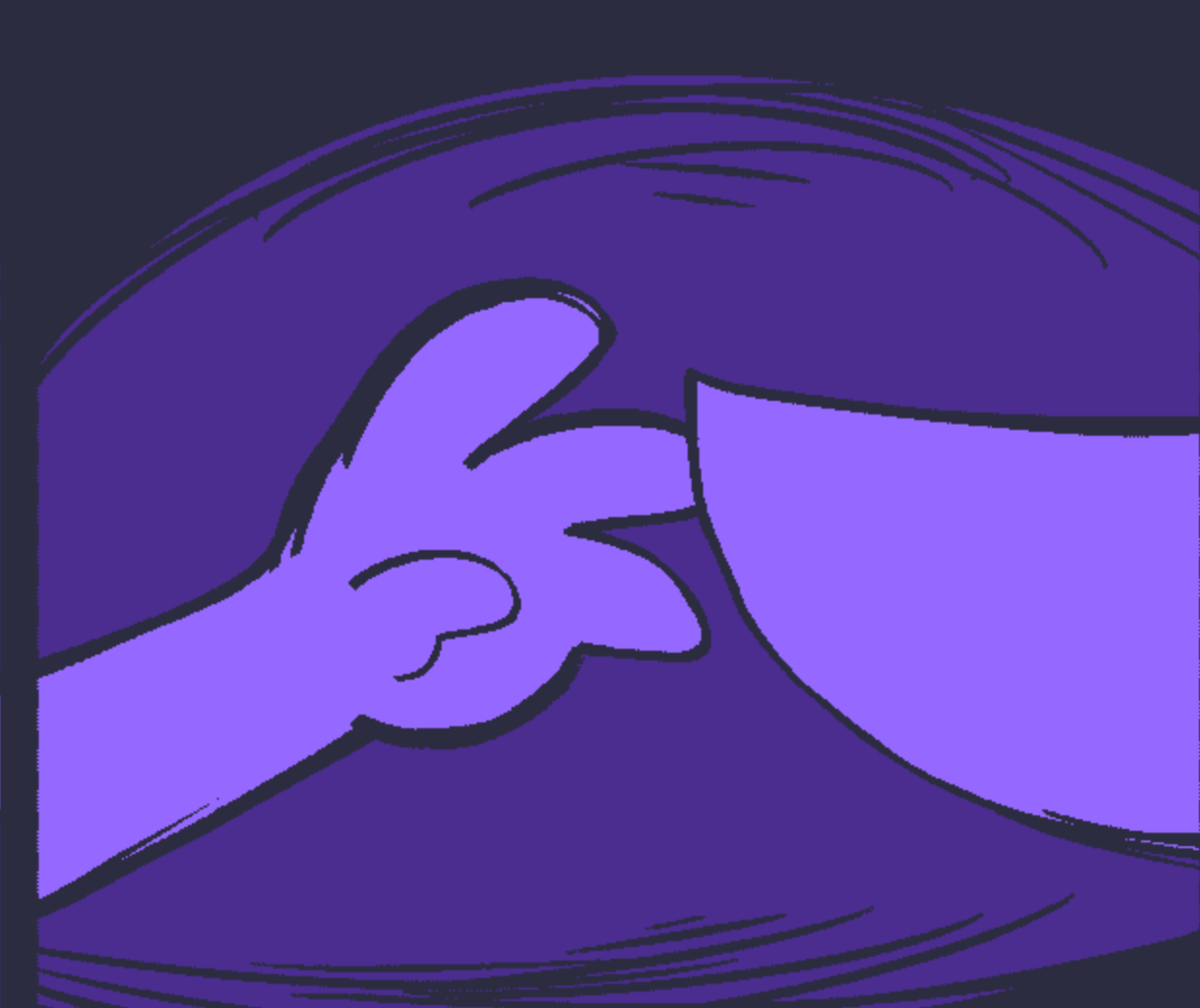
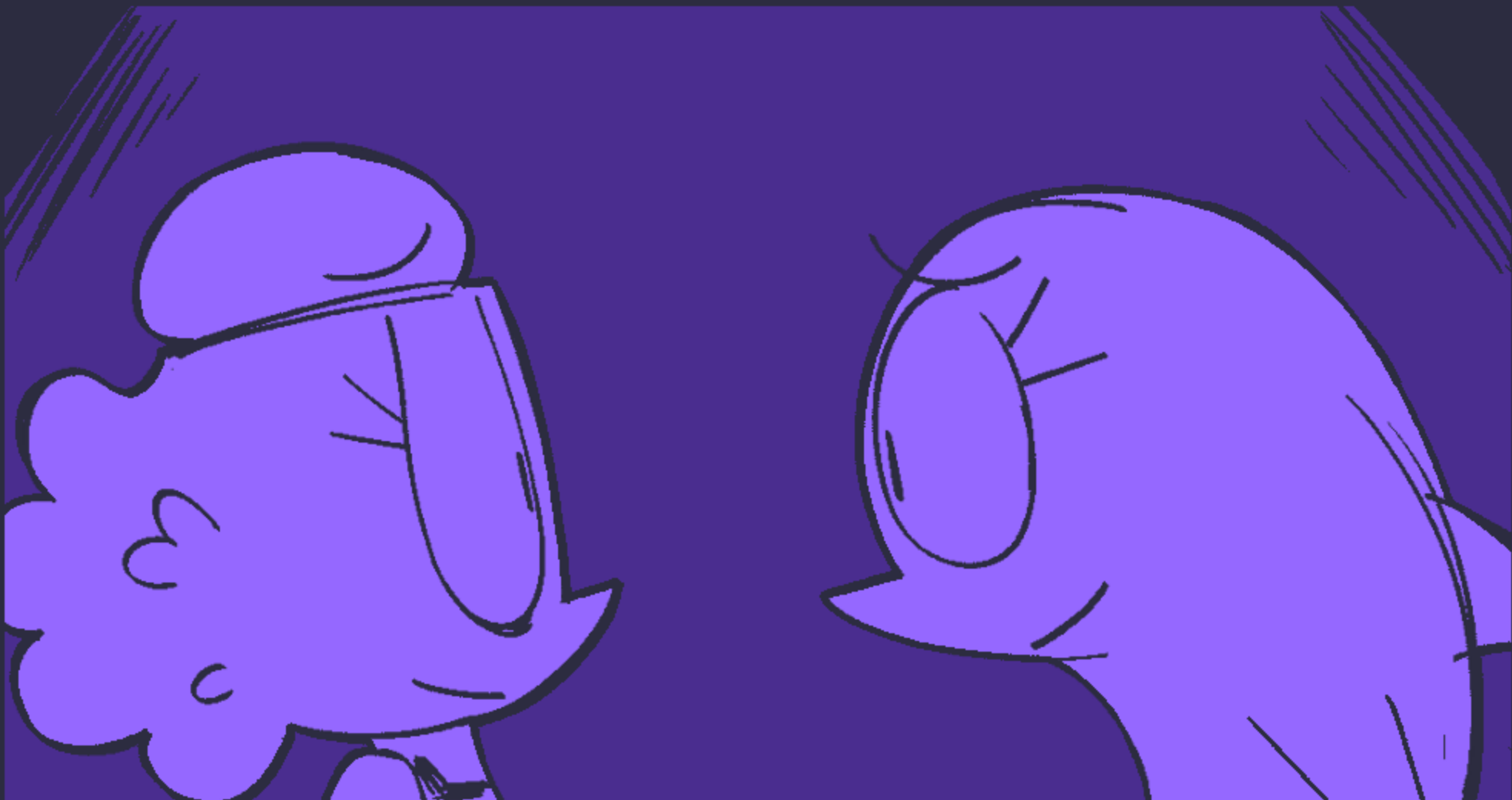
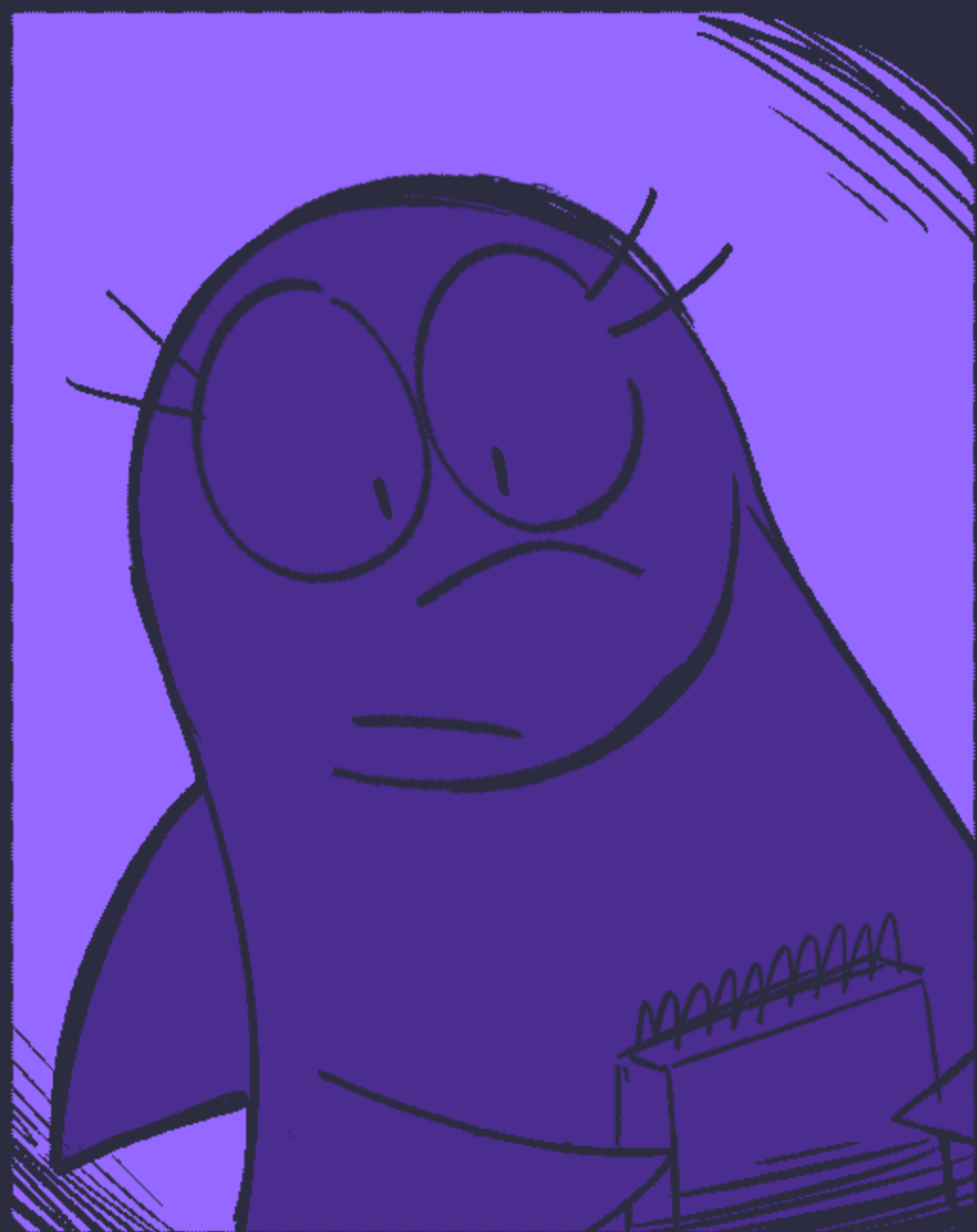
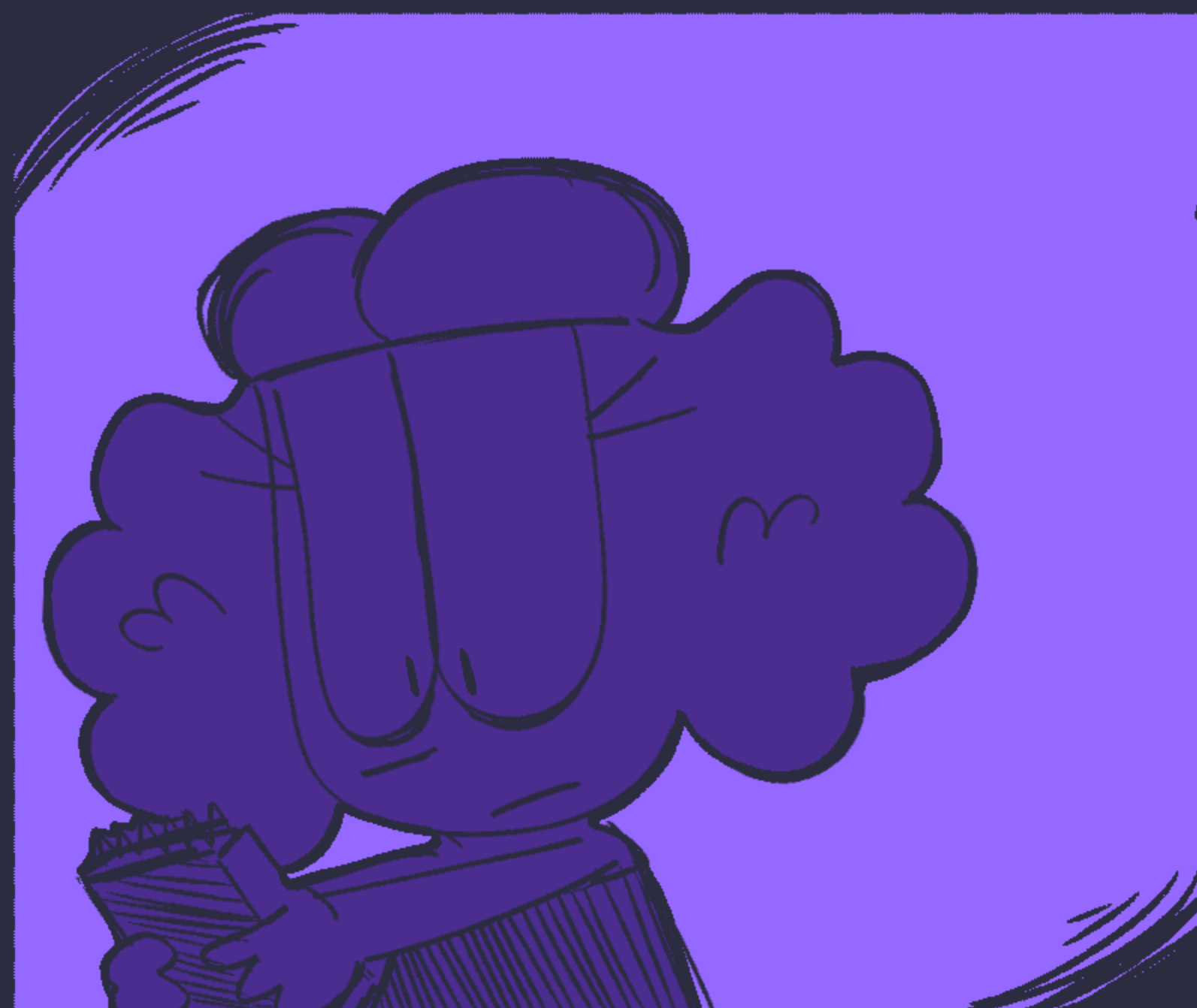
I'M SORRY FOR YOUR TROUBLES
I'M SORRY FOR MY LIES
THE SPARROW HITS AN OAK TREE,
TRAGICALLY, IT DIES

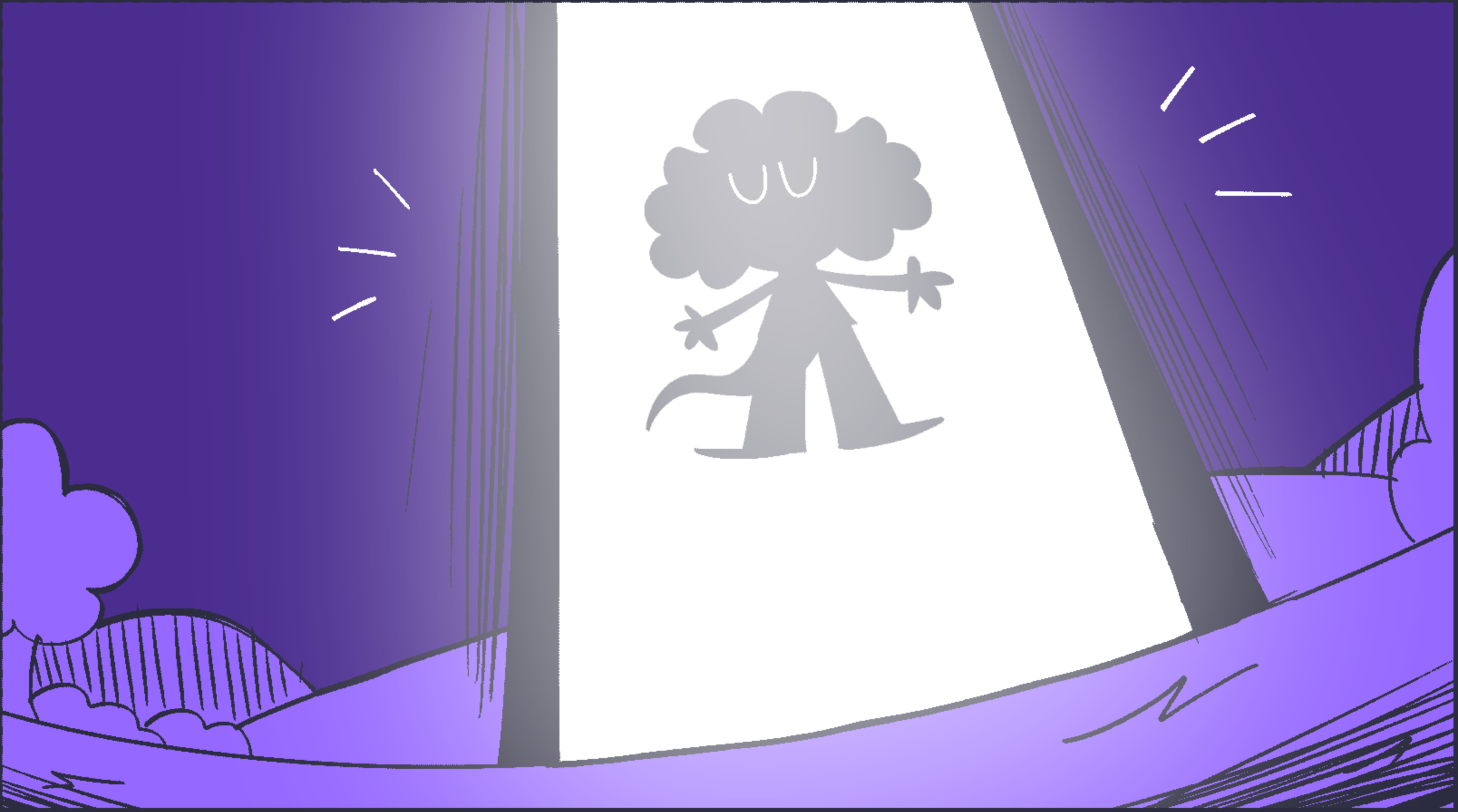
I'M SORRY FOR MY PAST MISTAKES,
I HOPE YOU CAN FORGIVE
THE SPARROW LEAVES THIS MORTAL REALM
IF ONLY IT COULD LIVE

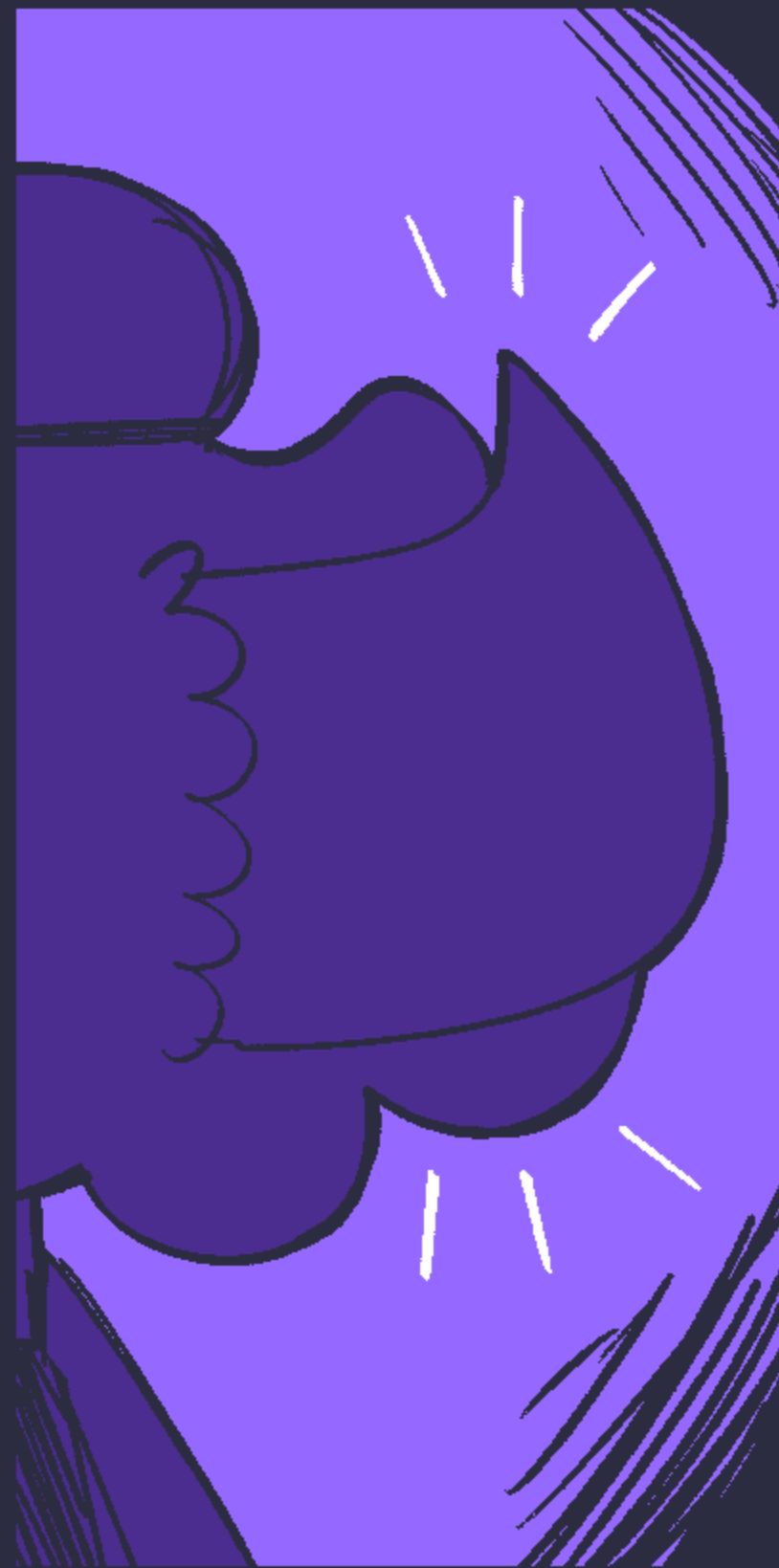
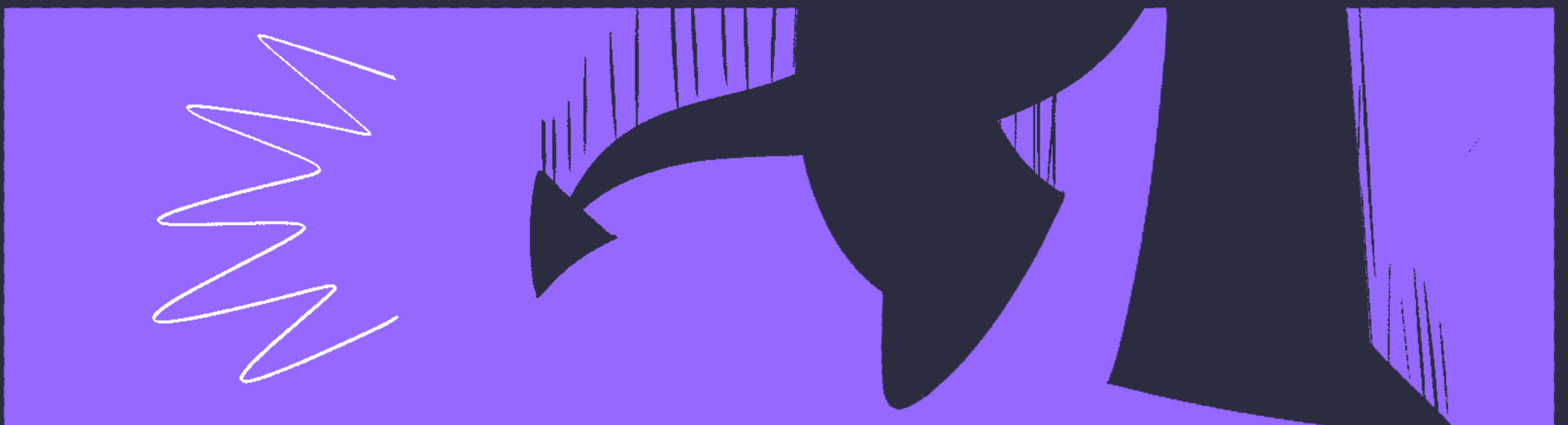
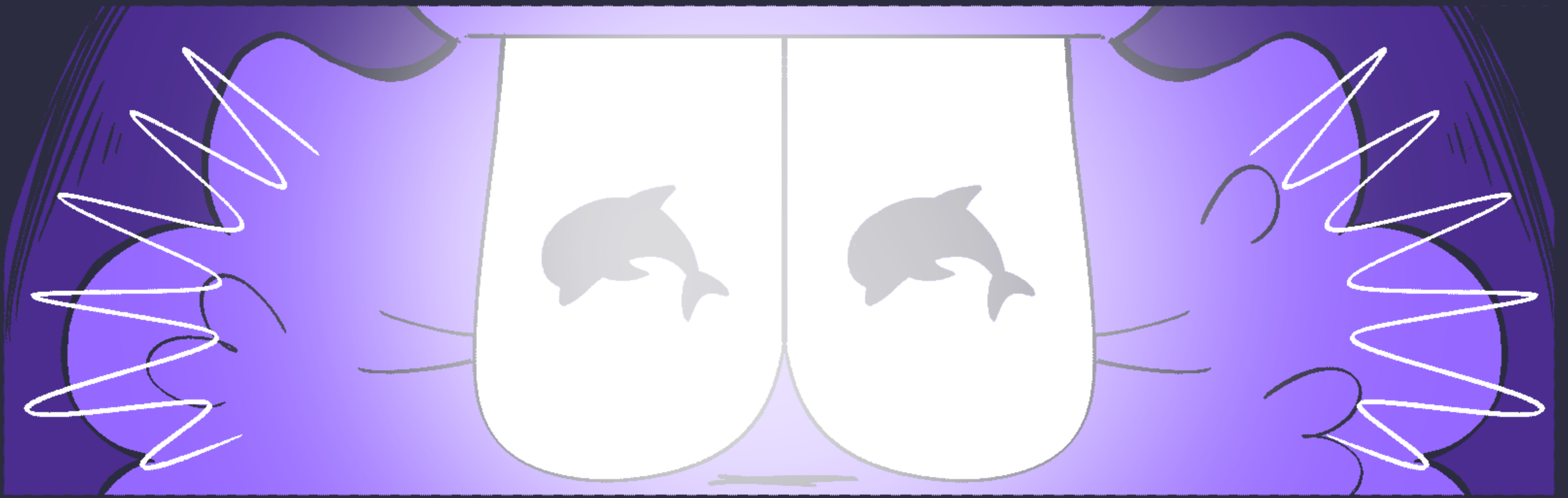
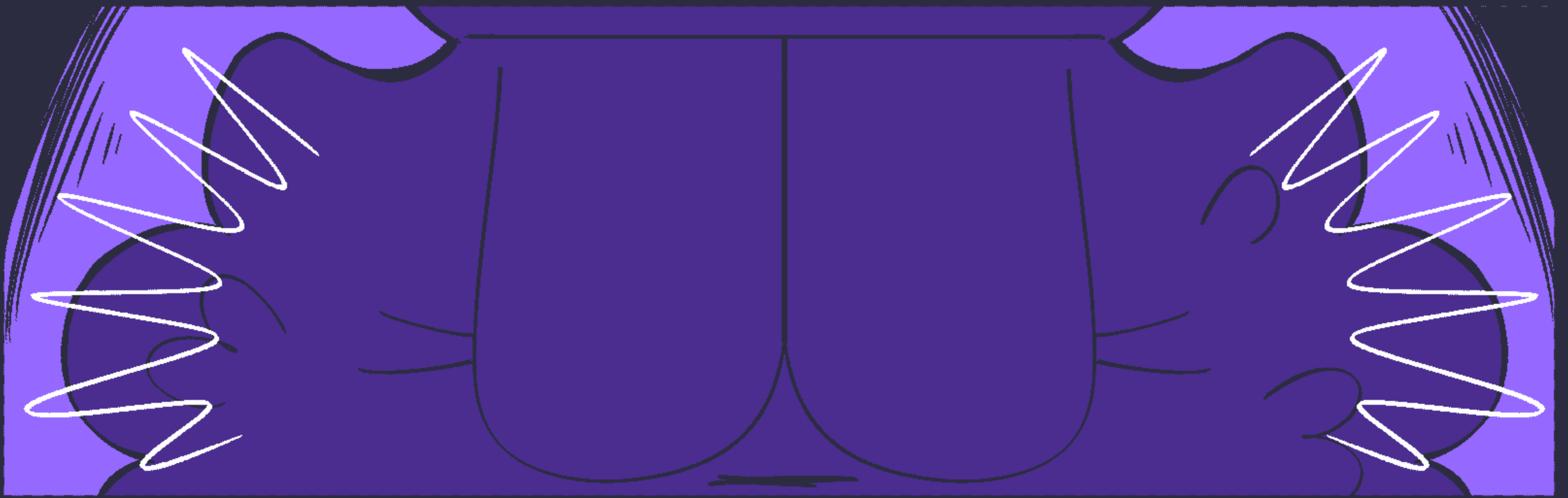


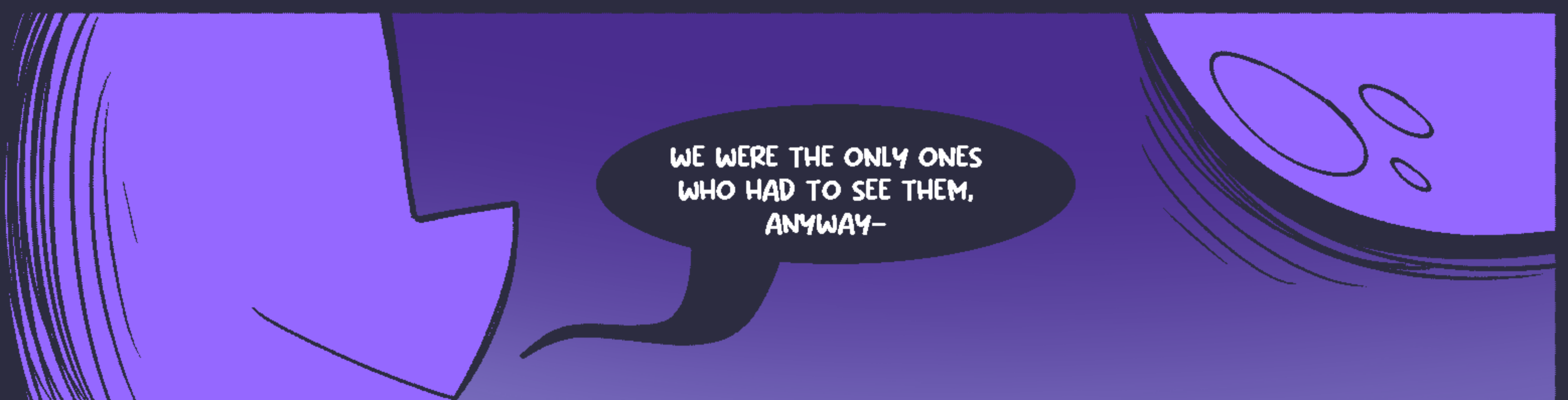
SORRY
OOPS! I FUCKED UP! SORRY
REALLY SORRY
REALLY REALLY SORRY
Y DID I DO THAT? SORRY



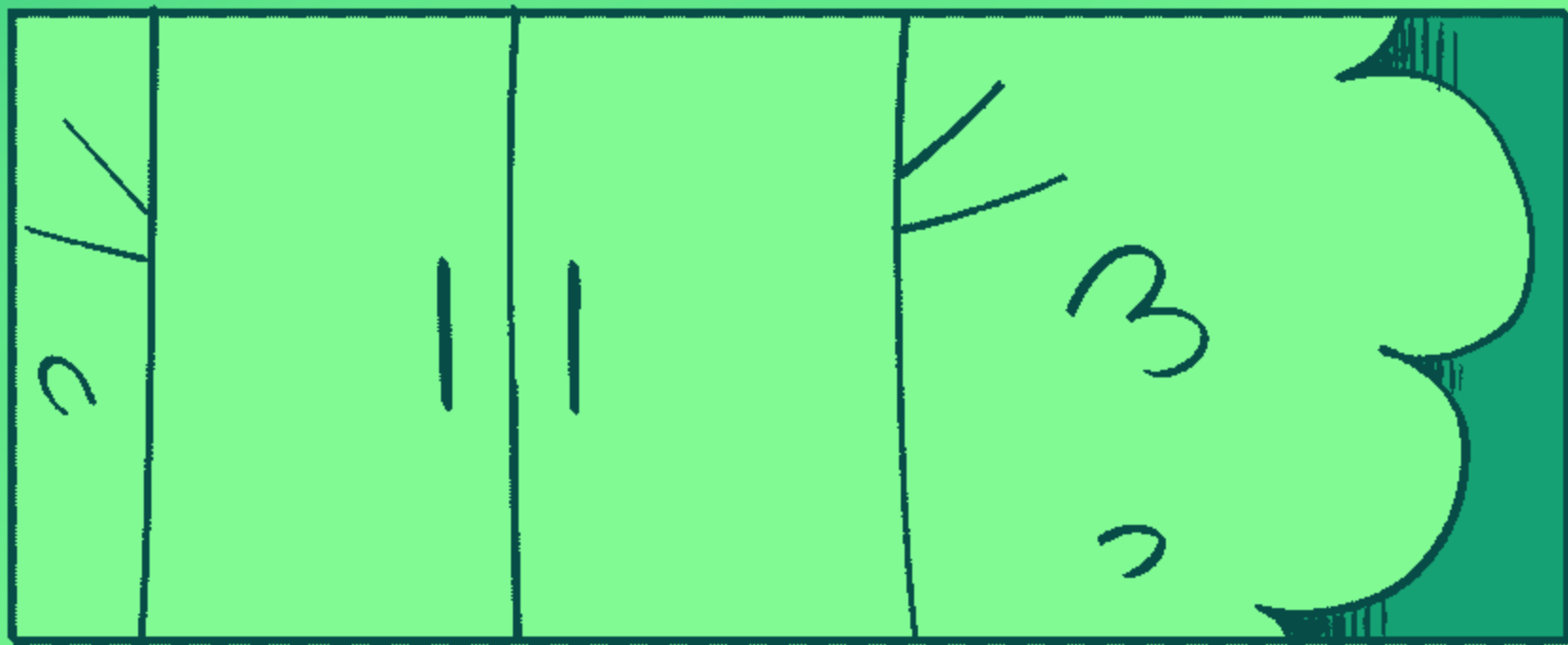












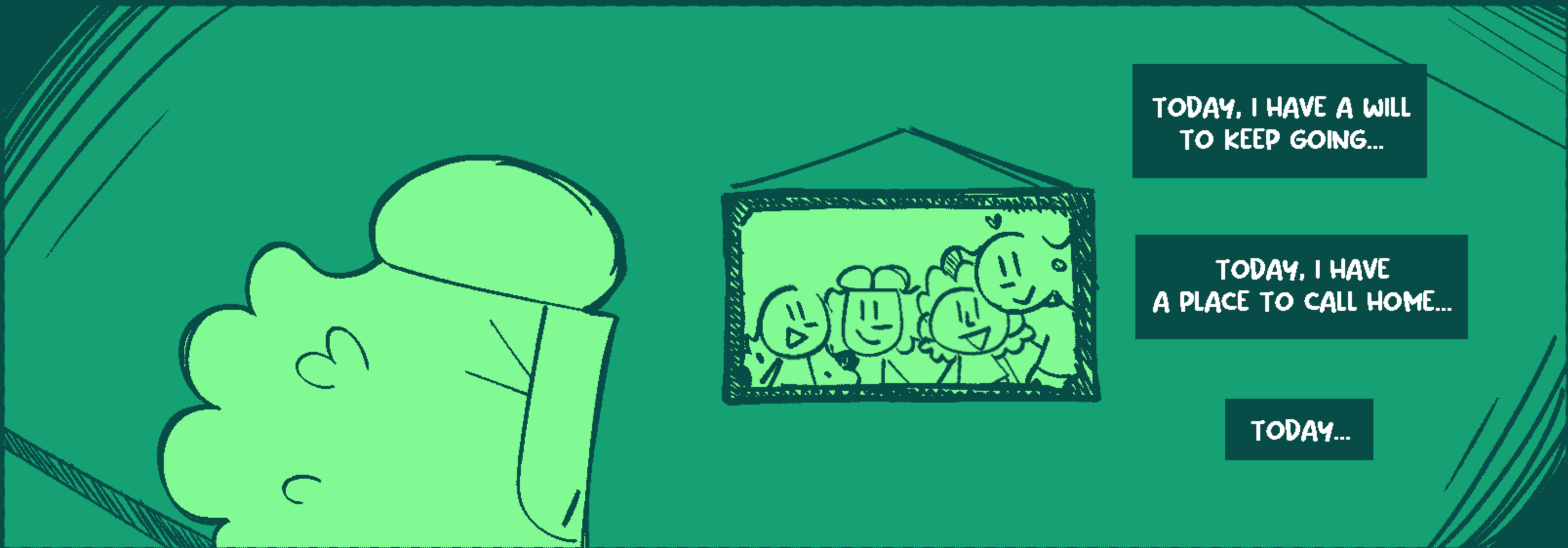
TODAY,
MY NAME IS
SUMMER AURORA.

THAT MIGHT NOT BE
MY NAME TOMORROW,
OR MAYBE IT WILL BE.

I DON'T KNOW.
I DON'T CARE.

IT'S MY NAME TODAY,
AND THAT'S ALL THAT
MATTERS.





TODAY, I HAVE A WILL
TO KEEP GOING...

TODAY, I HAVE
A PLACE TO CALL HOME...

TODAY...

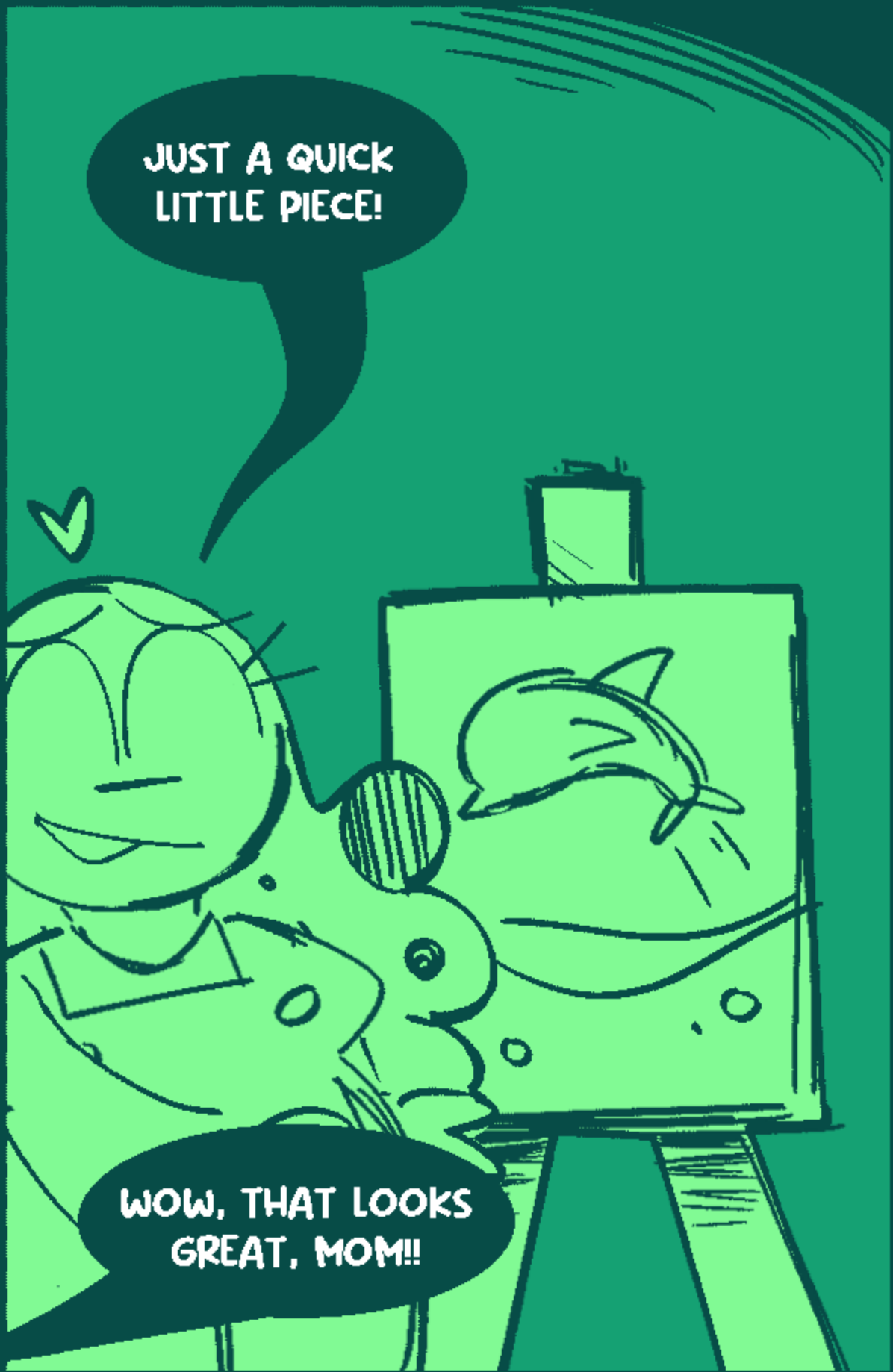


...I HAVE A FAMILY.

MOM FINISHED HER PAINTING,
DID YA SEE IT YET?!

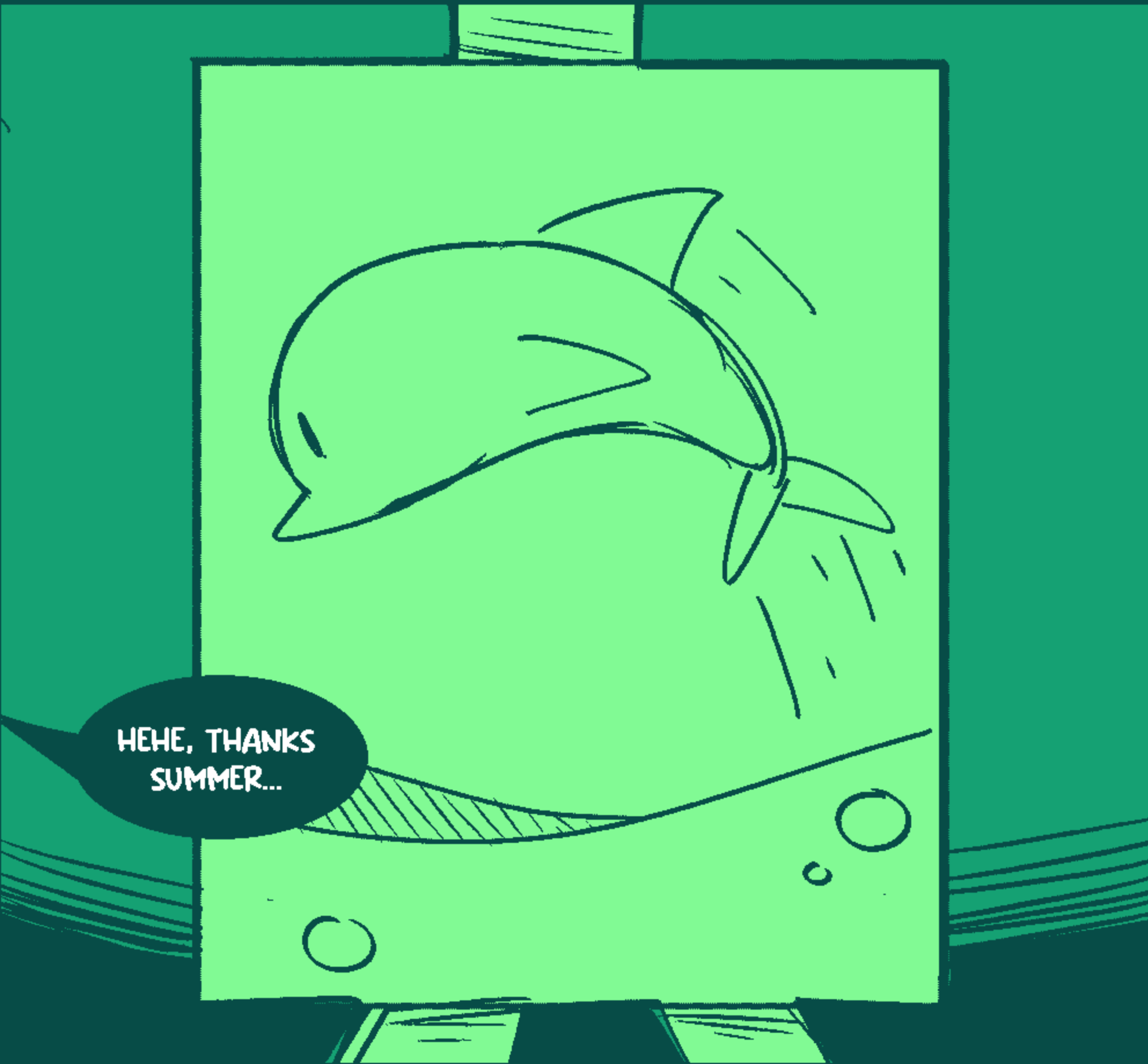
NAH,
NOT YET!

OH IT'S NOTHING
SUPER BIG...



JUST A QUICK
LITTLE PIECE!

WOW, THAT LOOKS
GREAT, MOM!!



HEHE, THANKS
SUMMER...



TODAY, I RUN.



TODAY, I FEEL
THE WIND THROUGH
MY HAIR.



TODAY,
I'M A PARKOURIST.

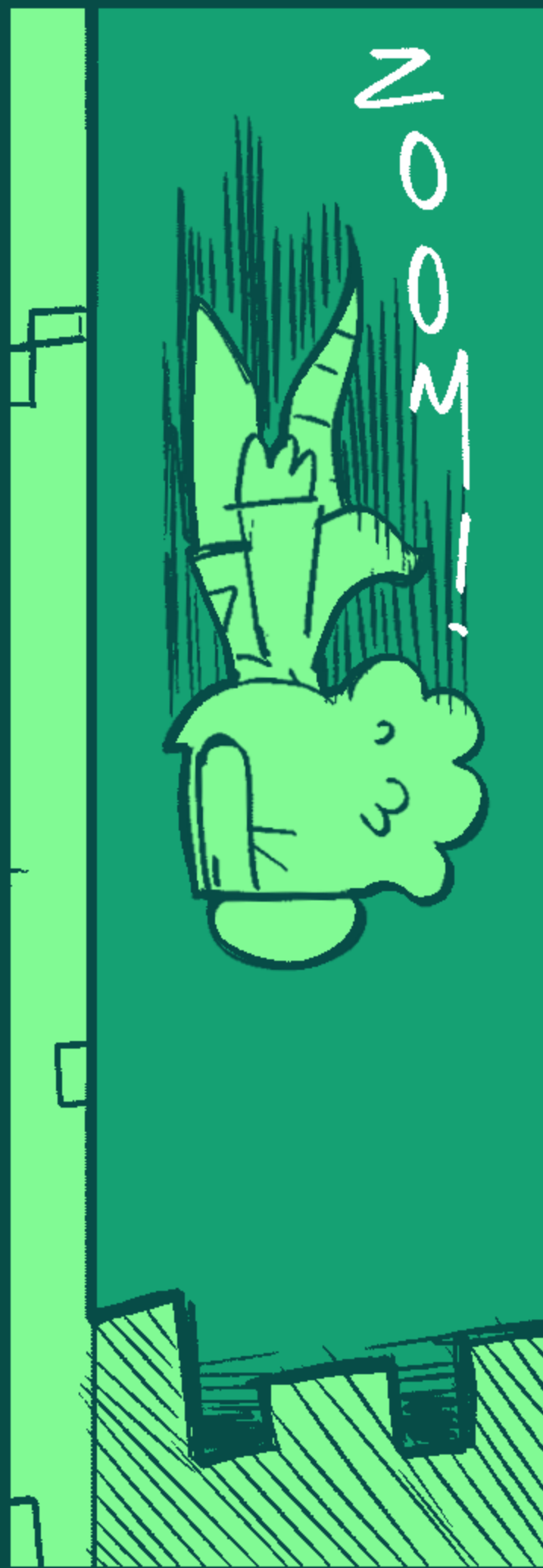
WOOSH



BOUNCE

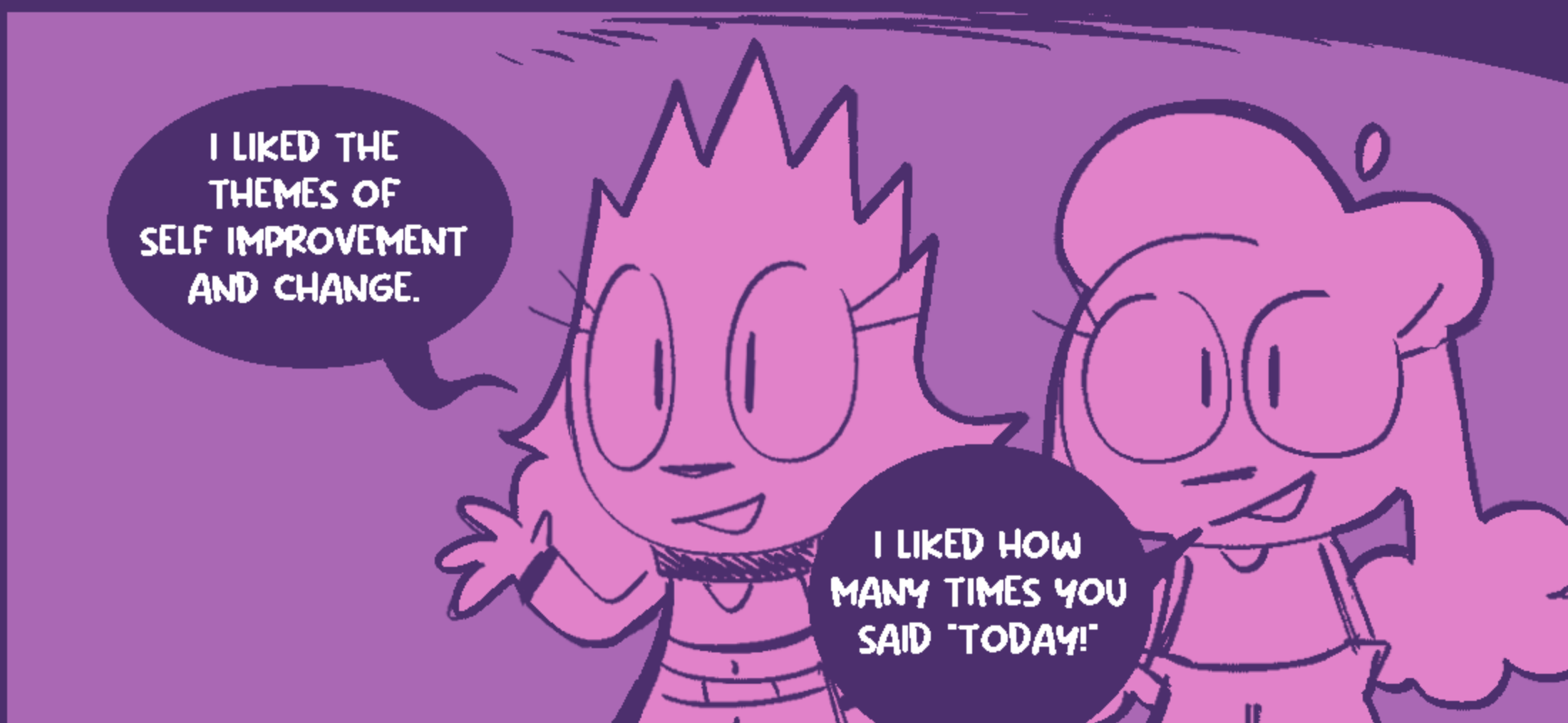


BUY STUFF!



NOOM!







I'M EXCITED TO SEE
WHAT OTHER POEMS
YOU HAVE IN STORE!!

HEH, THANK YOU...



ONCE AGAIN, GIVE IT
UP FOR SUMMER AURORA!

CLAP CLAP
WOOHOO!

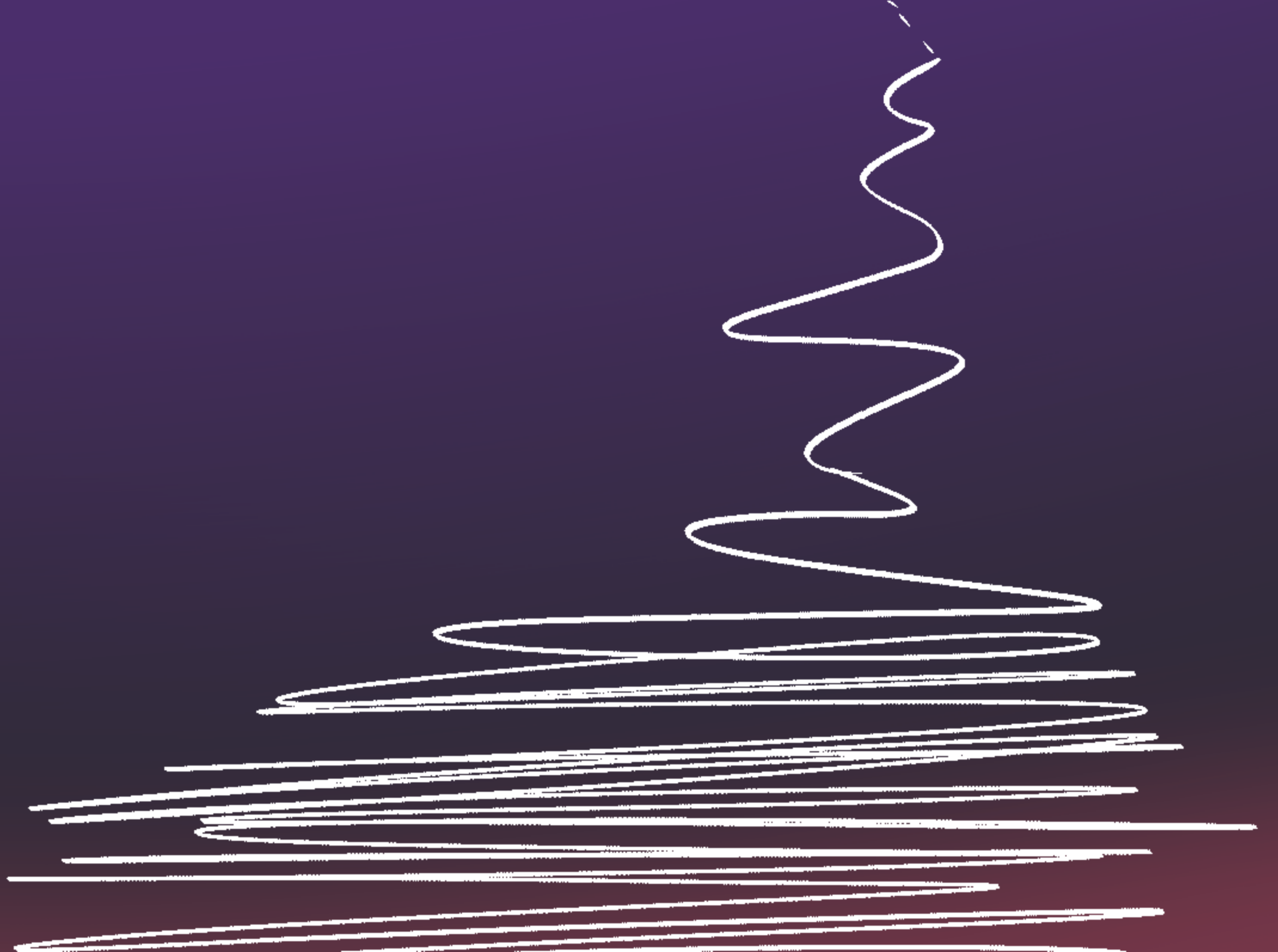
CLAP CLAP
!!!

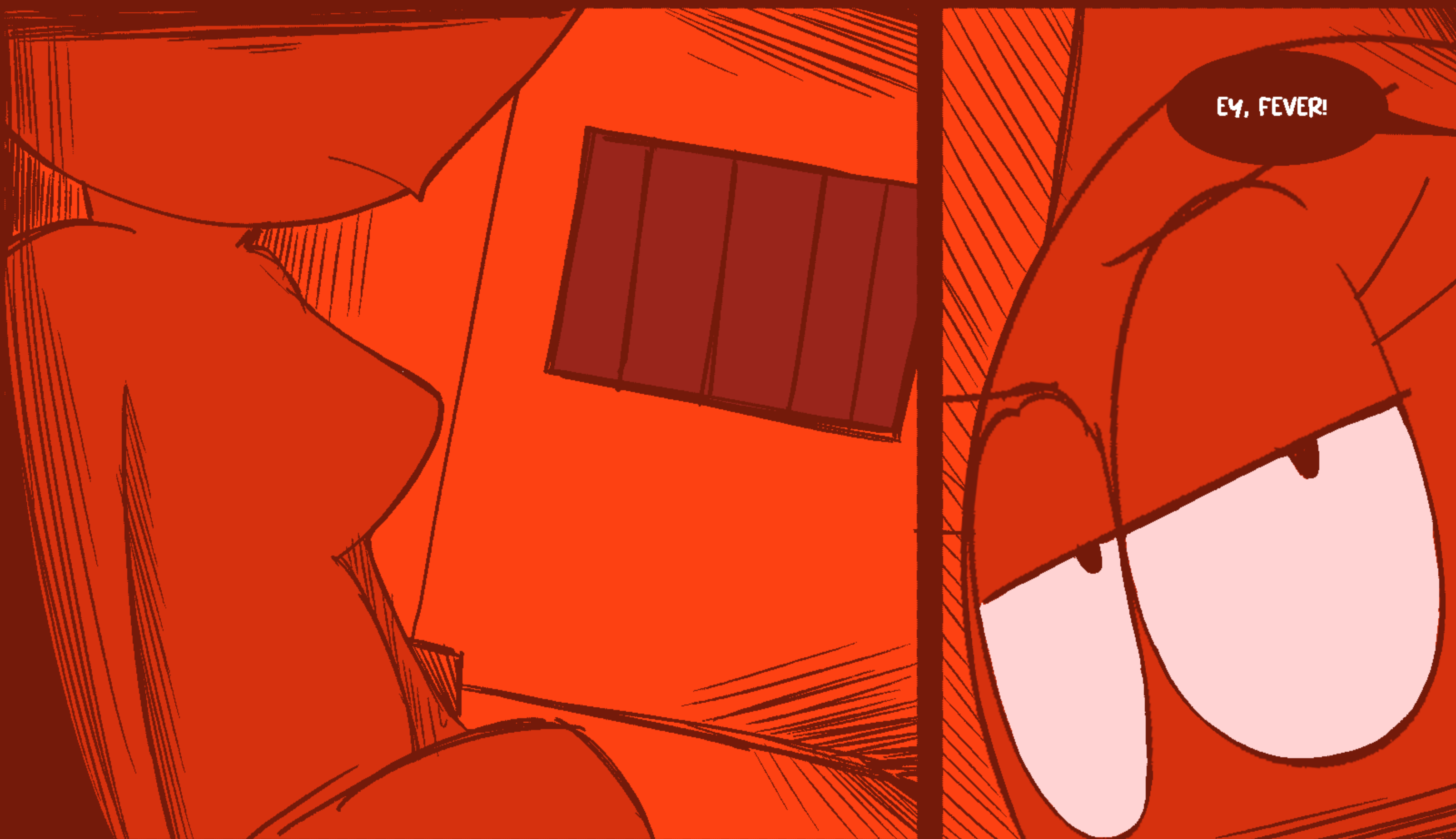
I DON'T KNOW IF
I'LL EVER SEE CHILLI OR
THE COVE AGAIN.

MAYBE ONE DAY.

BUT IF THAT DAY EVER COMES...

I HOPE I'M READY...







...SCARLET?

IN THE FLESH, HAHA!

WELL, NOT MY FLESH,
SOMEONE ELSE'S.

WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG?
IT'S BEEN MONTHS...

AND WHAT HAPPENED
TO YOUR ORIGINAL BODY?

JEEZ LOUISE, SO
MANY QUESTIONS...

HERE, LEMME
GET YA OUTTA
THIS CELL FIRST-



SO... WHO ARE YOU
POSSESSING EXACTLY?

I DON'T KNOW.
SOME WIMPY DUDE.

HE SMELLS LIKE
SHIT.

HEY UH, ACTUALLY,
SINCE YOU'RE HERE, COULD YA
RESTORE MY BODY FOR ME
REAL QUICK? I DON'T WANNA
WAIT ANOTHER THREE MONTHS.



FINE.

SO WHAT HAPPENED AFTER
YOU WENT THROUGH THE
HELLHOLE?

WELL FIRST, I TRIED TO
POSSESS YOUR DAUGHTER, CAUSE
SHE JUST HAPPENED TO BE THERE.

BUT I FORGOT DEMONS CAN'T
REALLY POSSESS CRYPTIDS,
SO SHE JUST TURNED INTO
SOME WEIRD BEAST.

SO THEN I LEFT AND
POSSESSED MY DAUGHTER,
AND THAT WORKED FOR A
LITTLE BIT, BUT THAT WAS
ULTIMATELY POINTLESS TOO.



HOW COME?

WELL, I TRIED TO GO DESTROY THE Lighthouse BY MYSELF AS SYNTH, BUT THAT STUPID PLANT LADY STOPPED ME. AND THEN THE NEXT DAY, CHILLI-

YOU TRIED TO DESTROY THE Lighthouse BY YOURSELF? AGAIN? YOU KNOW HOW WELL THAT WORKED LAST TIME...

THE PROPHECY CLEARLY STATES THAT WE BOTH HAVE TO-

YES YES, I KNOW, I KNOW!!! I'M IMPATIENT, OKAY? I CAN'T HELP IT!



WAIT, WHY ARE YOU SHORT? DID YOU SPLIT INTO TWO AT SOME POINT?

YEAH, DURING THE HELLHOLE THING. I DON'T KNOW WHERE MY OTHER HALF WENT.



BUT ANYWAY YADA YADA YADA, I WAS STUCK ON EARTH FOR A BIT!

BUT WHILE THERE, I MANAGED TO SNEAK INTO THE HEAD OF ONE OF CHARLOTTE'S DUMB HUMAN FRIENDS!

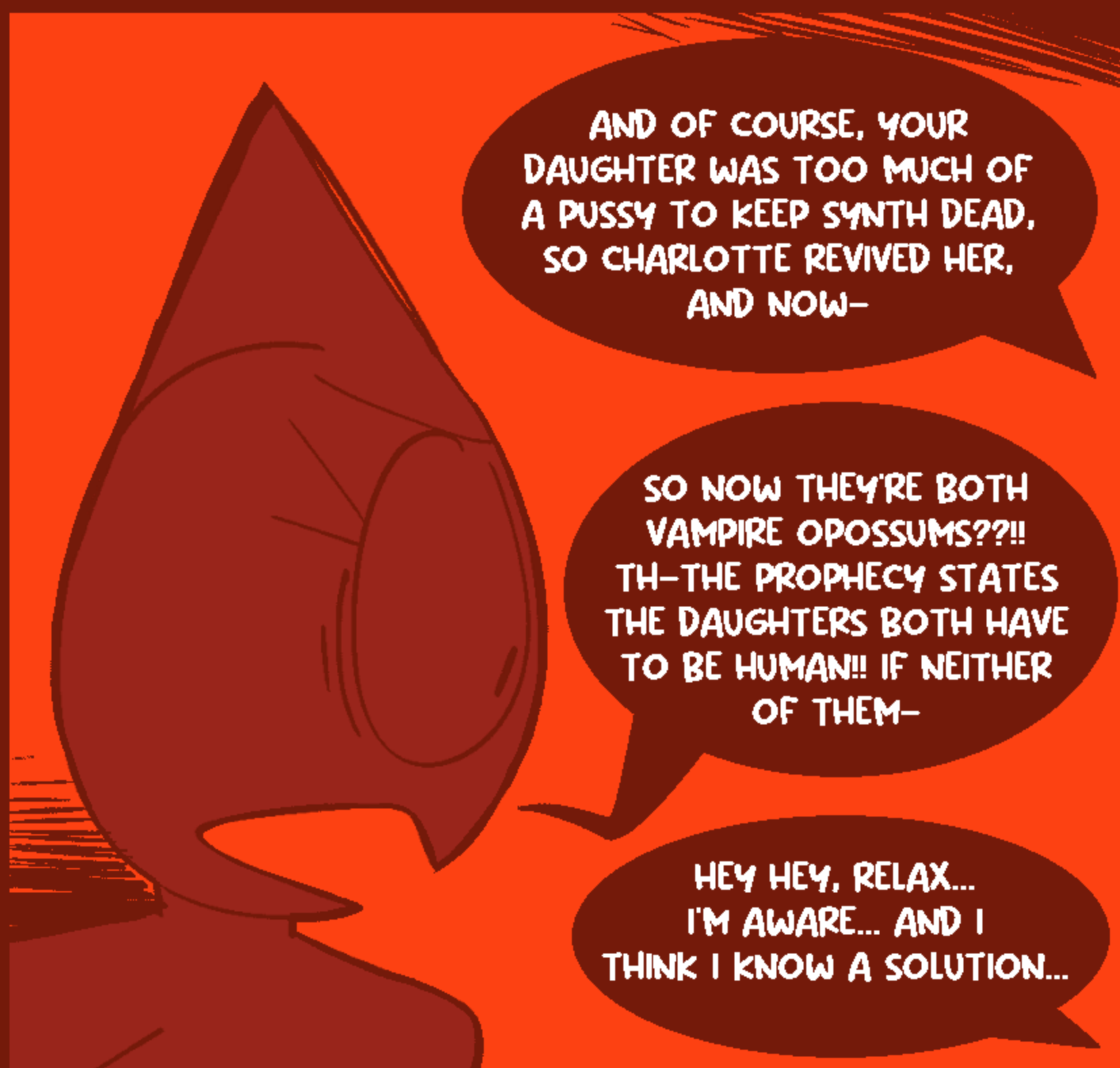
I WAS ABLE TO SPY ON THEM SECRETLY FOR MONTHS, AND I SAW SOME JUICY STUFF!!



YOUR DAUGHTER'S A MACHINE!! SHE PUNCHED RIGHT THROUGH MY DAUGHTER'S FACE ON COMPLETE ACCIDENT!

HER BRAINS EXPLODED! IT WAS CRAZY!!

AH. INTERESTING.



AND OF COURSE, YOUR DAUGHTER WAS TOO MUCH OF A PUSSY TO KEEP SYNTH DEAD, SO CHARLOTTE REVIVED HER, AND NOW-

SO NOW THEY'RE BOTH VAMPIRE OPOSSUMS??!! TH-THE PROPHECY STATES THE DAUGHTERS BOTH HAVE TO BE HUMAN!! IF NEITHER OF THEM-

HEY HEY, RELAX... I'M AWARE... AND I THINK I KNOW A SOLUTION...



WHEN I WAS TRYING TO POSSESS CHARLOTTE, I... I SAW SOMETHING IN HER MIND...

I'M NOT CERTAIN FOR SURE WHAT IT WAS, BUT... IF IT'S WHAT I THINK IT IS...

AND IF SYNTH HAS ONE TOO... THAT MIGHT BE OUR WAY INTO FULFILLING THE PROPHECY!



HHH SCARLET, I... I DON'T KNOW IF--

COME ON, FEVER! THIS ISN'T HOPELESS, YET!

IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT DAD THINKS...

WE HAVE TO DO THIS!! LITERALLY OUR ONLY PURPOSE IS TO CARRY THIS SHIT OUT!



WE'VE SPENT DECADES TRYING AND FAILING TO WORK THIS ALL OUT, AND NOW WE MIGHT FINALLY HAVE A CLEAR PATH AHEAD!

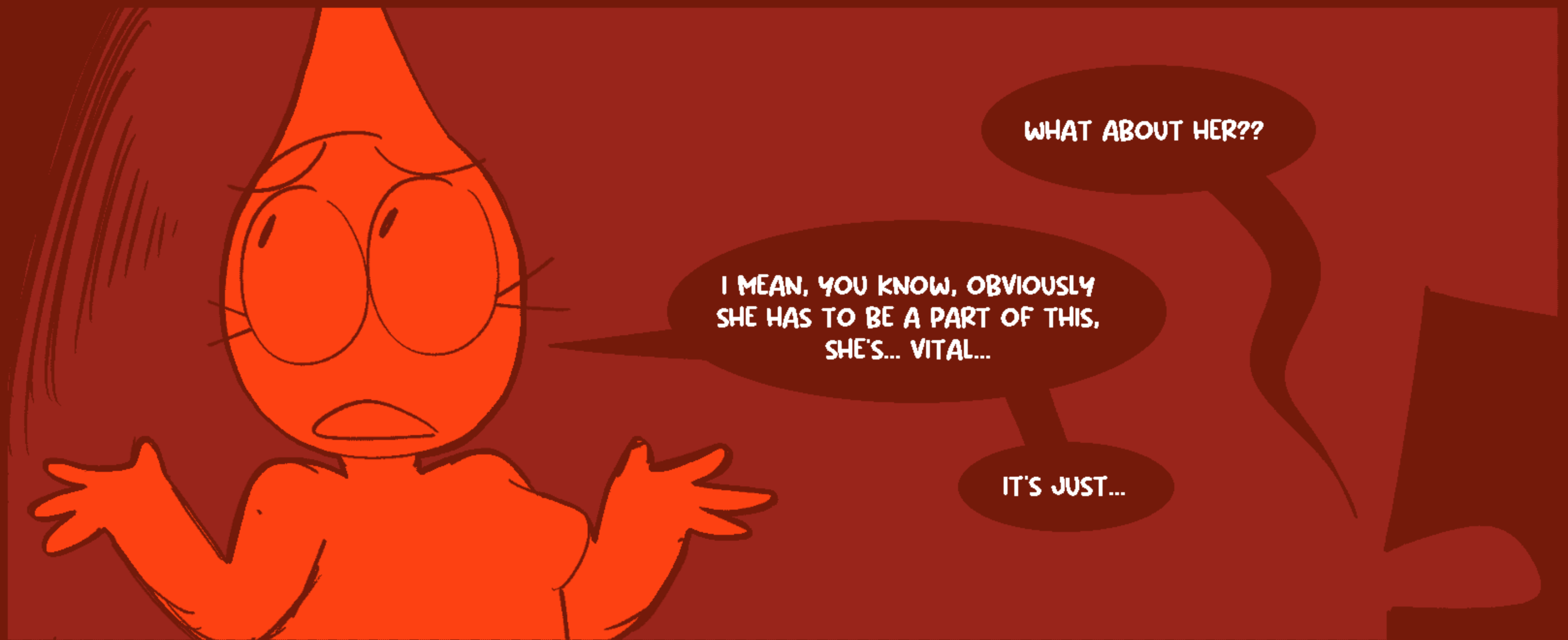


DAD CAN'T DO ANYTHING TO STOP US ANYMORE...



IT'S... NOT REALLY DAD I'M WORRIED ABOUT...

IT'S... CHARLOTTE.



WHAT ABOUT HER??

I MEAN, YOU KNOW, OBVIOUSLY
SHE HAS TO BE A PART OF THIS,
SHE'S... VITAL...

IT'S JUST...



I HAVEN'T SEEN HER IN YEARS...
AND I LEFT SO... ABRUPTLY...

I THOUGHT HER BECOMING A
VAMPIRE OPOSSUM RUINED ANY HOPE
OF FULFILLING THE PROPHECY...
AND I WAS AFRAID OF WHAT SHE
WOULD BE CAPABLE OF... ESPECIALLY
IF HER POWERS GOT STRONGER...

I DON'T KNOW IF SHE'D WANT
ANYTHING TO DO WITH ME...



IS THAT ALL?

PLEASE, THAT WON'T MATTER!
ONCE SHE'S RULING OVER ALL OF
EARTH, SHE'LL COMPLETELY
FORGET ABOUT HER MOMMY
PROBLEMS!



BESIDES... WE HAVE WAYS
OF MAKING HER COOPERATE
WITH US...

THERE'S NOTHING TO
WORRY ABOUT, FEVER!



HHH, I GUESS
NOT, YEAH...

ALRIGHT.

NOW, LET'S GET
OUTTA THIS DUNGY
PRISON...



WHERE ARE WE
GONNA GO?

I KNOW A HIDEOUT
PLACE CLOSE BY...

WE'LL STAY THERE
UNTIL WE CAN PLAN OUT
OUR NEXT MOVE...

SOUNDS GOOD TO ME.

**NEXT TIME:
B**

CHILLI

THE VAMPIRE OPOSSUM



#25



"RED MEAT", PART ONE

TW//

ATTEMPTED MURDER

BLOOD

BODY GORE

BODY HORROR

BRIGHT COLORS

DEATH

DROWNING

EYES

HOSPITAL

KNIFE

TRAUMA

VERBAL ABUSE



DEAR GOD...

I KNOW I DON'T
TALK TO YOU OFTEN... I UH...
I DON'T PARTICULARLY CARE
FOR YOU...

BUT... IT FEELS LIKE
MY LIFE'S FALLING APART...
AND I DON'T KNOW HOW
TO FIX IT...

PLEASE... GUIDE ME.
SHOW ME THE RIGHT
PATH FORWARD.

AND UH, ALSO,
IF IT'S NOT TOO
MUCH TROUBLE—

**KILL CHILLI,
THE VAMPIRE
OPOSSUM.**

3 1/2 YEARS EARLIER





H-HOW ARE YOU
FEELING...?

I FEEL LIKE... M-MUSH...

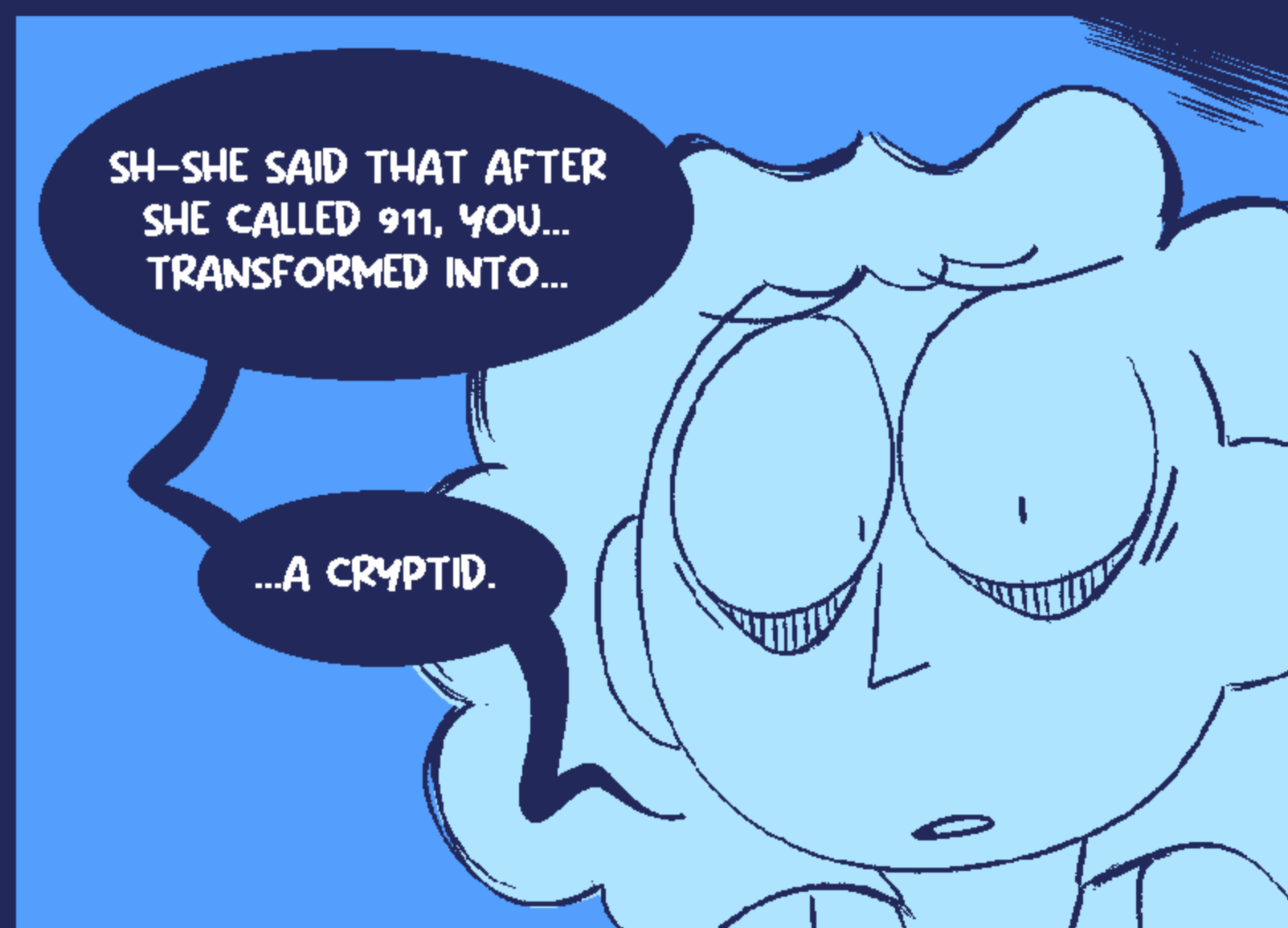
WH-WHAT
HAPPENED...?



WELL UM...

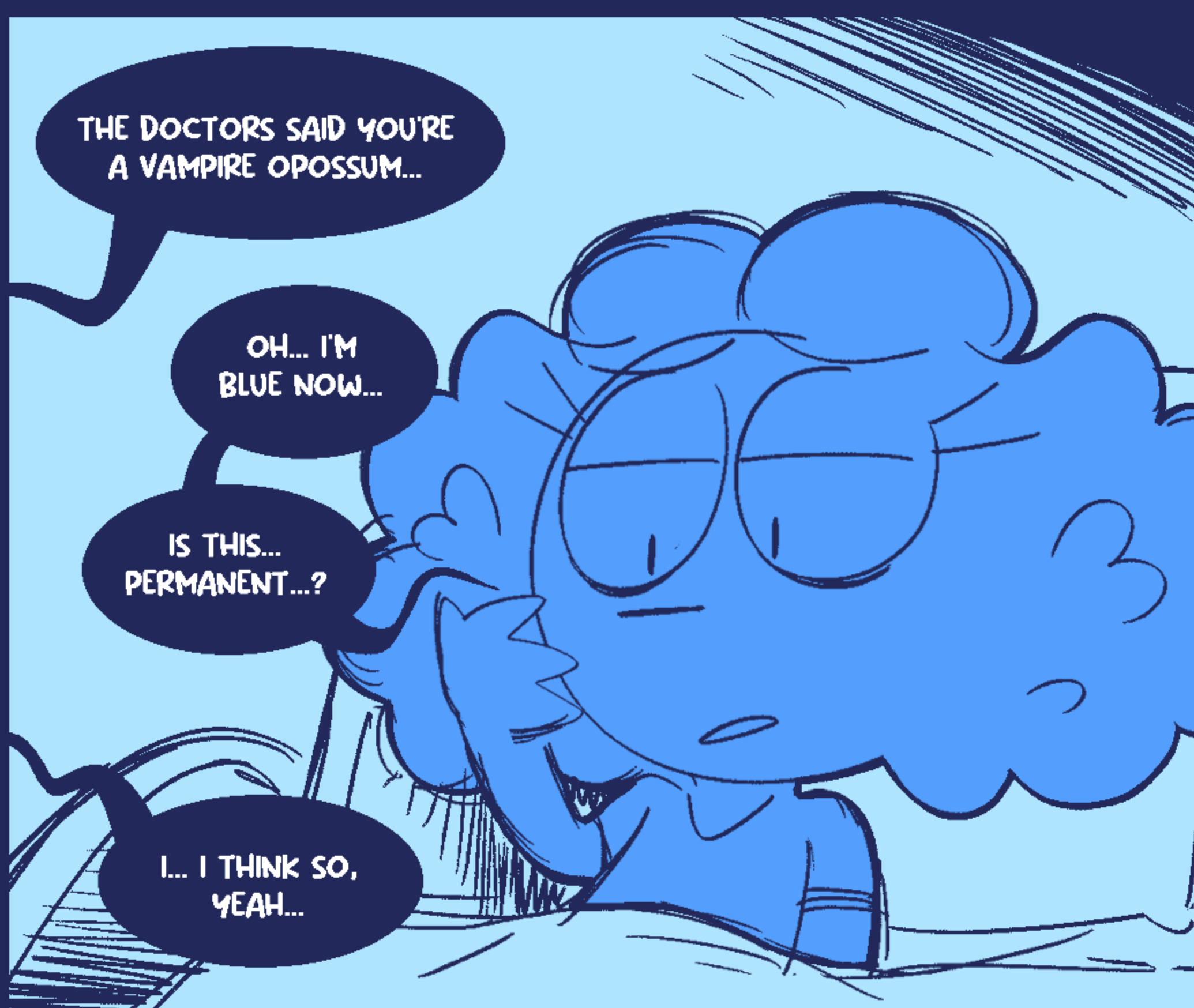
APPARENTLY
YOU WERE... ATTACKED,
A-AT THE BUS STOP...

SYNTH, UH... F-FOUND
YOUR... BODY...



SH-SHE SAID THAT AFTER
SHE CALLED 911, YOU...
TRANSFORMED INTO...

...A CRYPTID.



THE DOCTORS SAID YOU'RE
A VAMPIRE OPOSSUM...

OH... I'M
BLUE NOW...

IS THIS...
PERMANENT...?

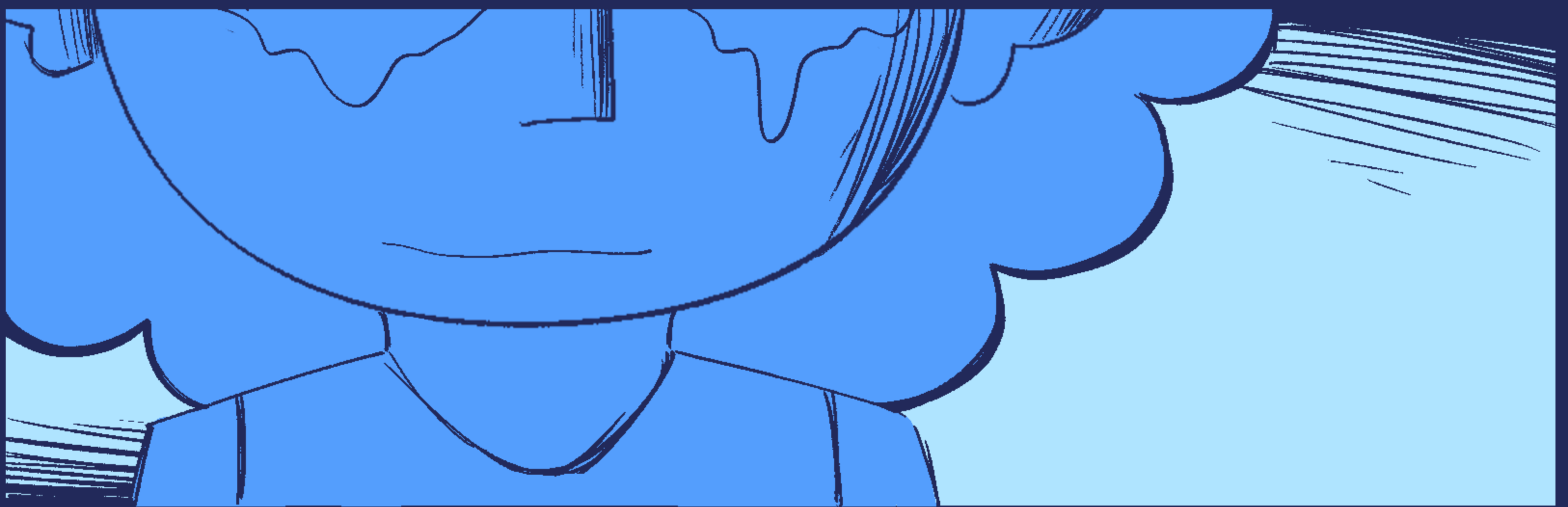
I... I THINK SO,
YEAH...

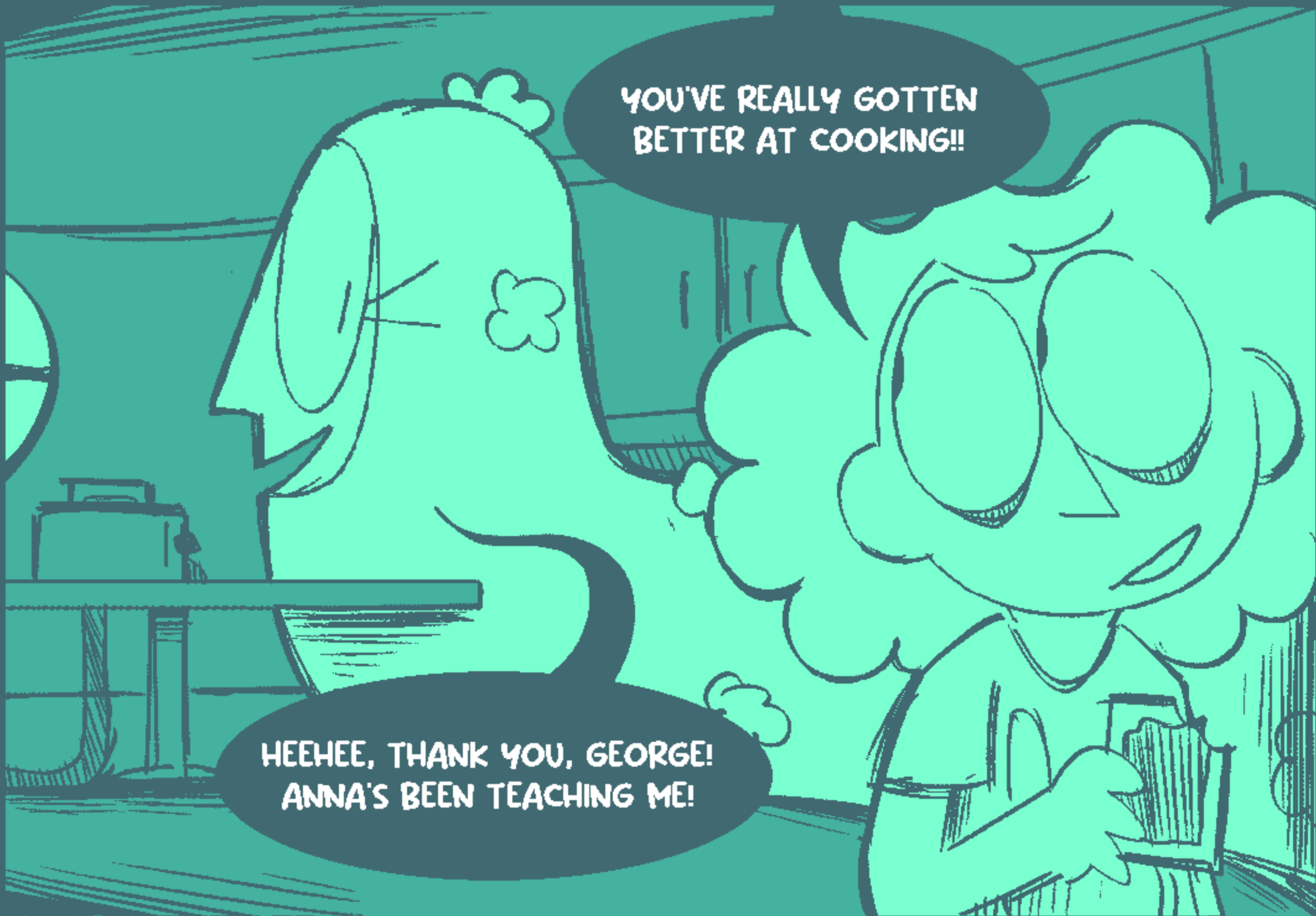
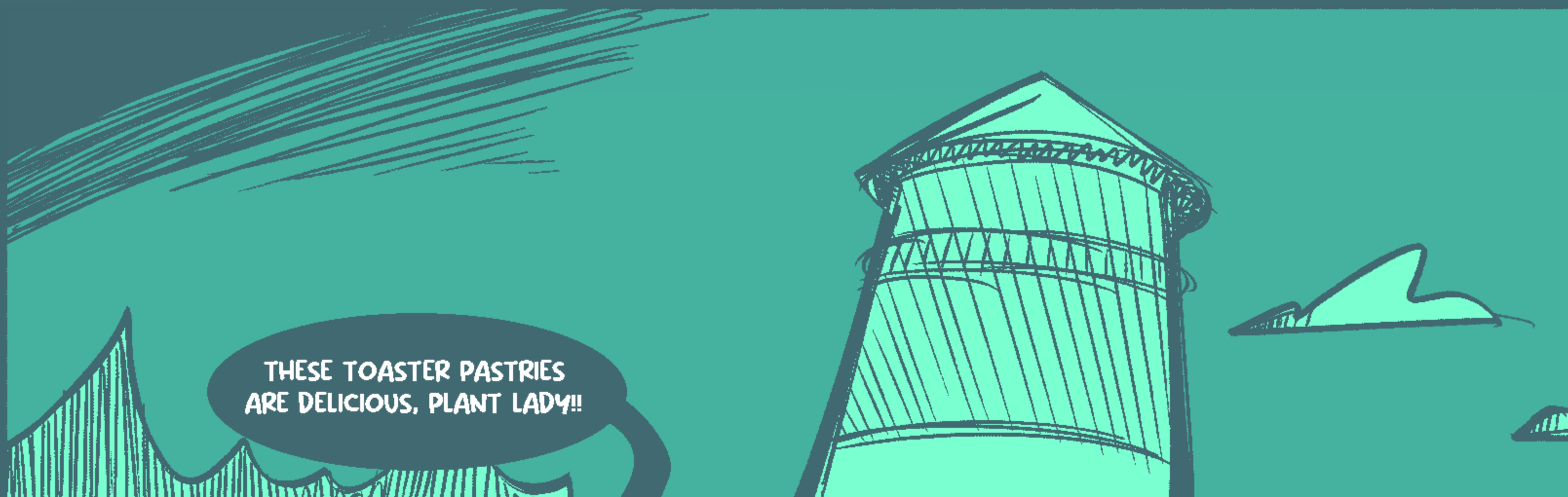


B-BUT EVERYTHING
WILL BE OKAY!!

THIS IS ALL...
SCARY... BUT...

WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS
THAT YOU'RE STILL HERE!





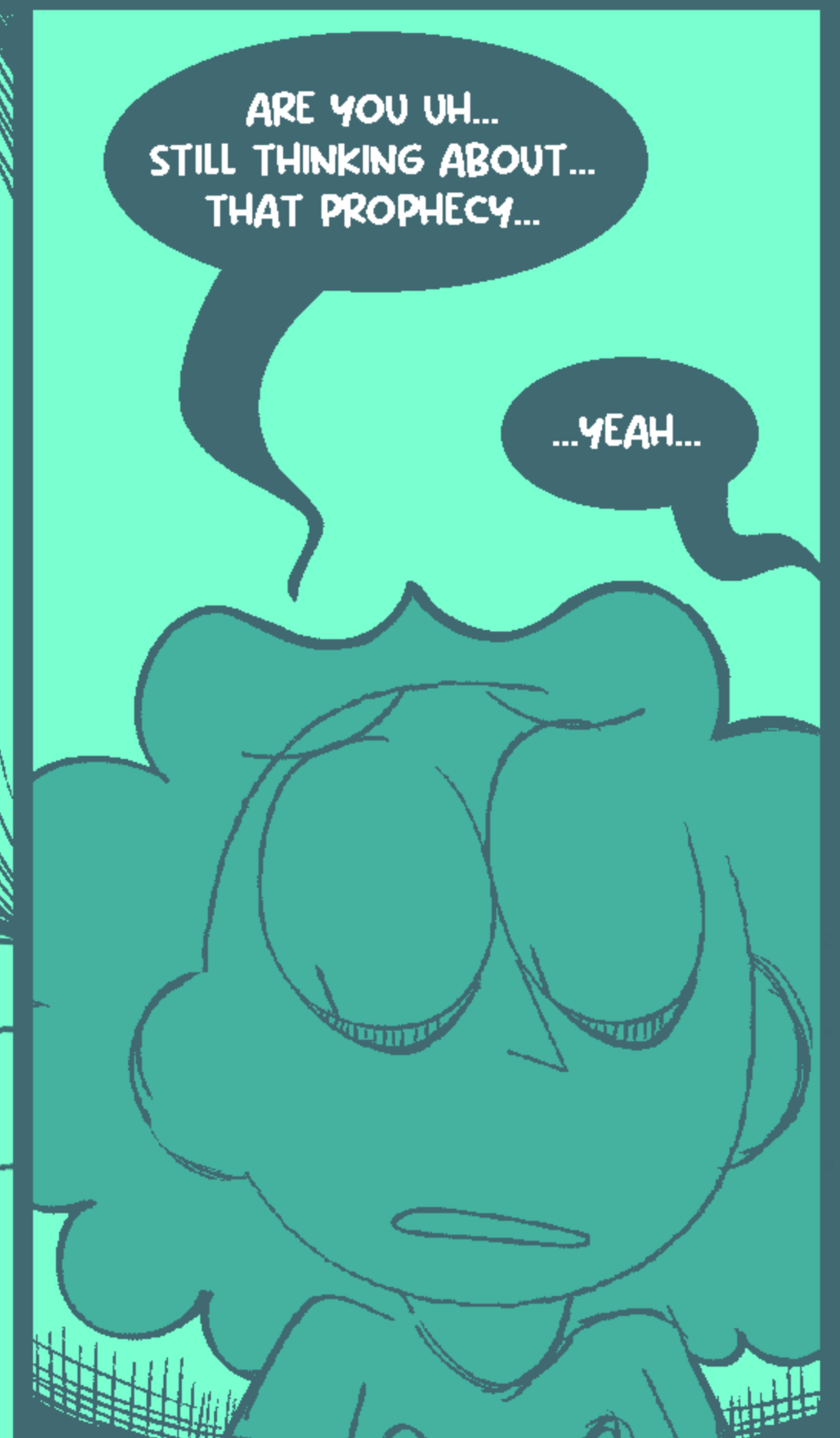


...YOU DOING OKAY?
YOU SOUND A BIT DOWN...

I-I'M FINE, I'M
JUST... TIRED...

AND...
OVERWHELMED,
I GUESS...

BUT... BESIDES
THAT, I'M FINE...



ARE YOU UH...
STILL THINKING ABOUT...
THAT PROPHECY...

...YEAH...



I... I KNOW I SHOULDN'T BE
WORRIED...

EVERYONE'S ASSURED ME
IT WON'T COME TRUE, BUT...

MY STUPID BRAIN
WON'T SHUT UP ABOUT
IT...



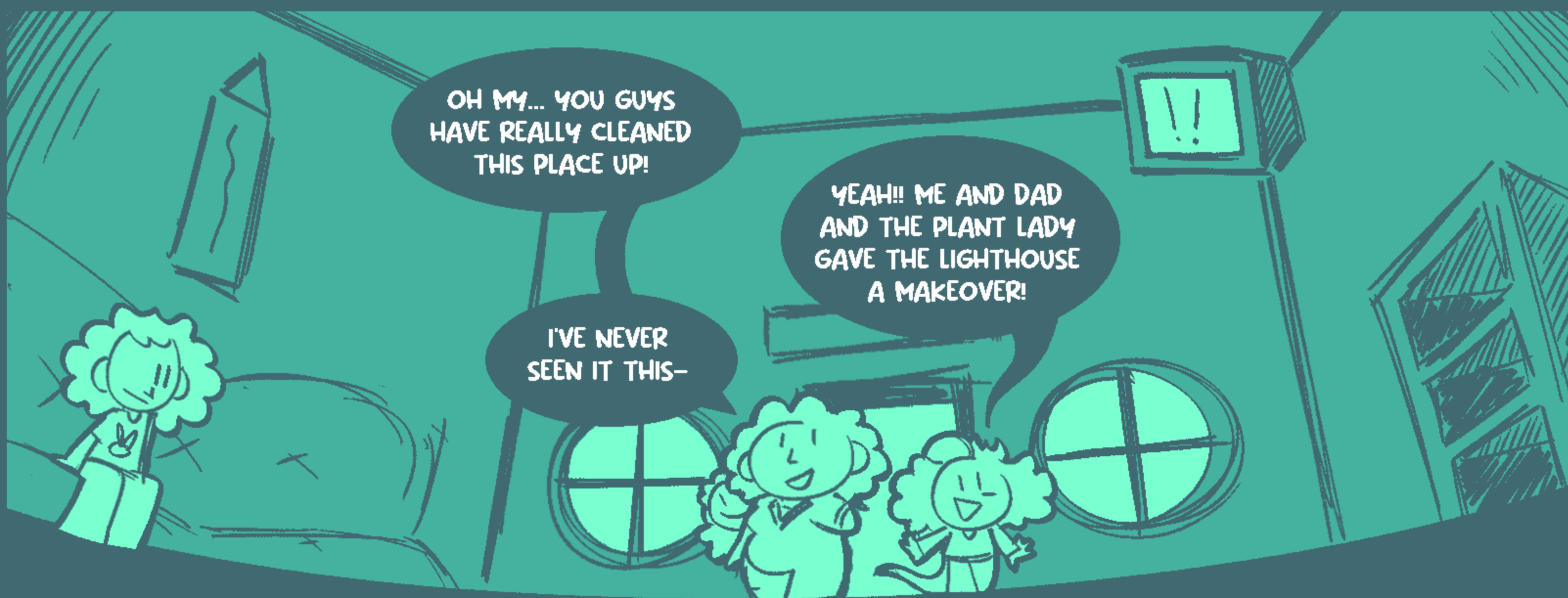
DID... MOM EVER
TELL YOU ABOUT A
PROPHECY?

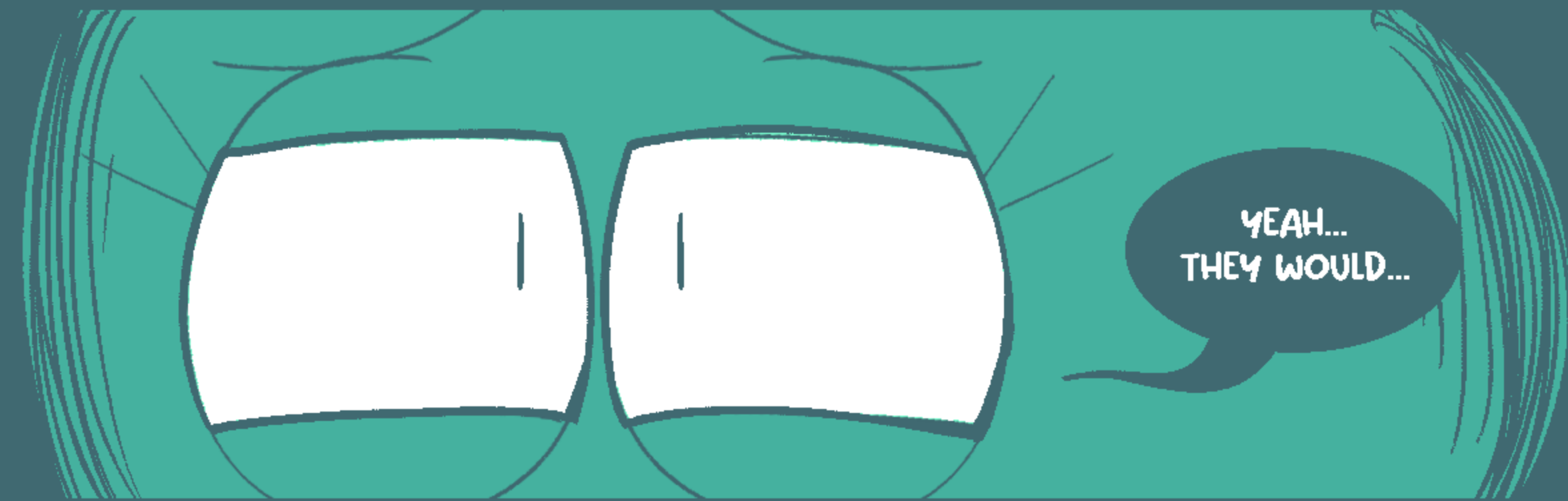
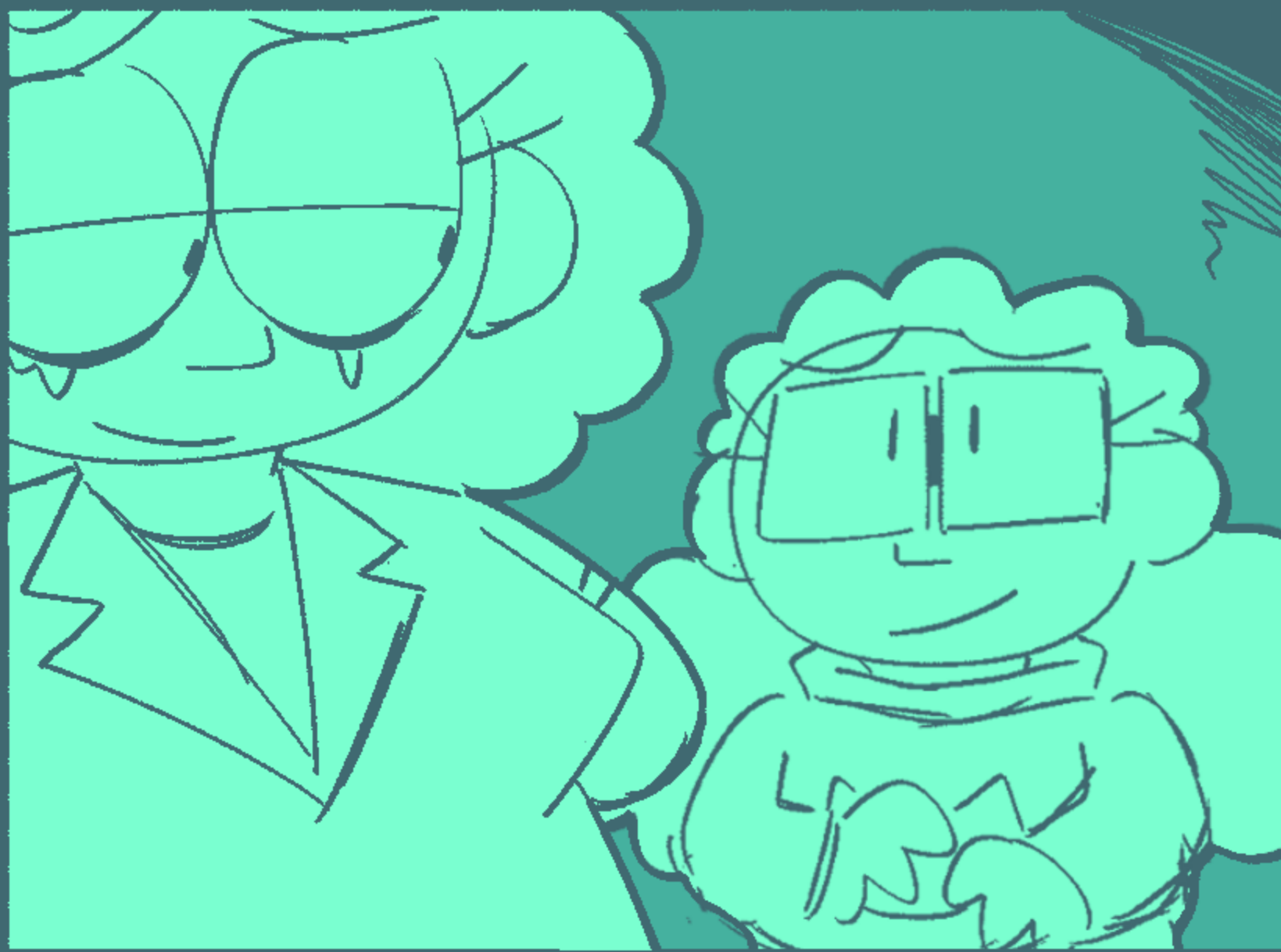
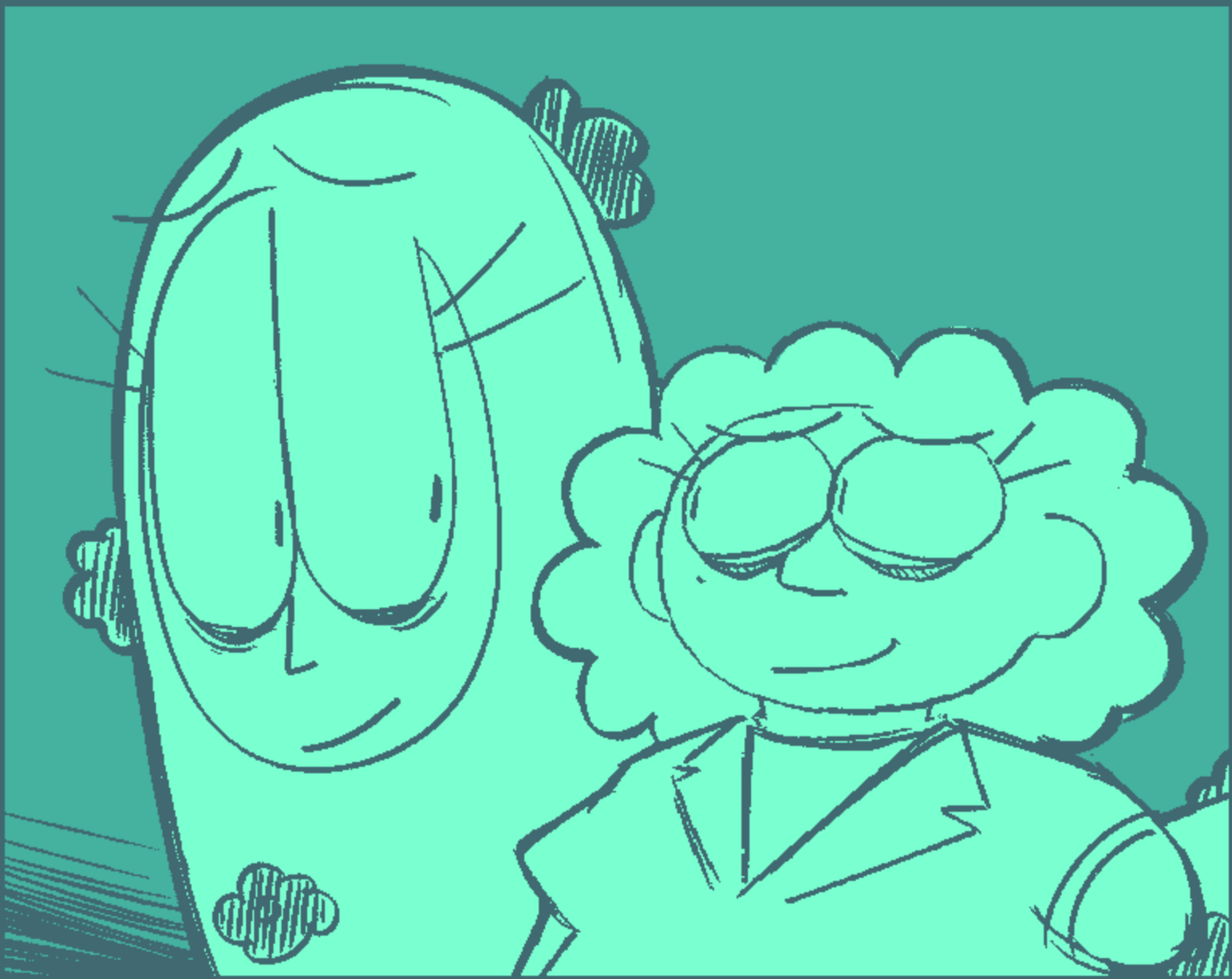
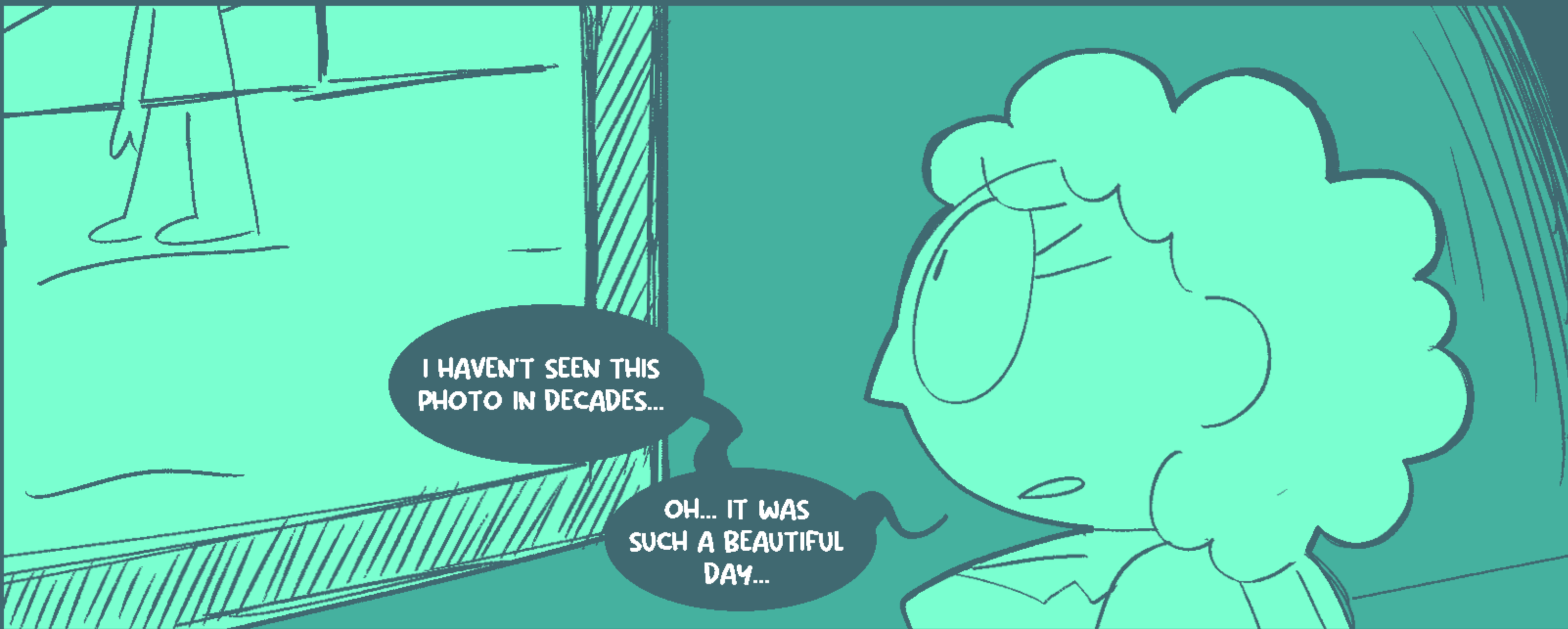


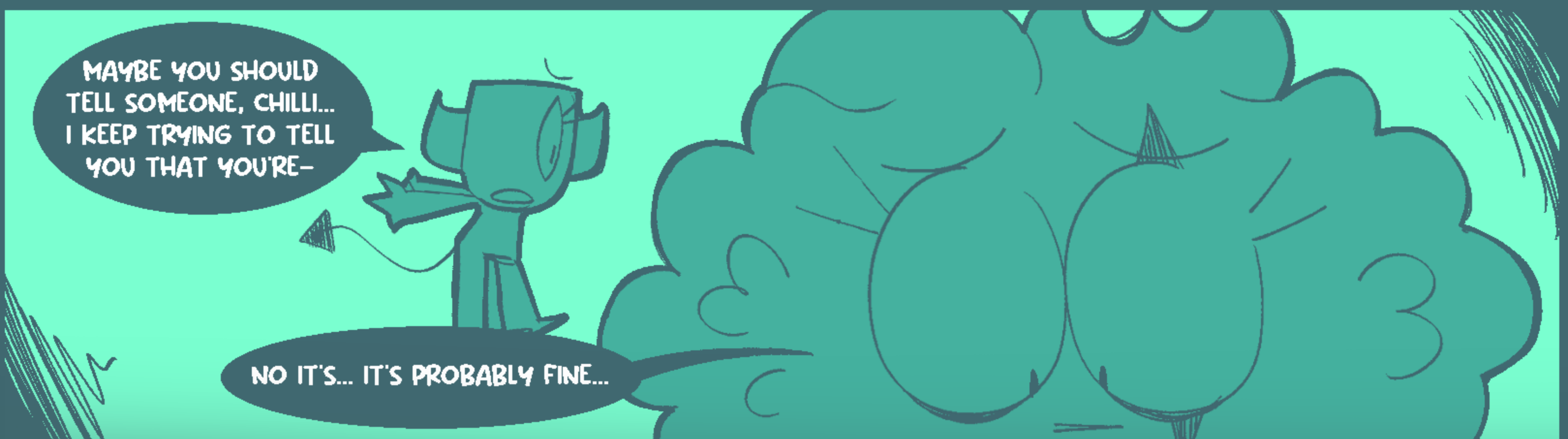
NO. SHE DIDN'T.

YOU DON'T NEED TO
WORRY ABOUT WHAT
SOME STORY SAYS
YOU'RE GONNA DO...



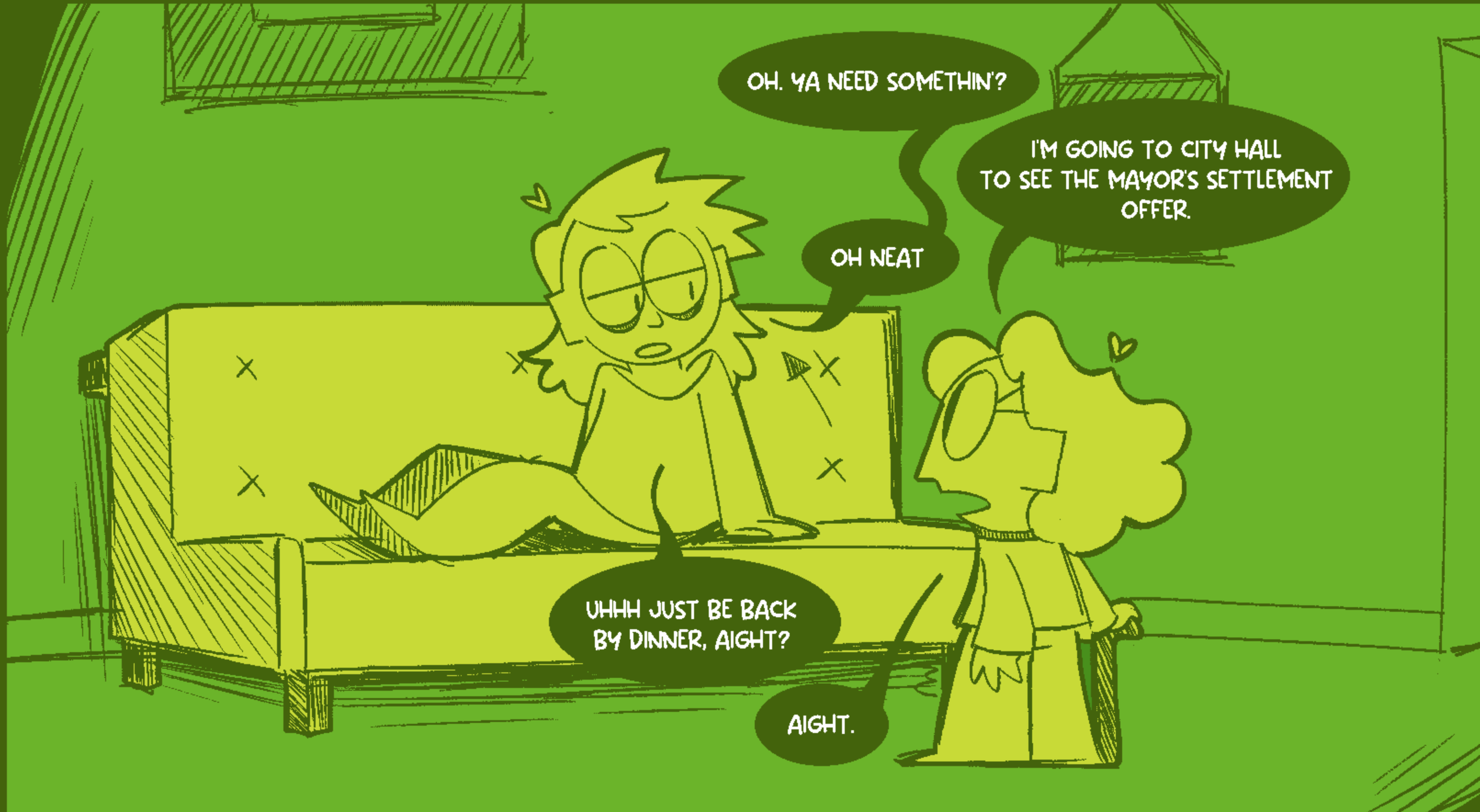






I'M SURE IT'LL GO AWAY ON ITS OWN...





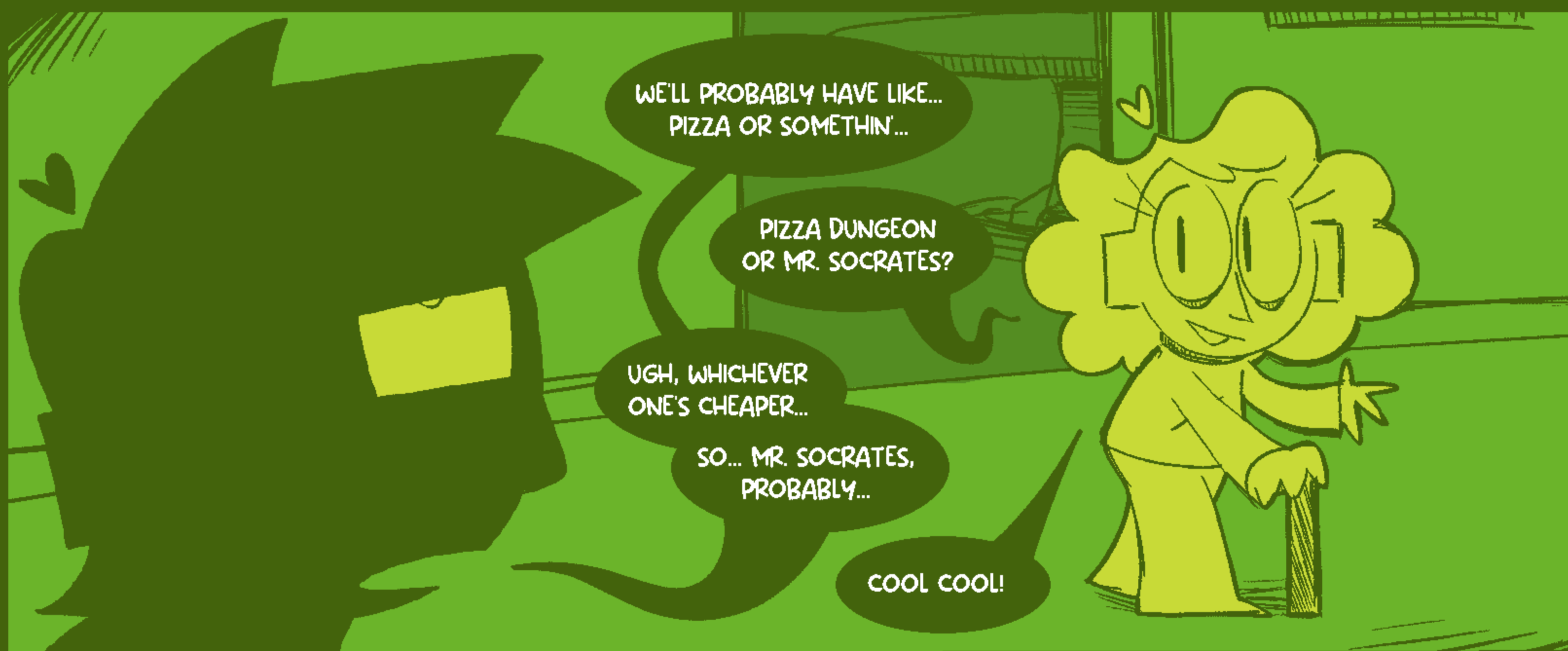
OH. YA NEED SOMETHIN'?

I'M GOING TO CITY HALL
TO SEE THE MAYOR'S SETTLEMENT
OFFER.

OH NEAT

UHHH JUST BE BACK
BY DINNER, AIGHT?

AIGHT.



WE'LL PROBABLY HAVE LIKE...
PIZZA OR SOMETHIN'...

PIZZA DUNGEON
OR MR. SOCRATES?

UGH, WHICHEVER
ONE'S CHEAPER...

SO... MR. SOCRATES,
PROBABLY...

COOL COOL!



HEY UH,
BY THE WAY...

GOOD JOB ON UH,
NOT CUTTING YOURSELF
FOR A MONTH...



I'M UH... I'M
PROUD OF YOU,
I GUESS...

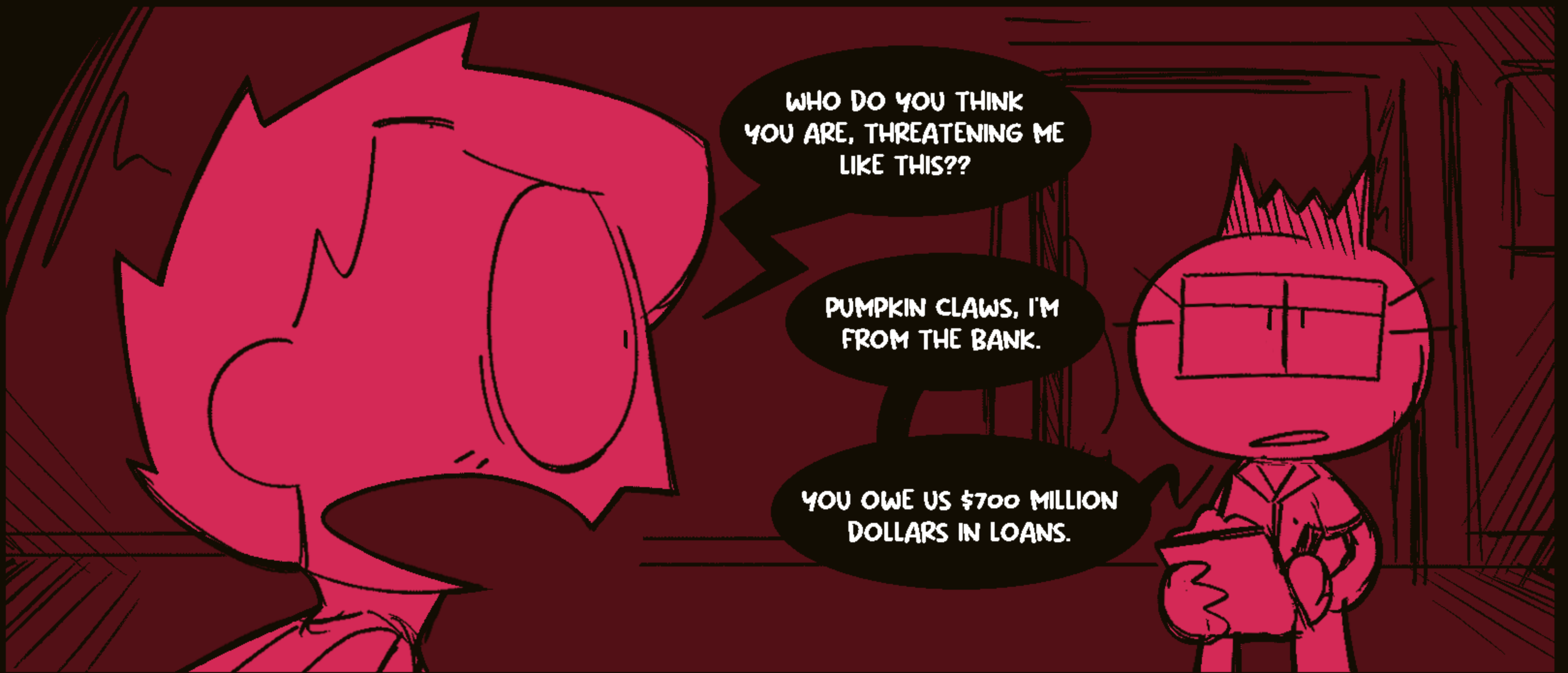
I DON'T KNOW...

I DON'T WANNA BE LIKE...
TOO MUSHY AND JUNK, BUT UH...



UH HUH. SEE YA LATER...







MISS IVY???

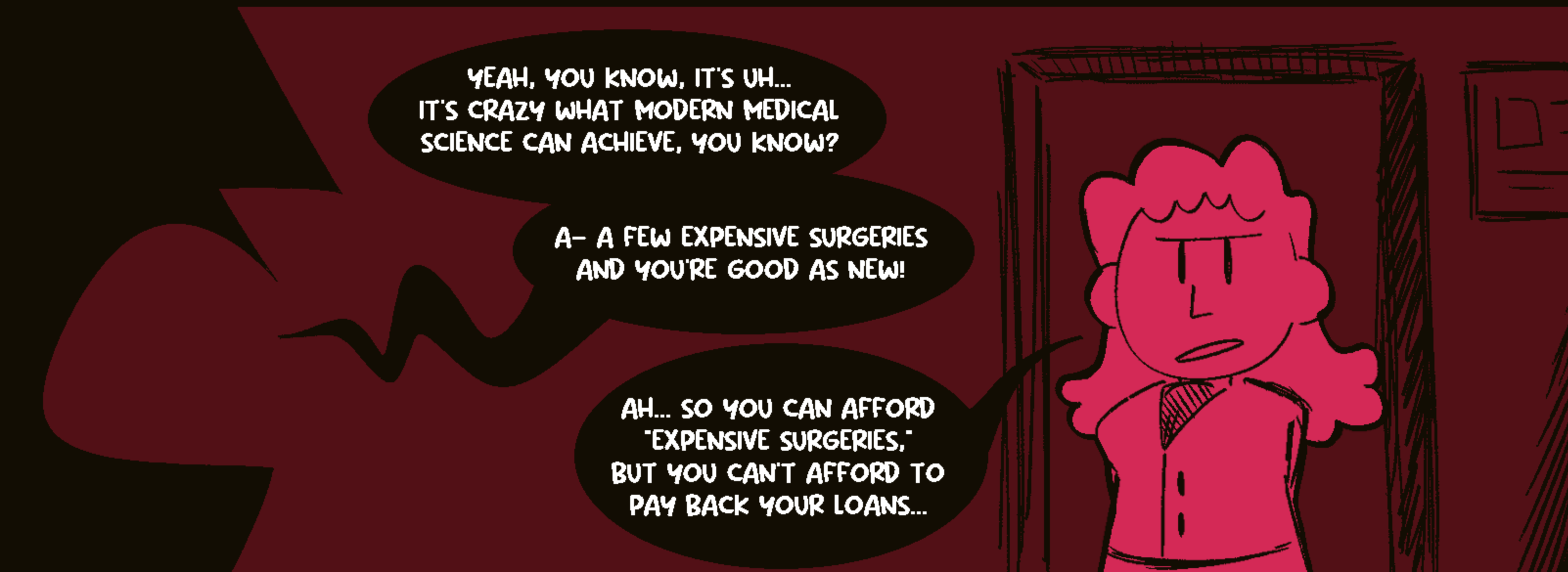
WHERE THE HELL
HAVE YOU BEEN??

OH YOU KNOW,
HERE AND THERE.

WHAT HAPPENED TO
THE SCARS OVER
YOUR EYE?



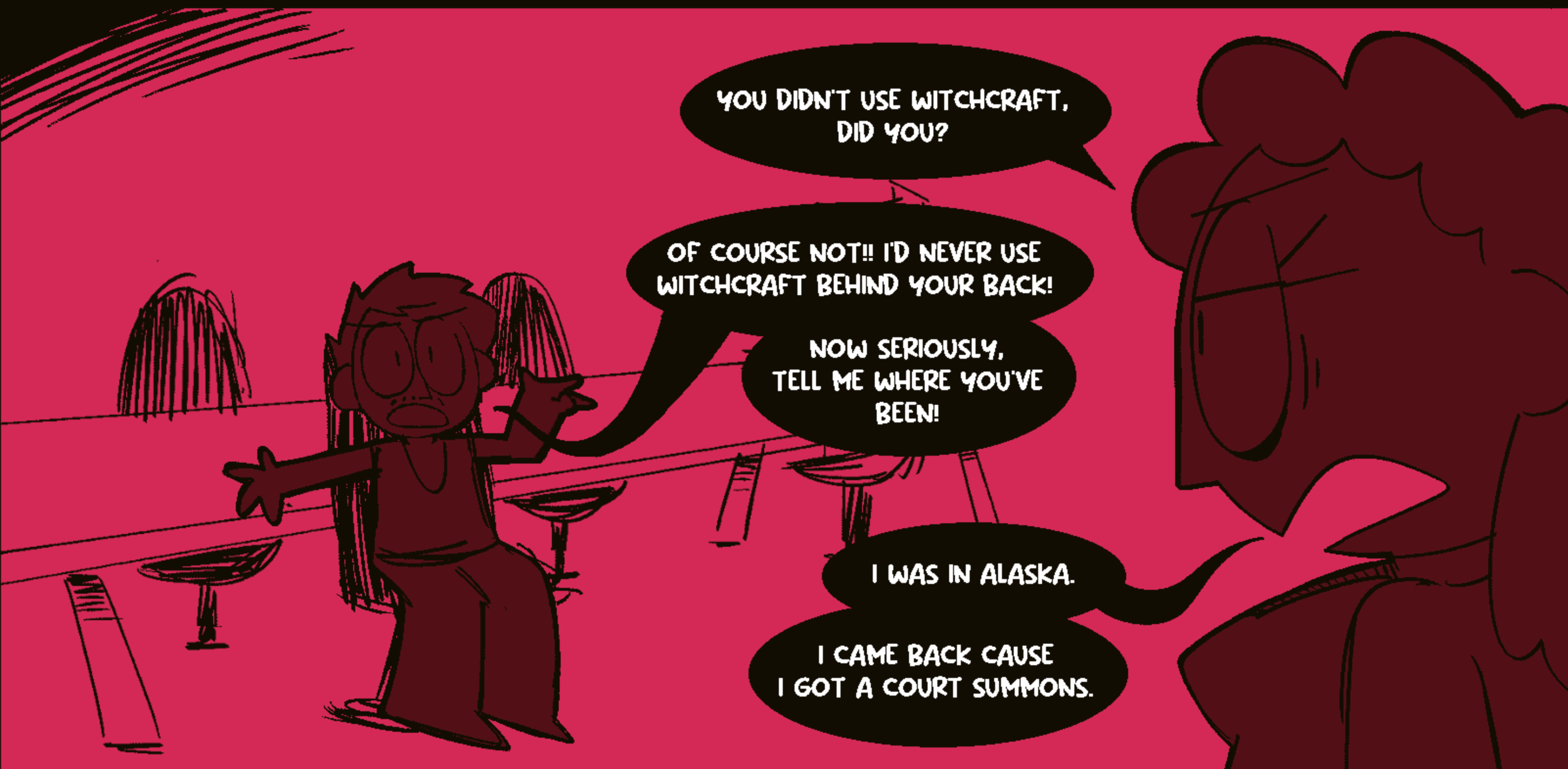
UHHHHHHHHHH
HHHHHHHHHH
HHHHHHHHHH
HHHHHHHHHH



YEAH, YOU KNOW, IT'S UH...
IT'S CRAZY WHAT MODERN MEDICAL
SCIENCE CAN ACHIEVE, YOU KNOW?

A- A FEW EXPENSIVE SURGERIES
AND YOU'RE GOOD AS NEW!

AH... SO YOU CAN AFFORD
"EXPENSIVE SURGERIES,"
BUT YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO
PAY BACK YOUR LOANS...



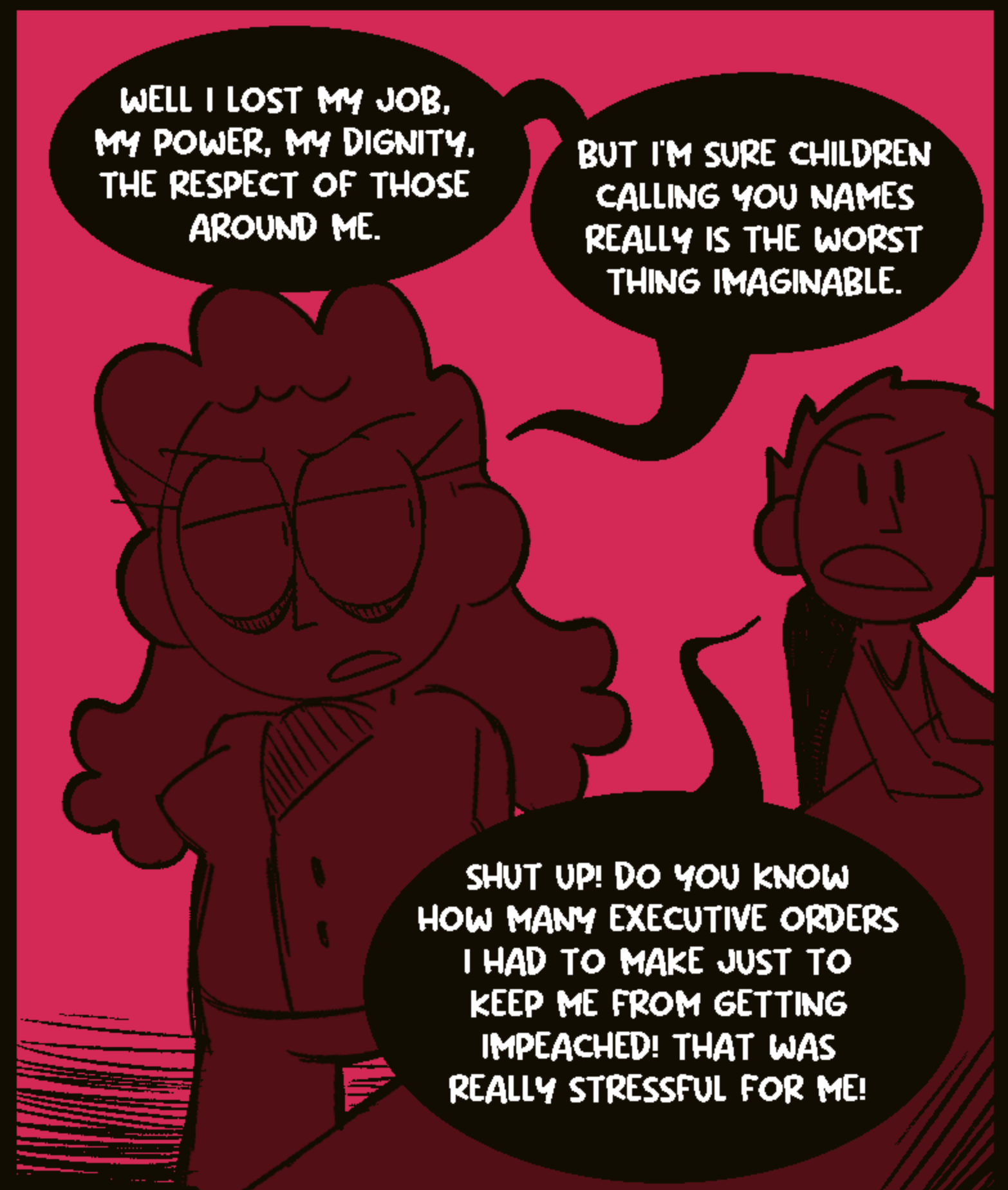
YOU DIDN'T USE WITCHCRAFT,
DID YOU?

OF COURSE NOT!! I'D NEVER USE
WITCHCRAFT BEHIND YOUR BACK!

NOW SERIOUSLY,
TELL ME WHERE YOU'VE
BEEN!

I WAS IN ALASKA.

I CAME BACK CAUSE
I GOT A COURT SUMMONS.





WHY DOES IT SAY
"PROPERTY OF HELL"
ON THE BACK?

BECAUSE IT WAS IN
ONE OF HELL'S "SPECIAL
LIBRARIES." I HAD SOMEONE
STEAL IT FOR ME.



AND...

WHY EXACTLY
DO YOU HAVE THIS?



IF I TELL YOU,
Y- YOU CAN'T TELL
ANYONE ELSE...

OKAY?

UH...
SURE?



LONG AGO, I MET A MAN
NAMED HITCH KEYLIME.

AND HE WAS
PERFECT.





AND NOW, JUST LAST MONTH,
HE AND HIS BROTHER SENT ME
A LETTER FROM HELL...

HIS BROTHER THINKS I KILLED HITCH.
AND NOW THEY WANT TO KILL ME...



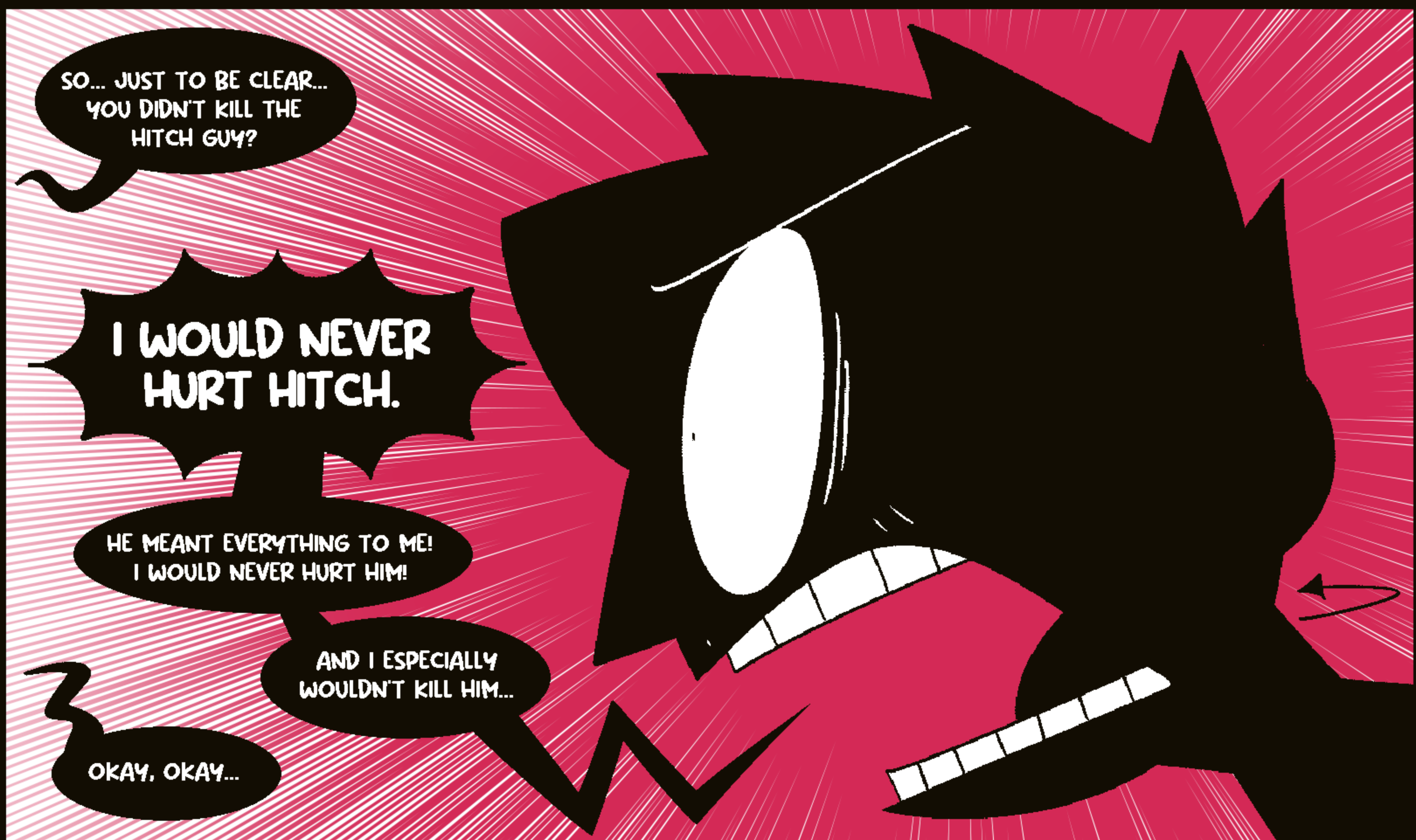
IT FEELS LIKE EVERYTHING'S
FALLING APART.

I'M... I'M
TERRIFIED.



SHIT.

MMMM.



SO... JUST TO BE CLEAR...
YOU DIDN'T KILL THE
HITCH GUY?

**I WOULD NEVER
HURT HITCH.**

HE MEANT EVERYTHING TO ME!
I WOULD NEVER HURT HIM!

AND I ESPECIALLY
WOULDN'T KILL HIM...

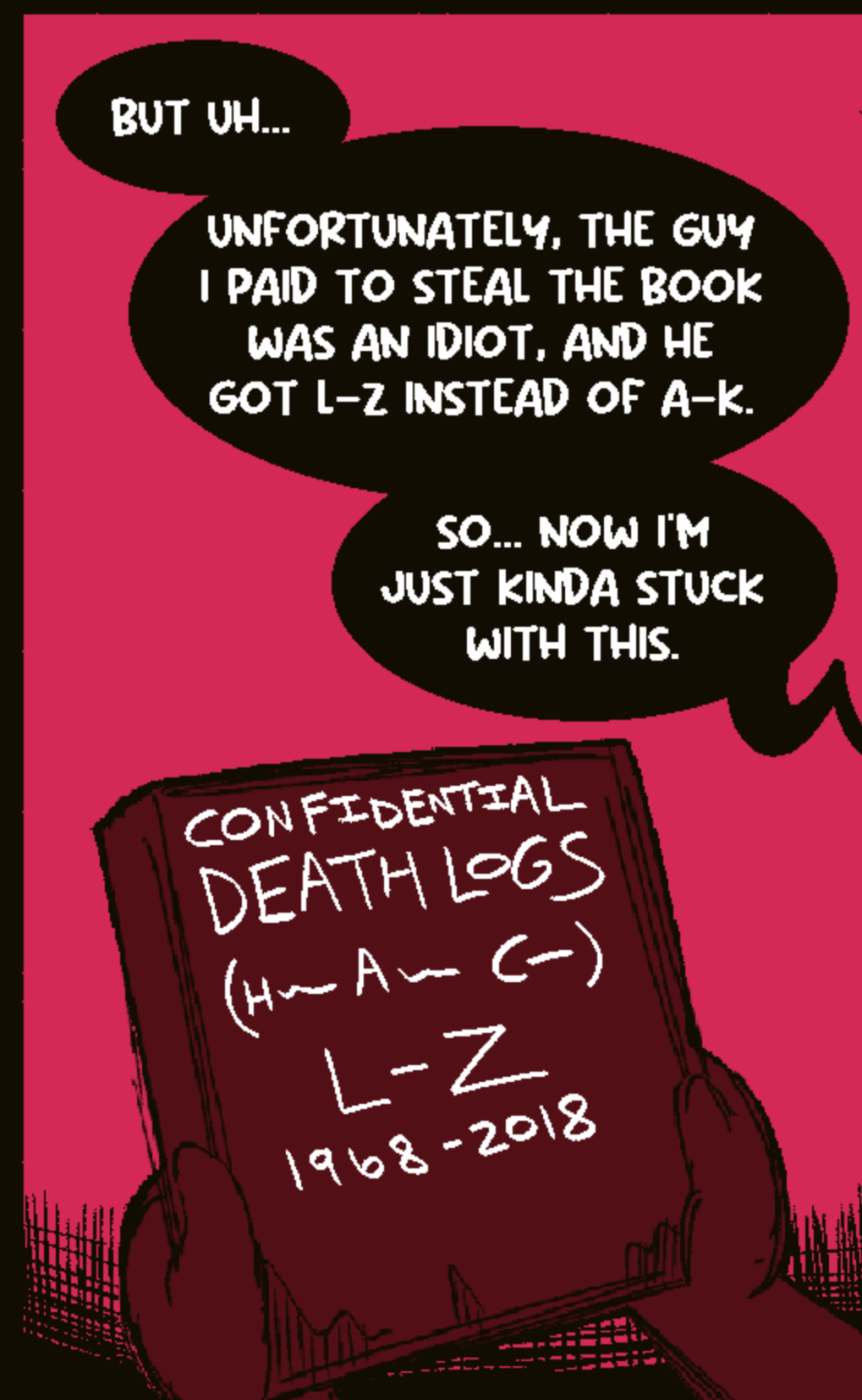
OKAY, OKAY...



AND THAT'S WHY
I HAVE THIS BOOK!

TO PROVE TO THEM THAT
I COULDN'T'VE KILLED HITCH!

IF I TRULY DID KILL HIM,
IT WOULD SAY SO IN HERE!



BUT UH...

UNFORTUNATELY, THE GUY
I PAID TO STEAL THE BOOK
WAS AN IDIOT, AND HE
GOT L-Z INSTEAD OF A-K.

SO... NOW I'M
JUST KINDA STUCK
WITH THIS.



MAYOR BONES?

UGH, WHAT??!!

THEY'RE
HERE.

ALRIGHT, GIVE ME
A MINUTE.



WELL UH, ANYWAY...



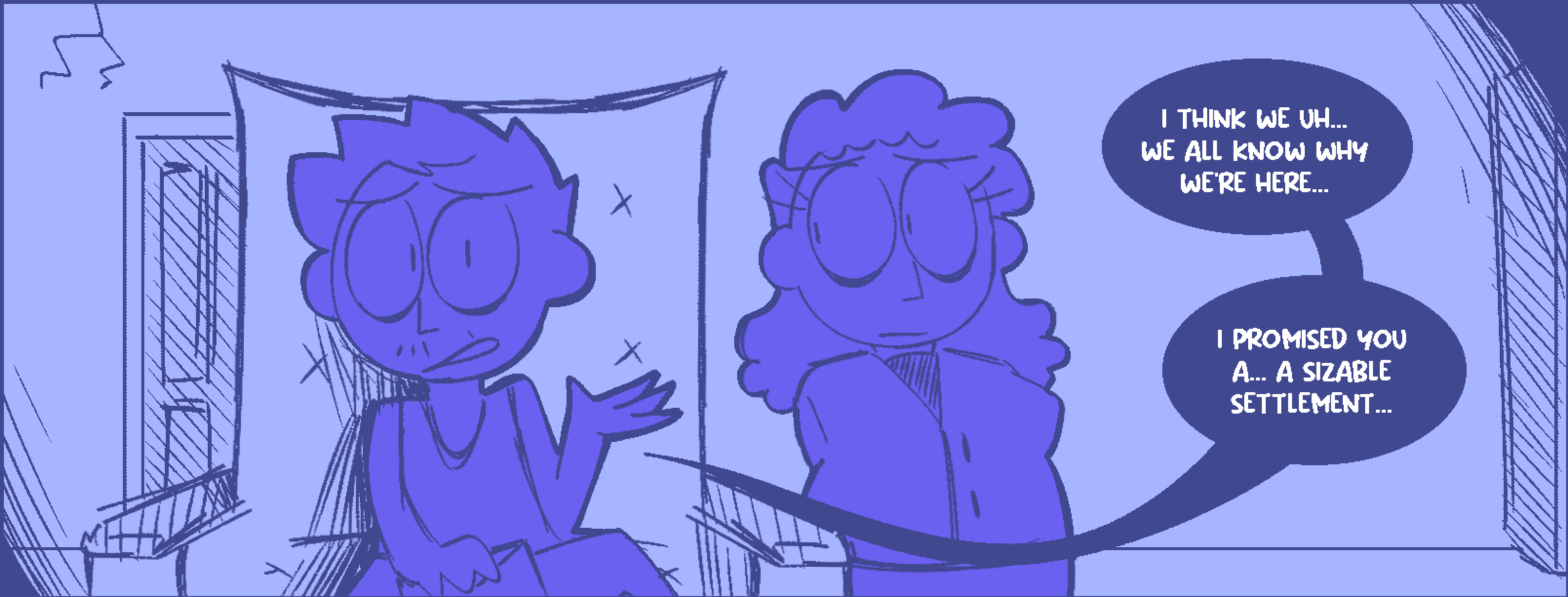
YOU SHOULD UH, PROBABLY
STICK AROUND FOR THE UH,
SETTLEMENT THING.

IT'S PROBABLY NOT GONNA
GO GREAT, BUT UH... IT'D
BE... NICE IF YOU WERE HERE.



...thank you.





I THINK WE UH...
WE ALL KNOW WHY
WE'RE HERE...

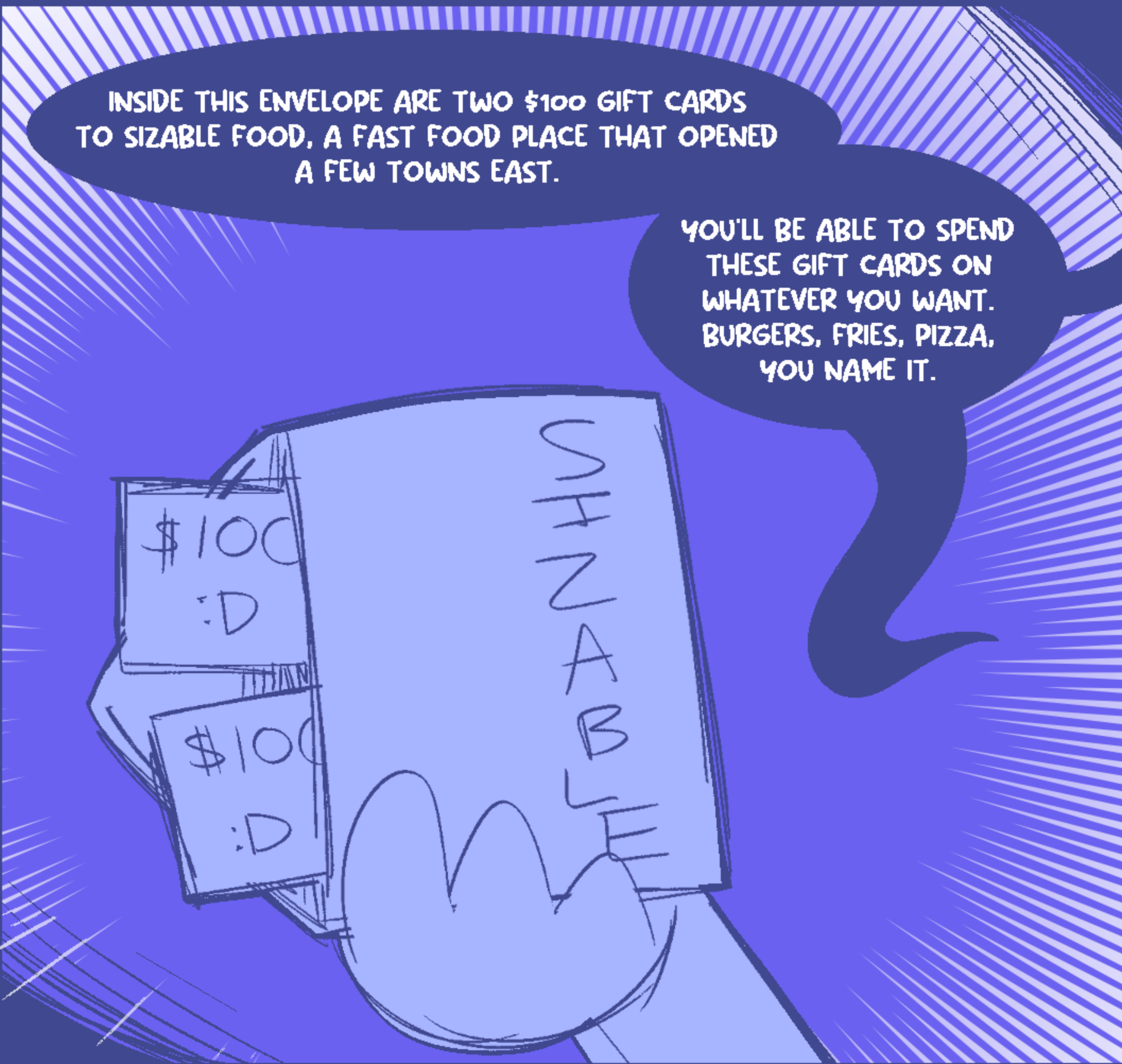
I PROMISED YOU
A... A SIZABLE
SETTLEMENT...



INHALE!



AND THAT'S EXACTLY
WHAT I INTEND TO
GIVE YOU.



INSIDE THIS ENVELOPE ARE TWO \$100 GIFT CARDS
TO SIZABLE FOOD, A FAST FOOD PLACE THAT OPENED
A FEW TOWNS EAST.

YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SPEND
THESE GIFT CARDS ON
WHATEVER YOU WANT.
BURGERS, FRIES, PIZZA,
YOU NAME IT.



PLUS, EACH GIFT CARD CONTAINS
50 GAMER TOKENS, WHICH CAN
BE USED TO PLAY SIZABLE FOOD'S
VARIOUS ARCADE OFFERINGS.





IF YOU'RE JUST GONNA WASTE
OUR TIME LIKE THIS, THEN WE'RE
SENDING YOUR ASSES TO COURT!

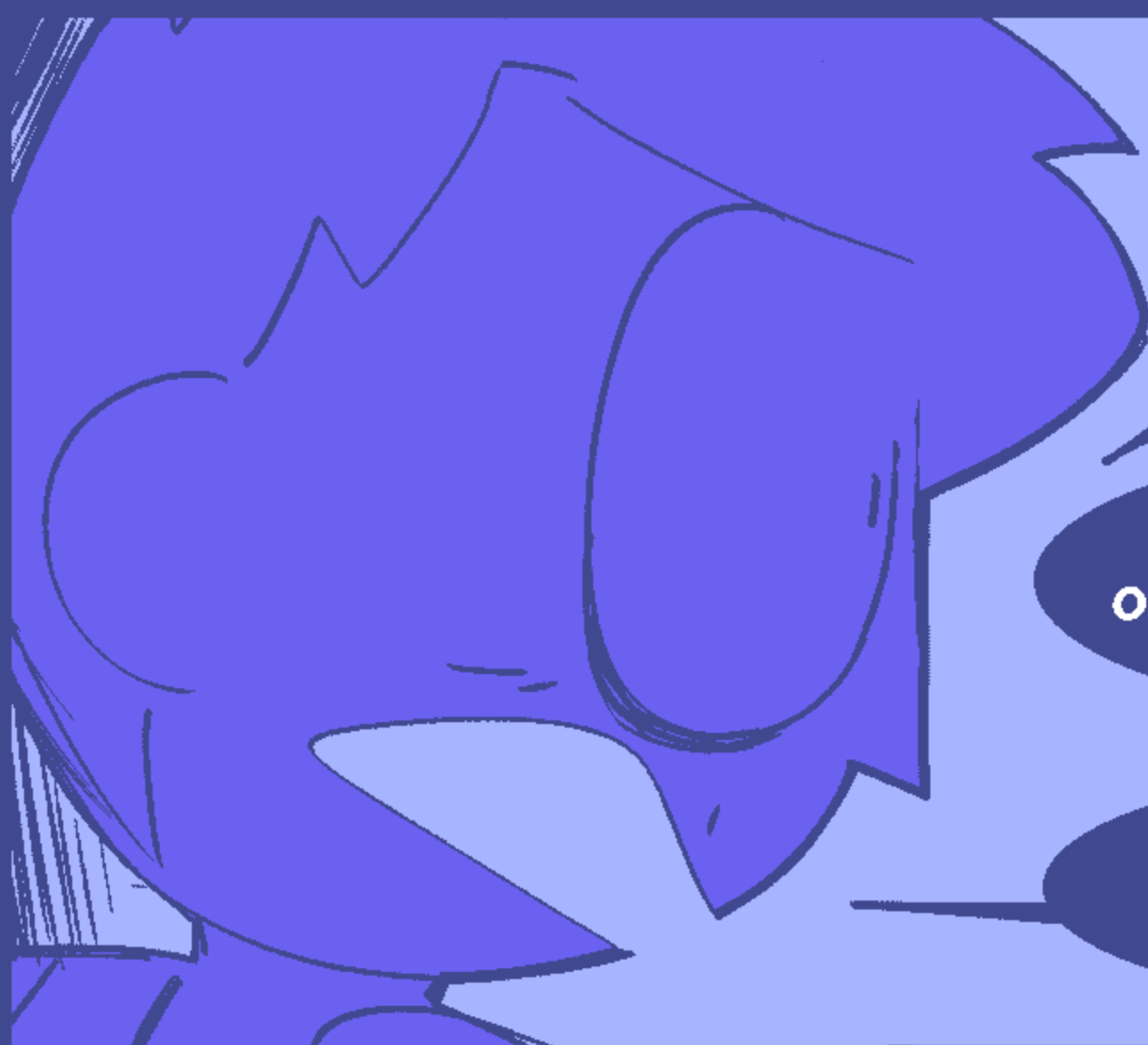


OH LIKE YOU CAN
EVEN AFFORD TO!!

WHAT DO YOU DO
FOR A LIVING, ANYWAY?

I SELL SEASHELL ART
ON THE BOARDWALK.

OH THAT'S A
BABY JOB! ONLY
BABIES HAVE THAT
JOB!



AND YOU!! YOU'RE JUST
A STUPID FRY COOK! THAT'S
NOT A REAL JOB EITHER!

YES IT IS!!! IT TAKES A LOT
OF HARD WORK AND GRIT TO--

YEAH YEAH, WHATEVER--



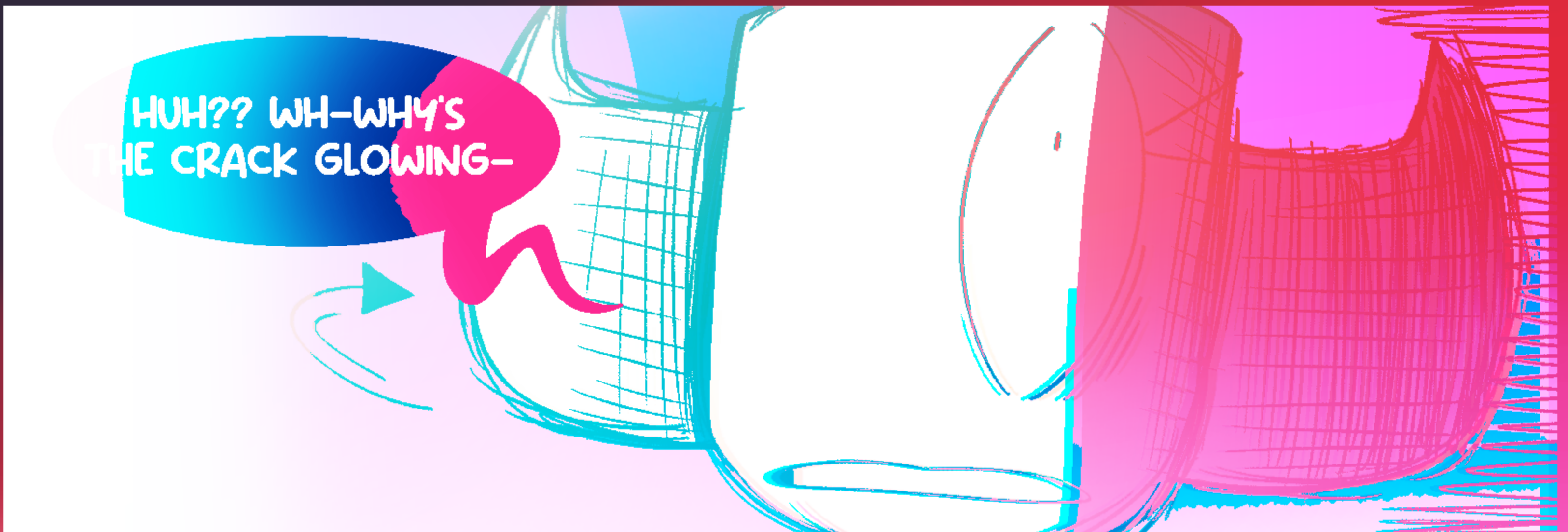
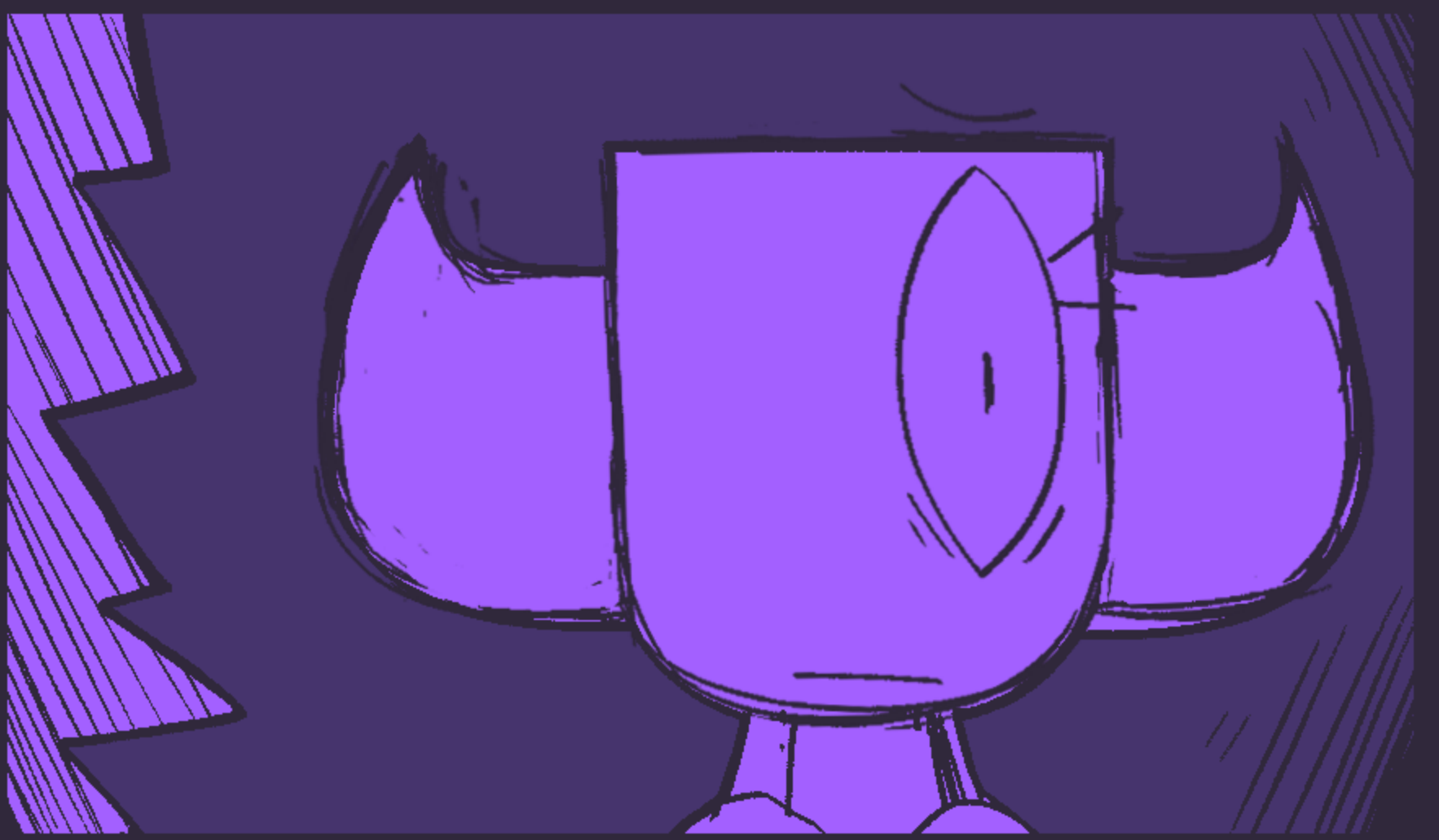
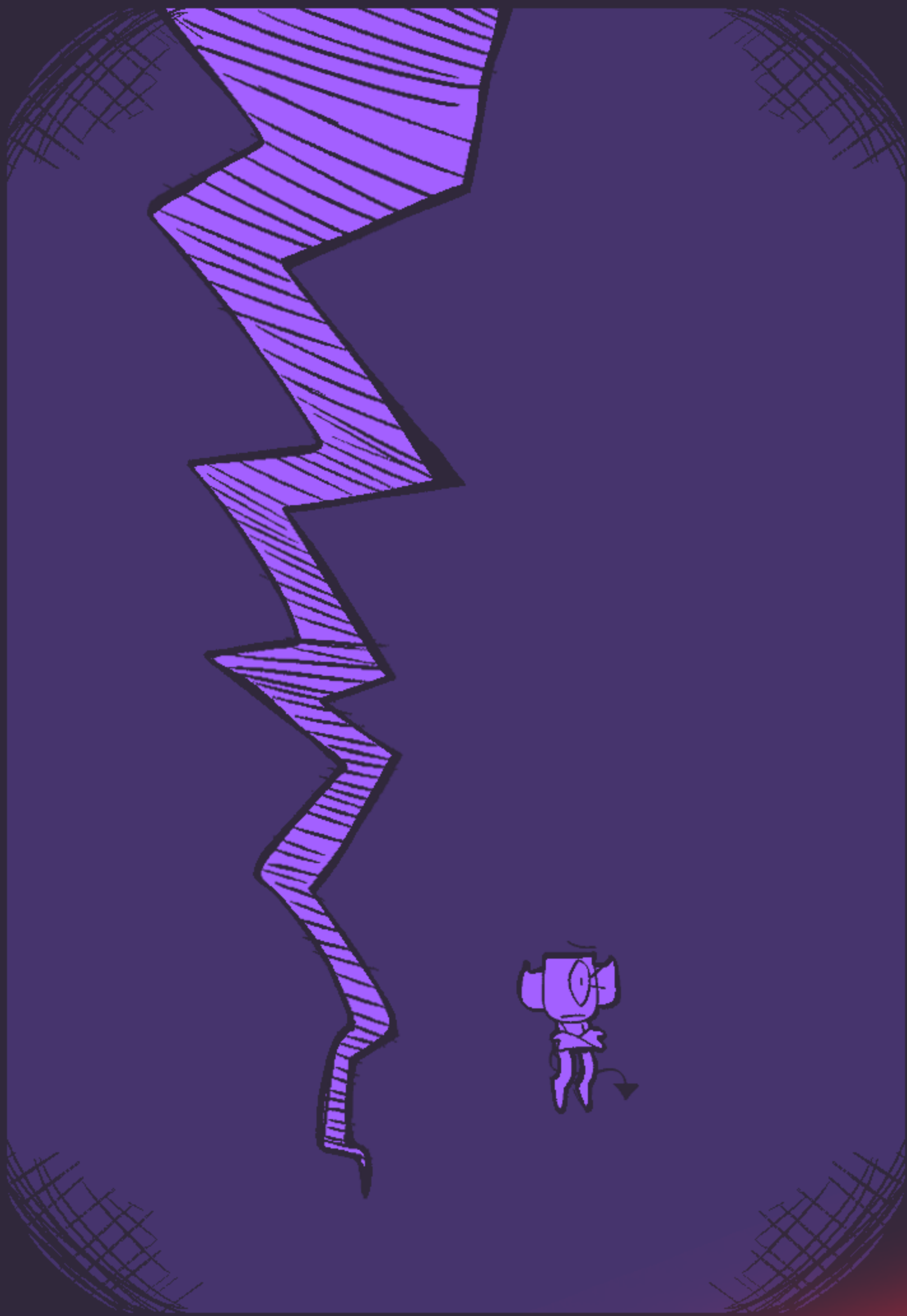
THE POINT IS... NONE OF US
ARE IN ANY STABLE POSITION
TO GO TO COURT. SO WHAT ARE
WE EVEN DOING HERE?

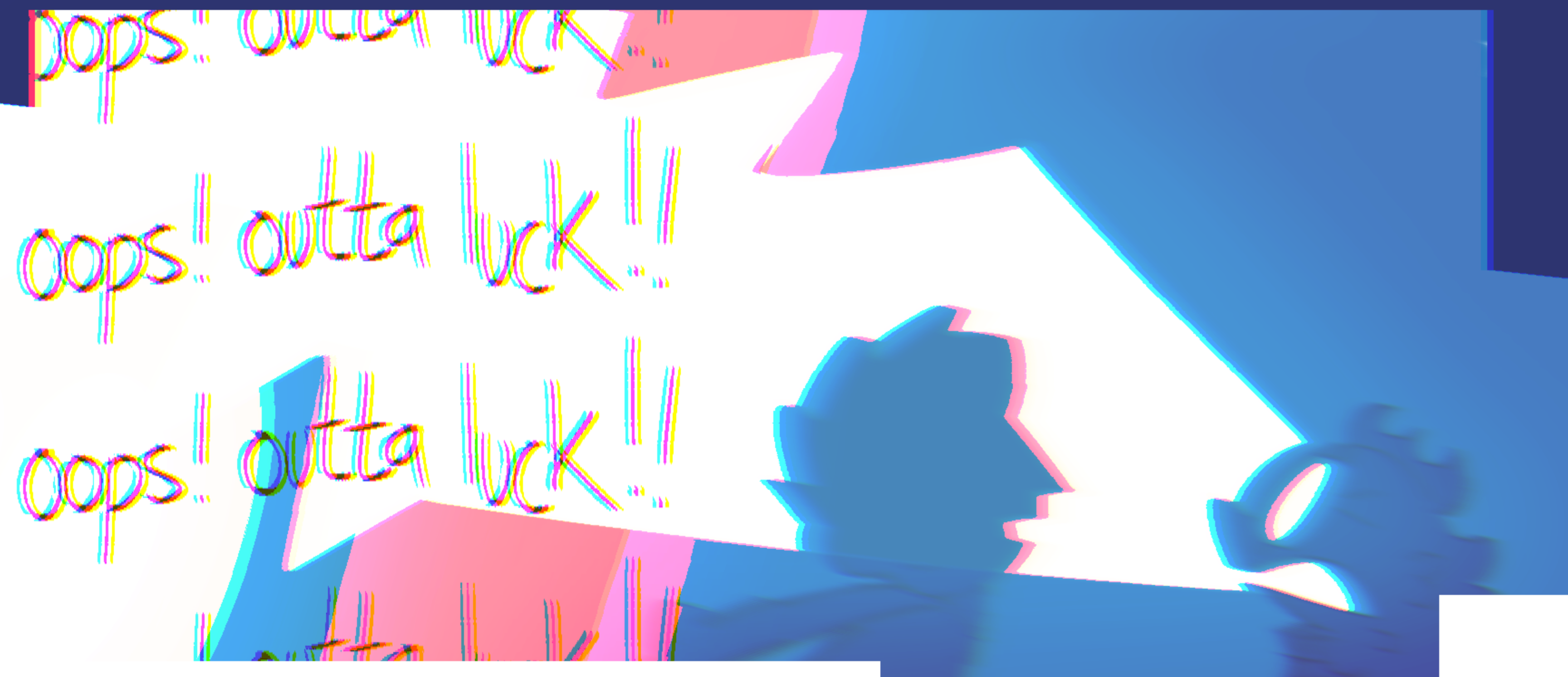
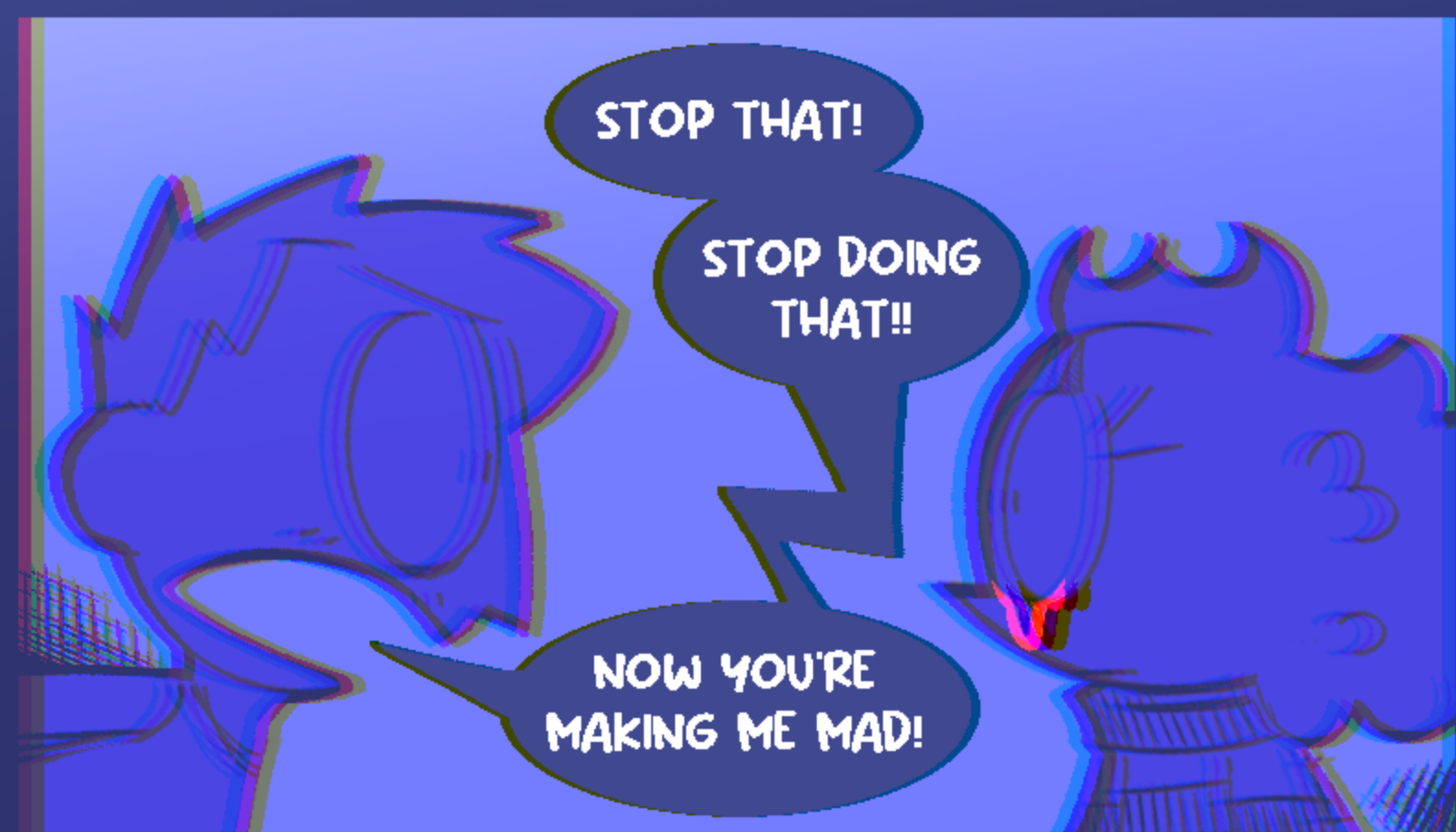
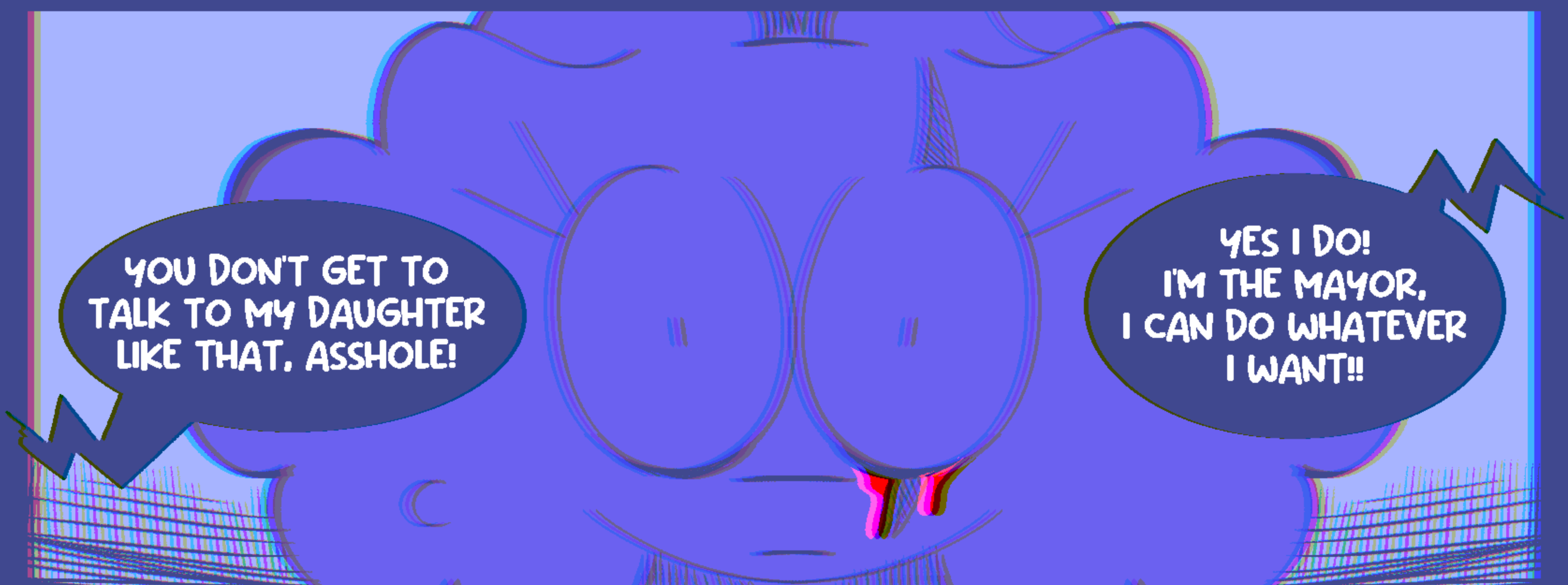
I FUCKED UP! I'M SORRY!
LET'S JUST CUT OUR LOSSES
AND LEAVE IT AT THAT!

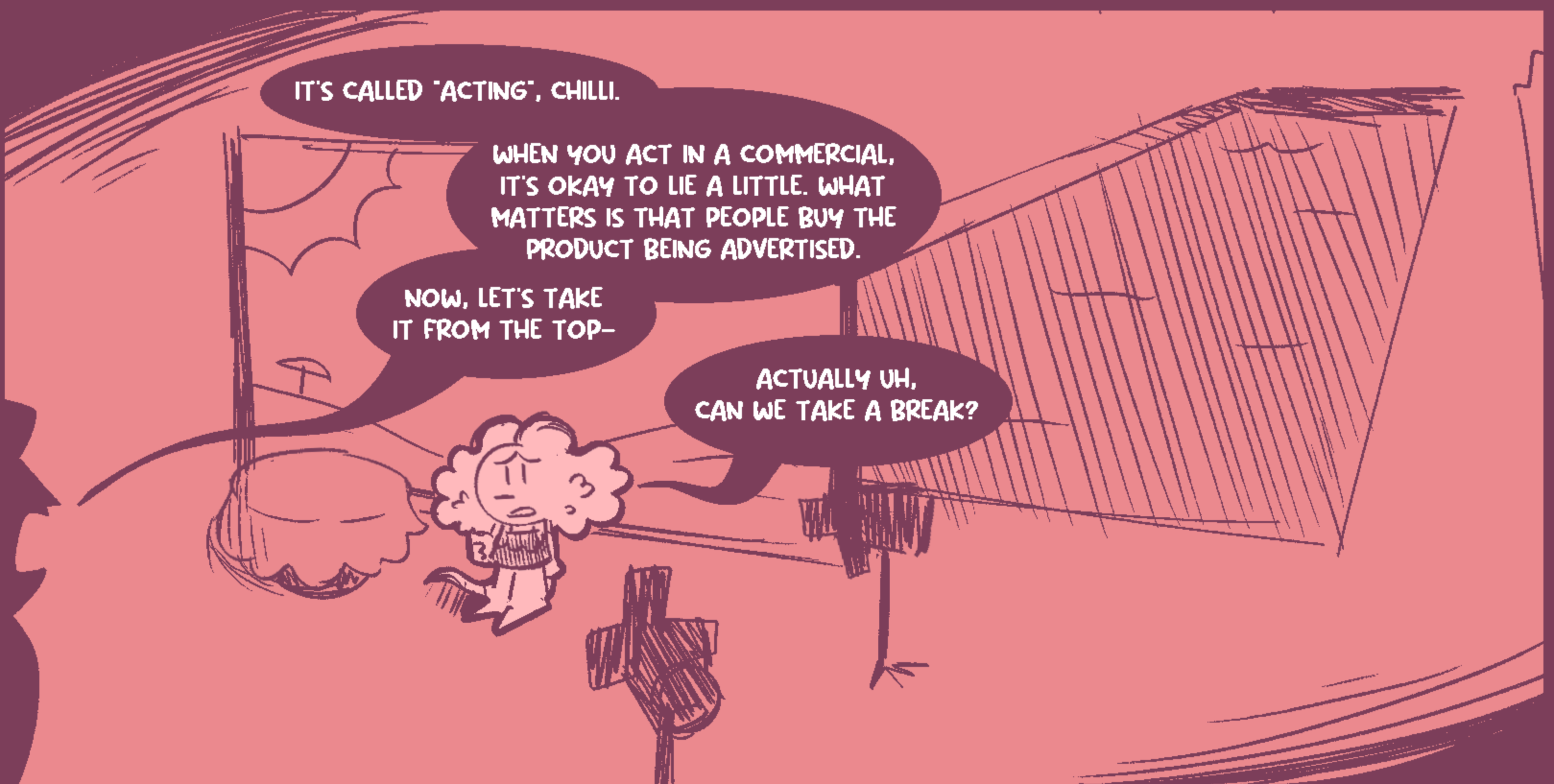
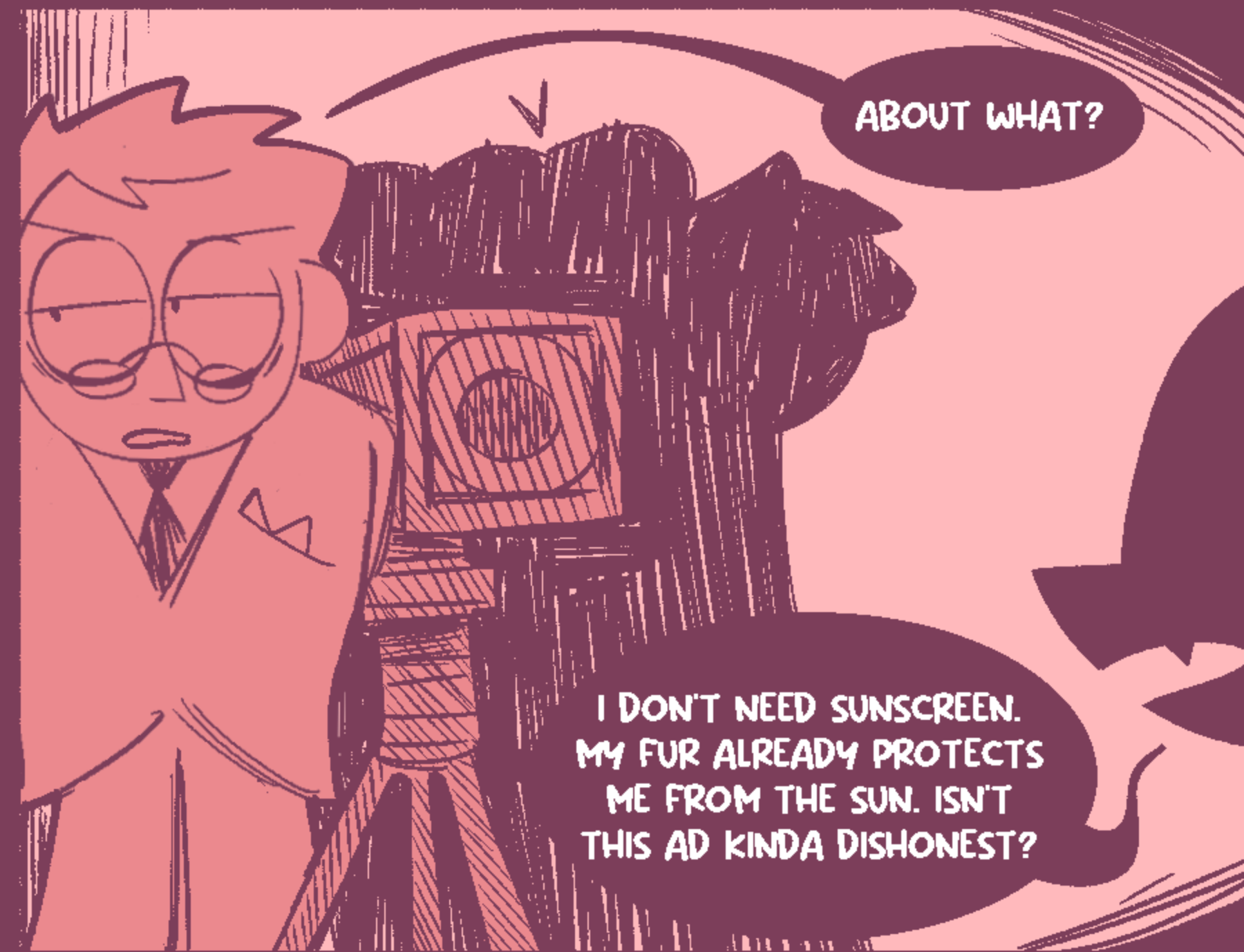
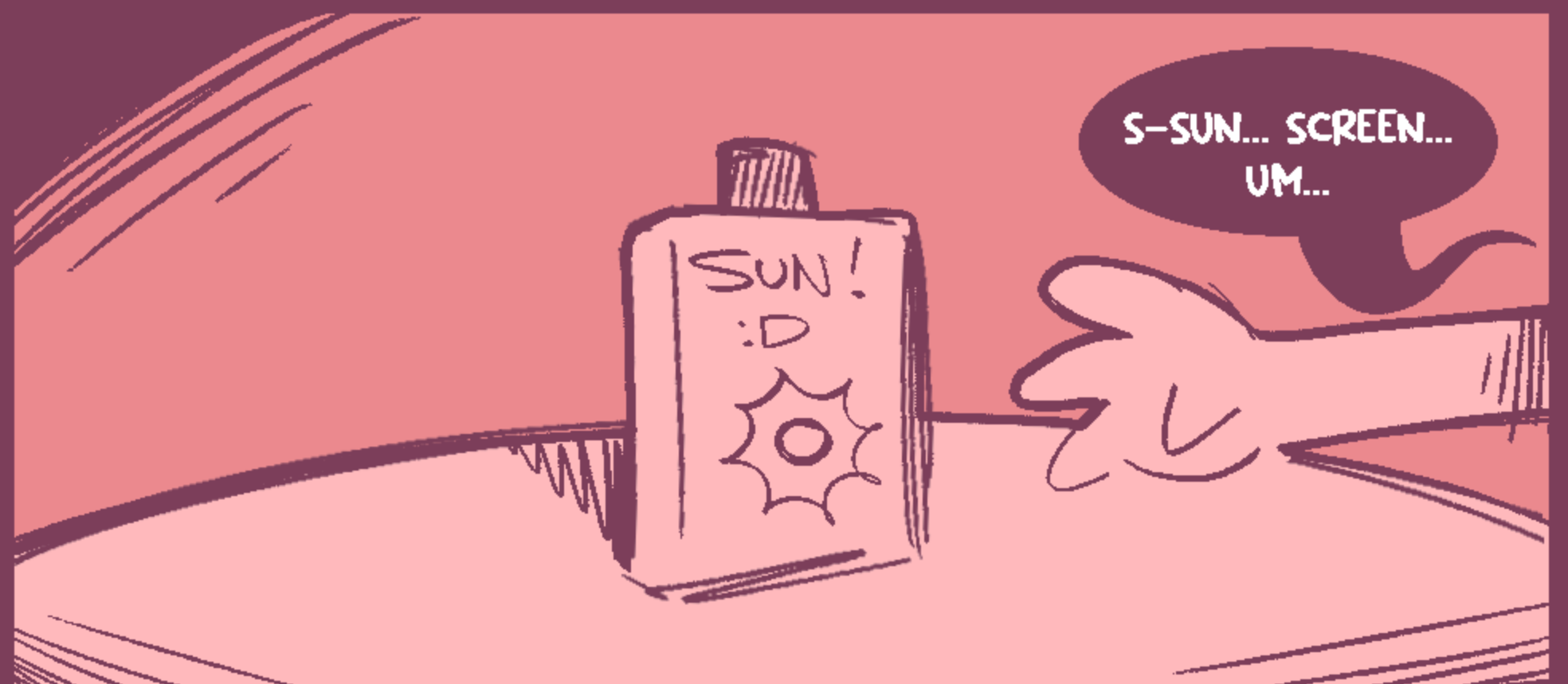
Y-YEAH, WH-WHAT
BONES SAID--

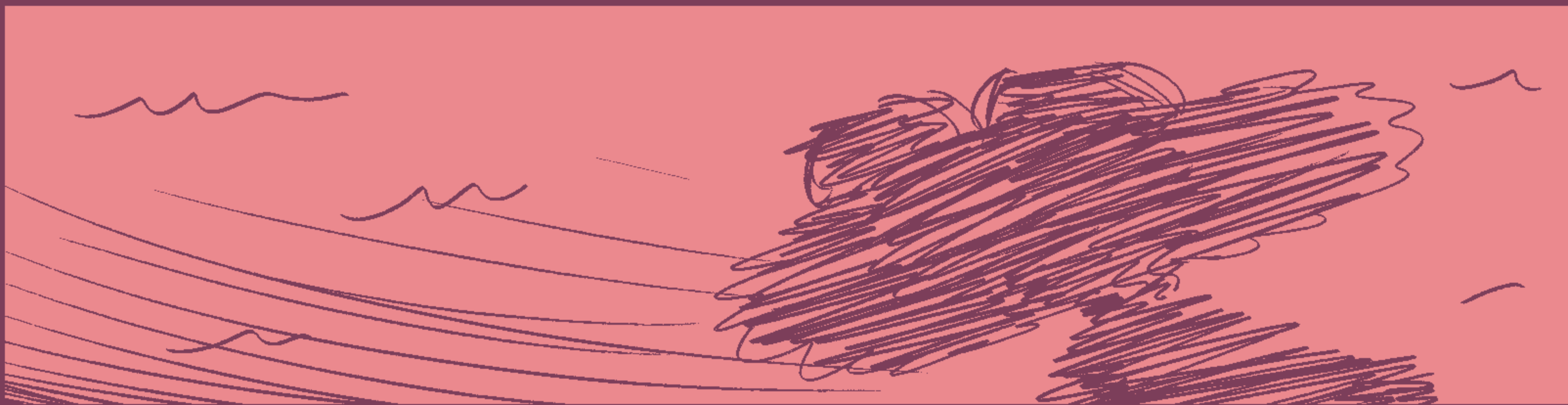
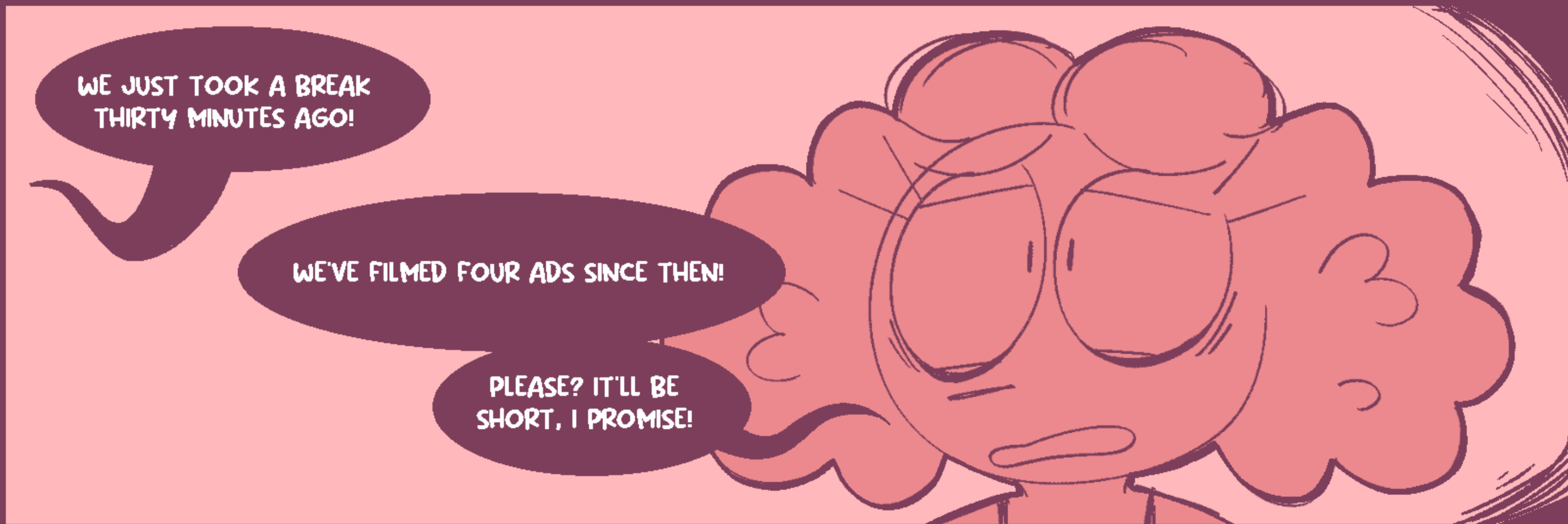


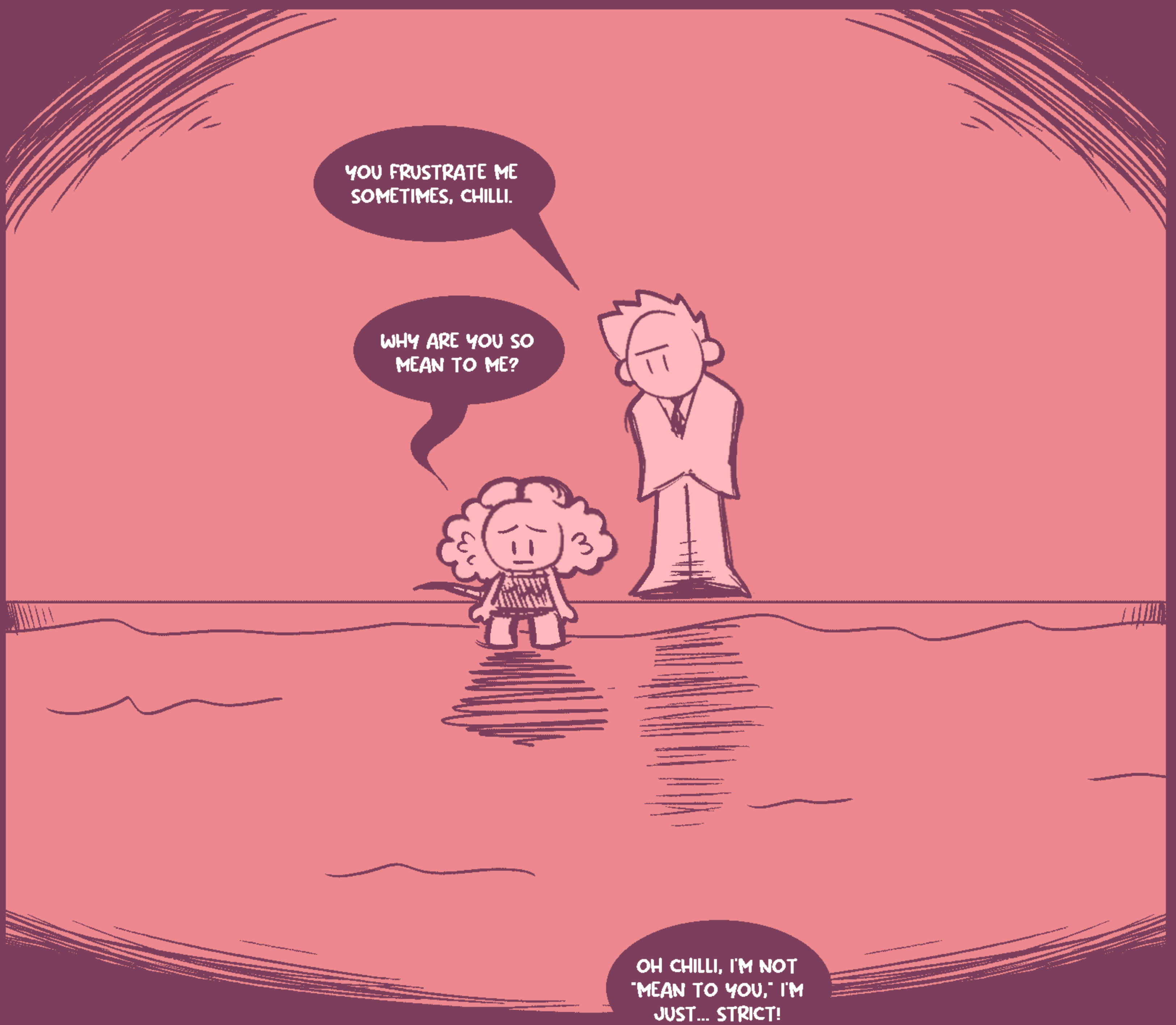


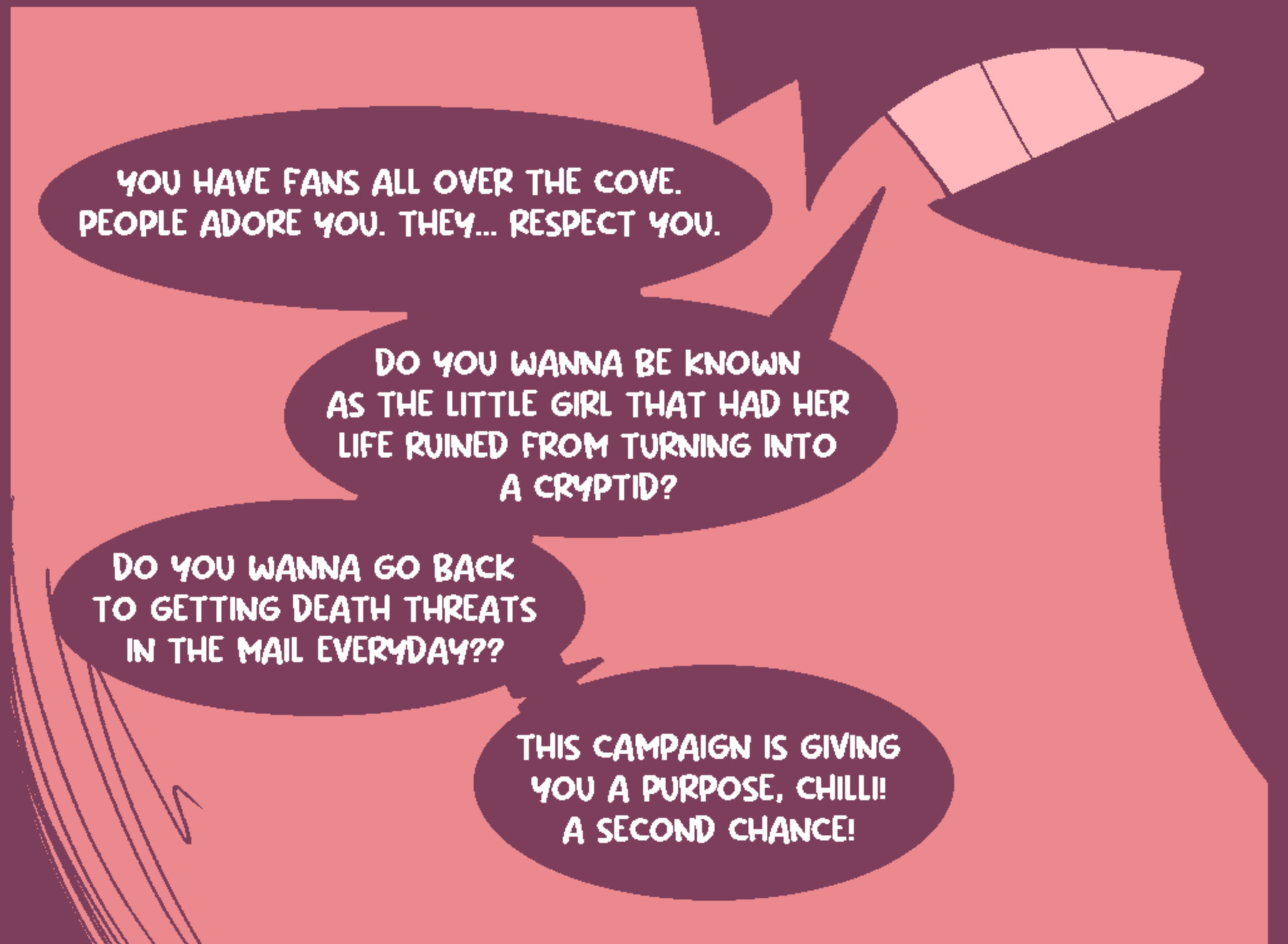








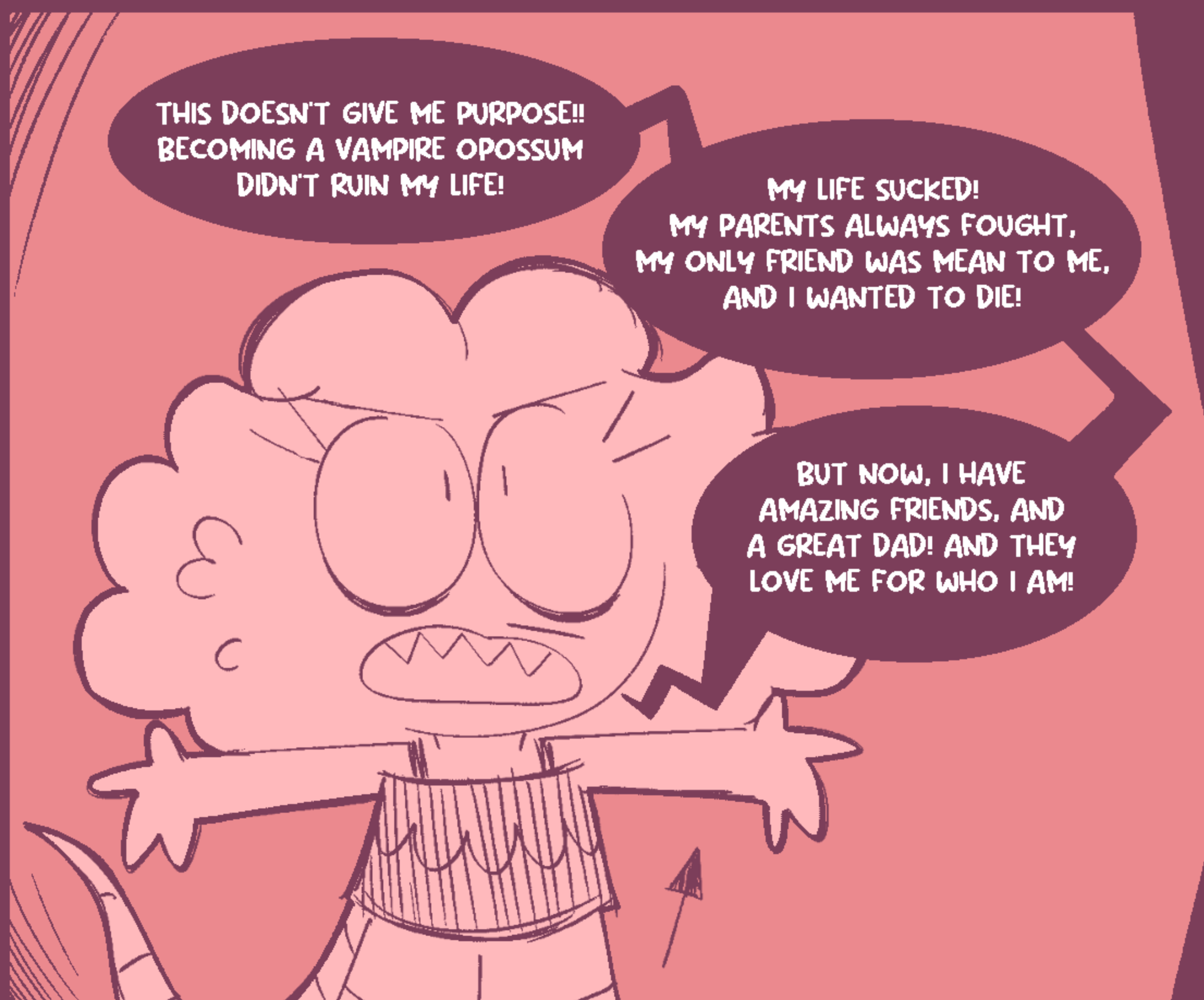






IT WOULD BE SUICIDE
TO THROW AWAY THIS
OPPORTUNITY.

WHAT ARE
YOU TALKING
ABOUT?!



THIS DOESN'T GIVE ME PURPOSE!!
BECOMING A VAMPIRE OPOSSUM
DIDN'T RUIN MY LIFE!

MY LIFE SUCKED!
MY PARENTS ALWAYS FOUGHT,
MY ONLY FRIEND WAS MEAN TO ME,
AND I WANTED TO DIE!

BUT NOW, I HAVE
AMAZING FRIENDS, AND
A GREAT DAD! AND THEY
LOVE ME FOR WHO I AM!

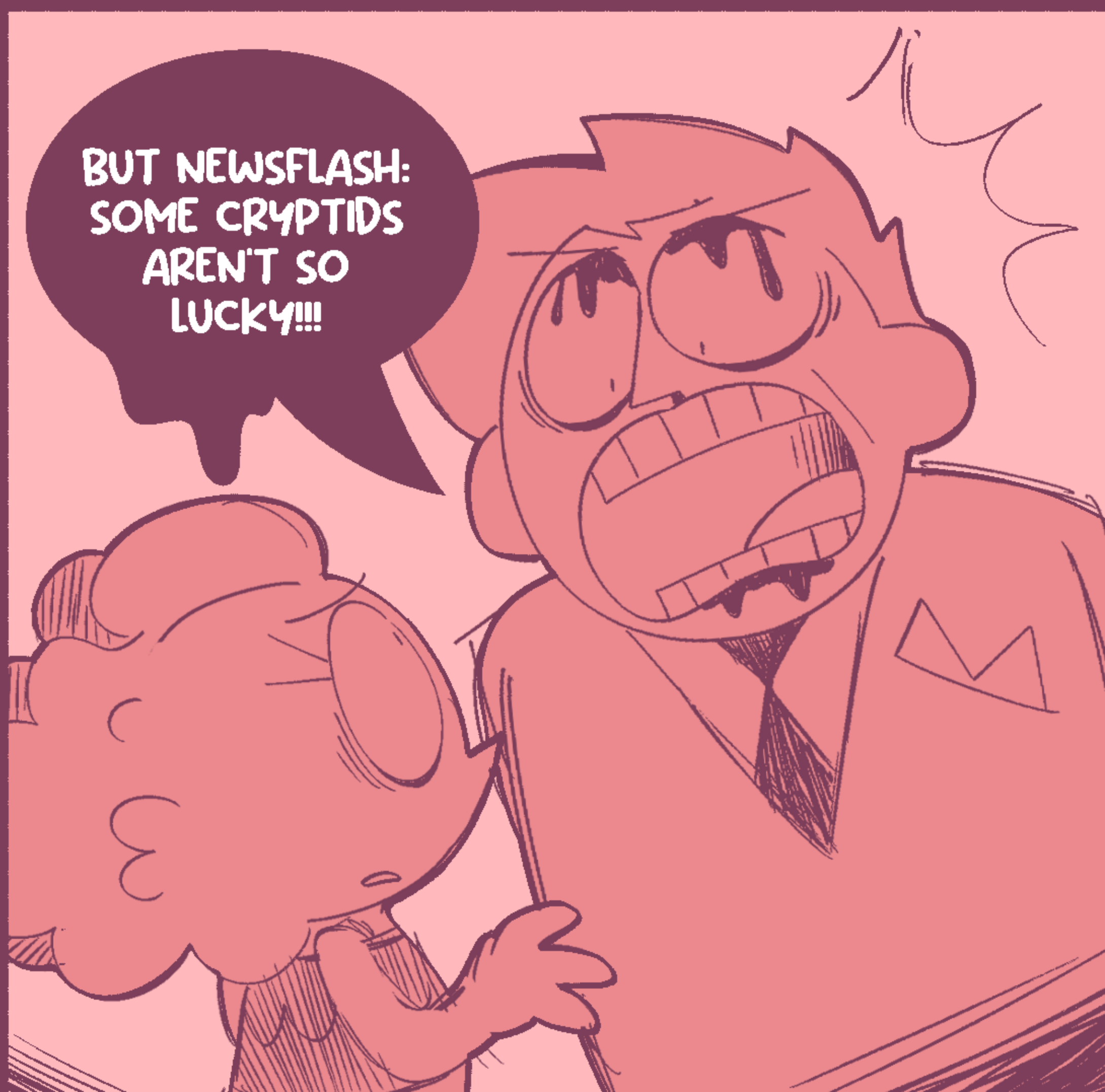


BECOMING A CRYPTID
WAS THE BEST THING TO
EVER HAPPEN TO ME!



WELL GOOD FOR YOU,
CHILLI...

IT MUST BE REALLY NICE
TO SAY THAT.



BUT NEWSFLASH:
SOME CRYPTIDS
AREN'T SO
LUCKY!!!



SOME CRYPTIDS DON'T HAVE SUPPORTIVE PEOPLE IN THEIR LIVES!

SOME CRYPTIDS HAD THEIR LIVES RUINED BECAUSE THEY BECAME A CRYPTID!

SOME CRYPTIDS AREN'T AS FUCKING LUCKY AS YOU, YOU LITTLE SHIT!



M-MAYOR BONES,
Y-YOU'RE SCARING ME...

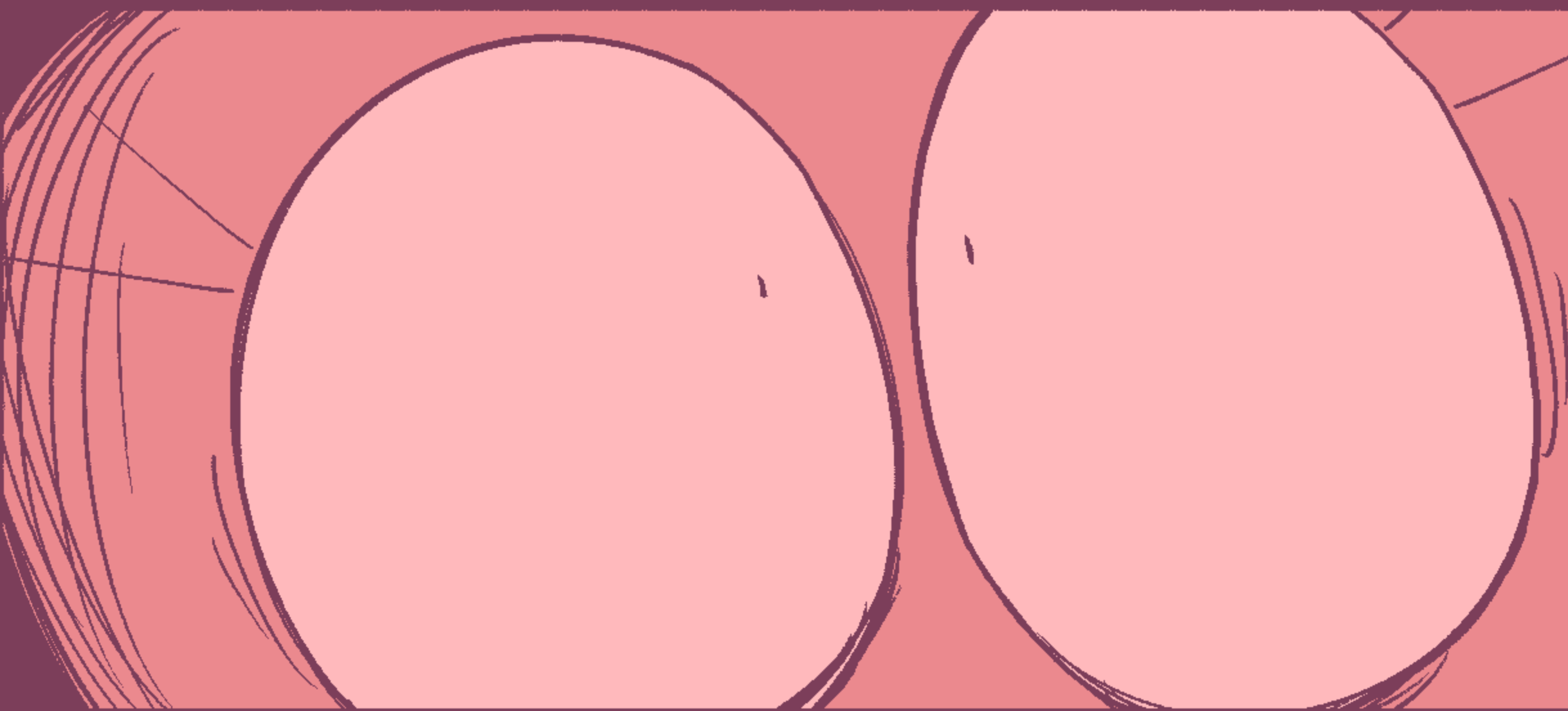


IT'S NOT FAIR!!



BACK OFF!!

KICK!



SCHLOP

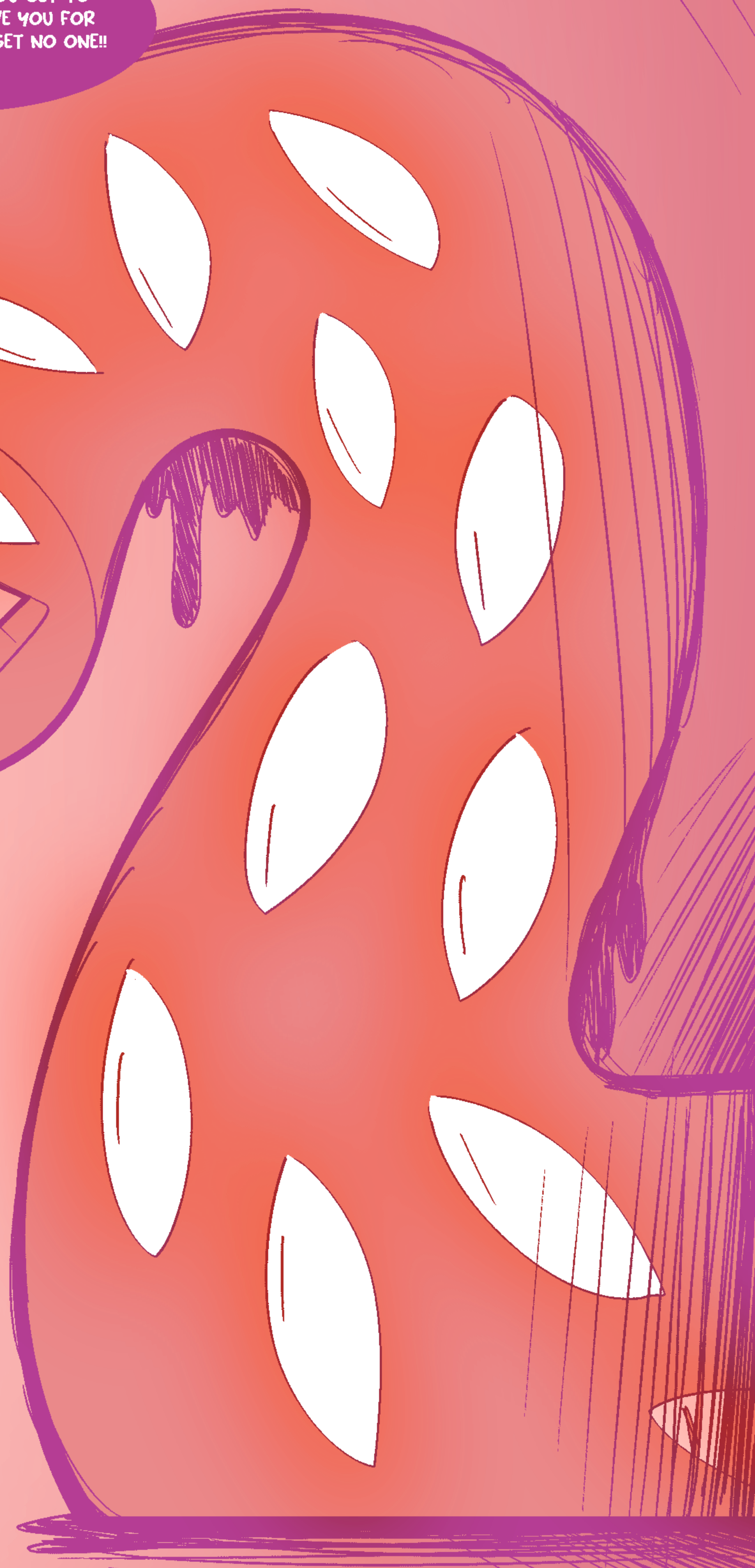
IT'S...
IT'S NEVER BEEN FAIR...

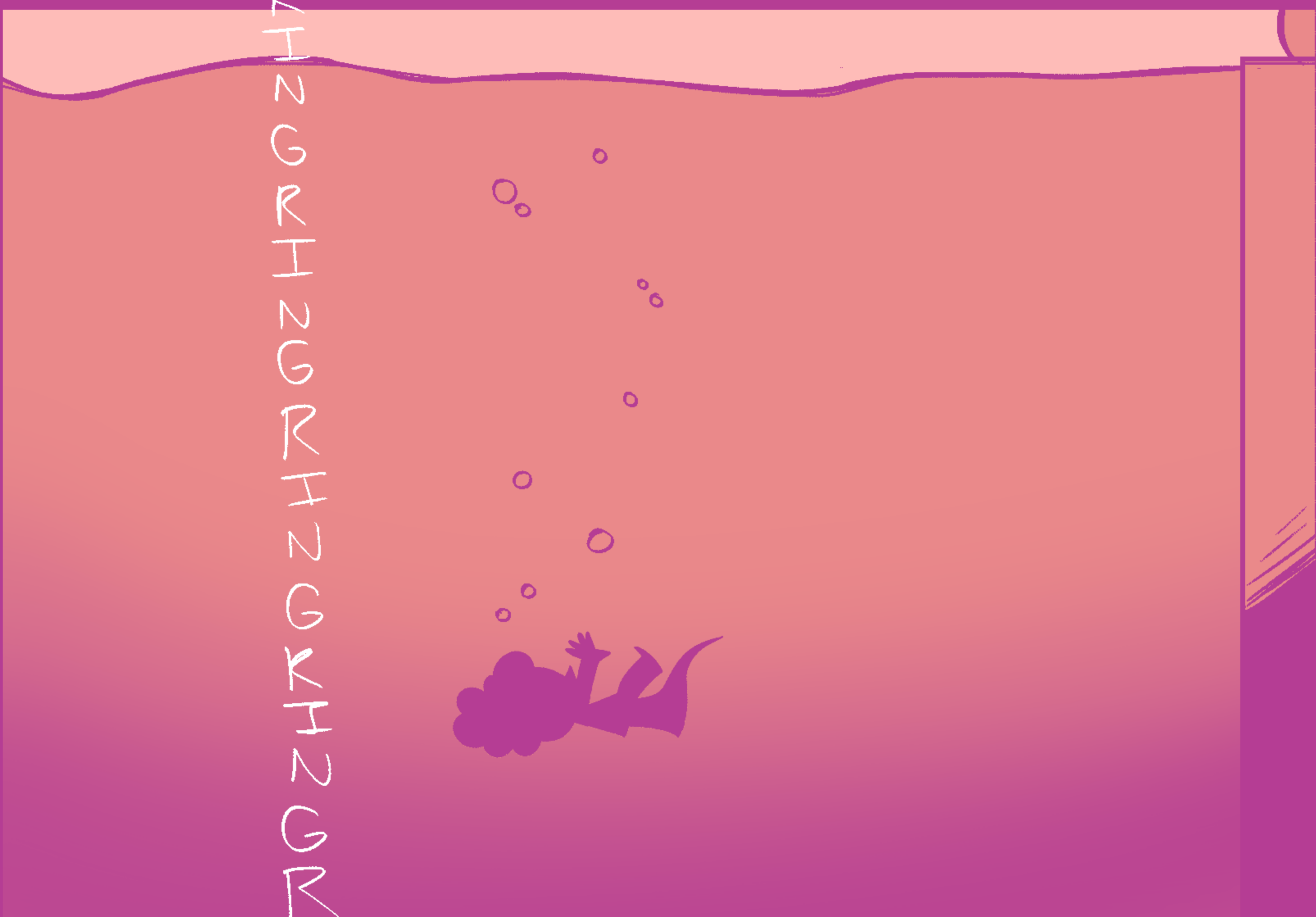
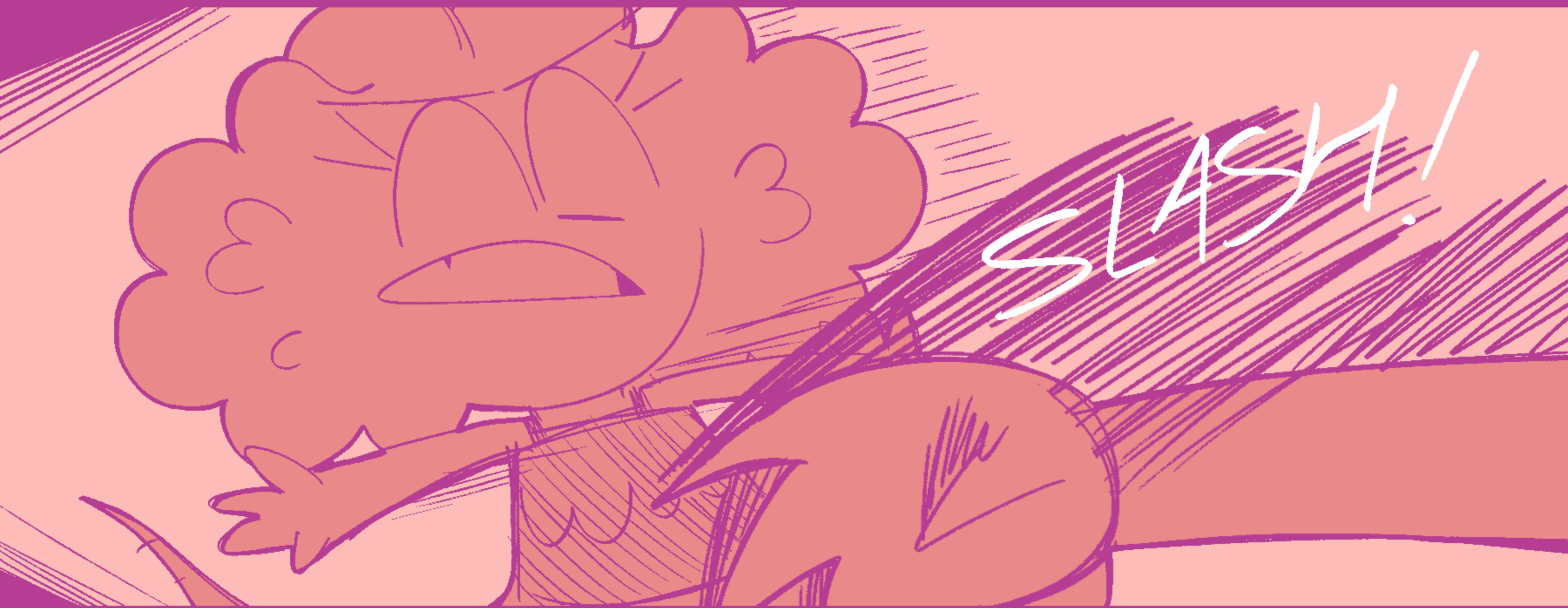
SMUDGE

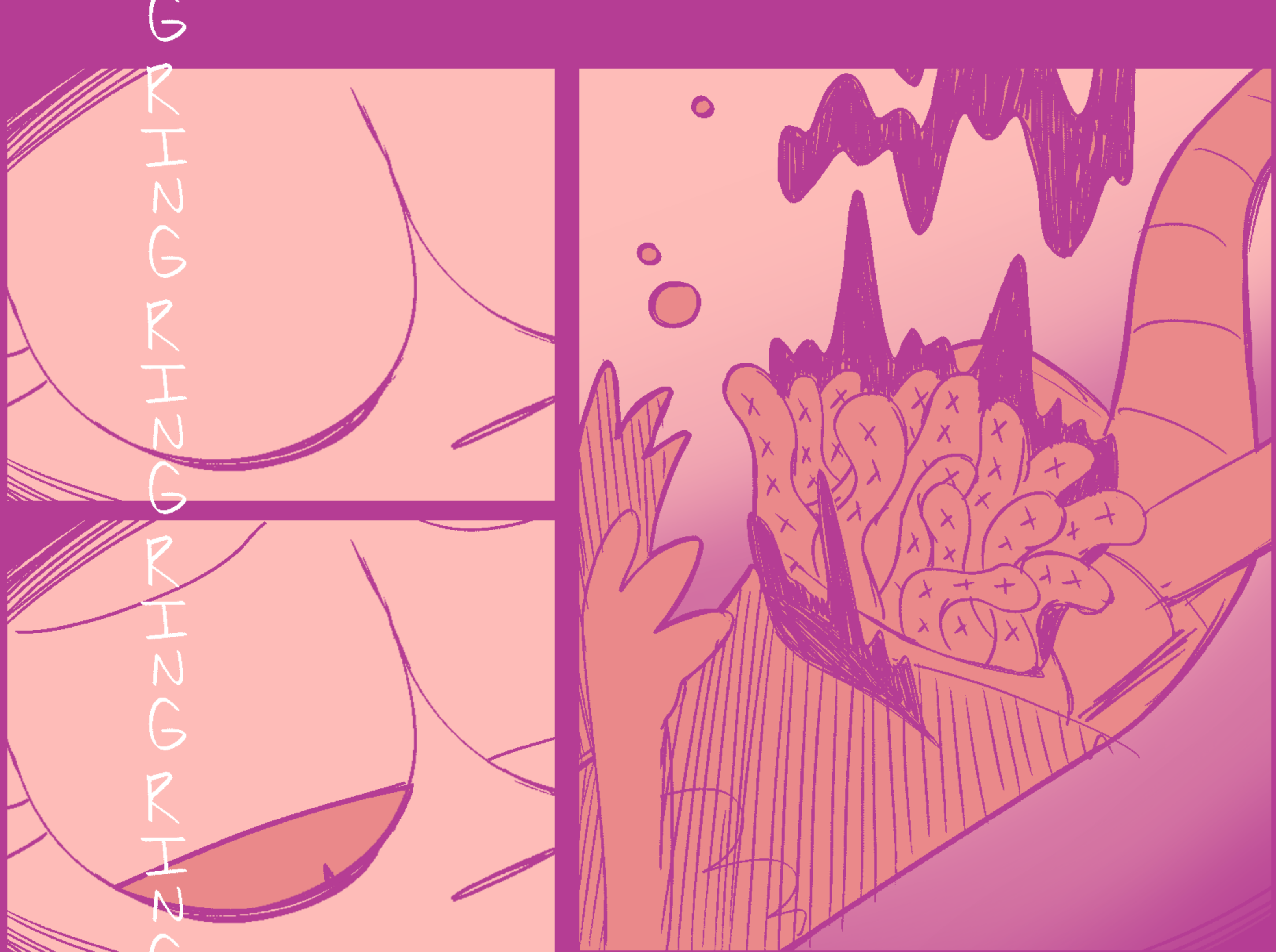
IT'S NOT FAIR THAT YOU GET TO
LIVE YOUR LIFE IN PEACE, WHILE
I HAVE TO SUFFER THROUGH IT
IN FEAR!!

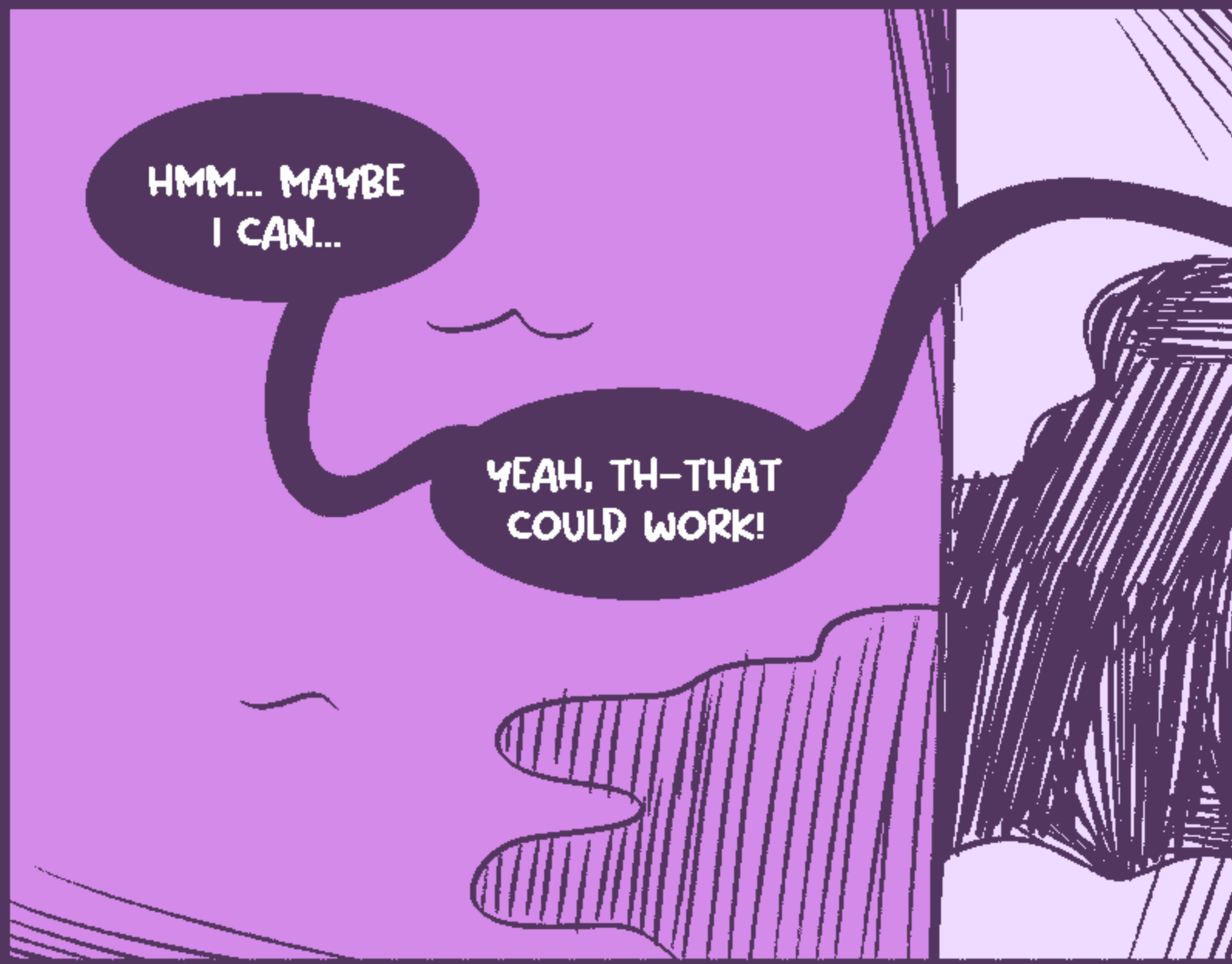
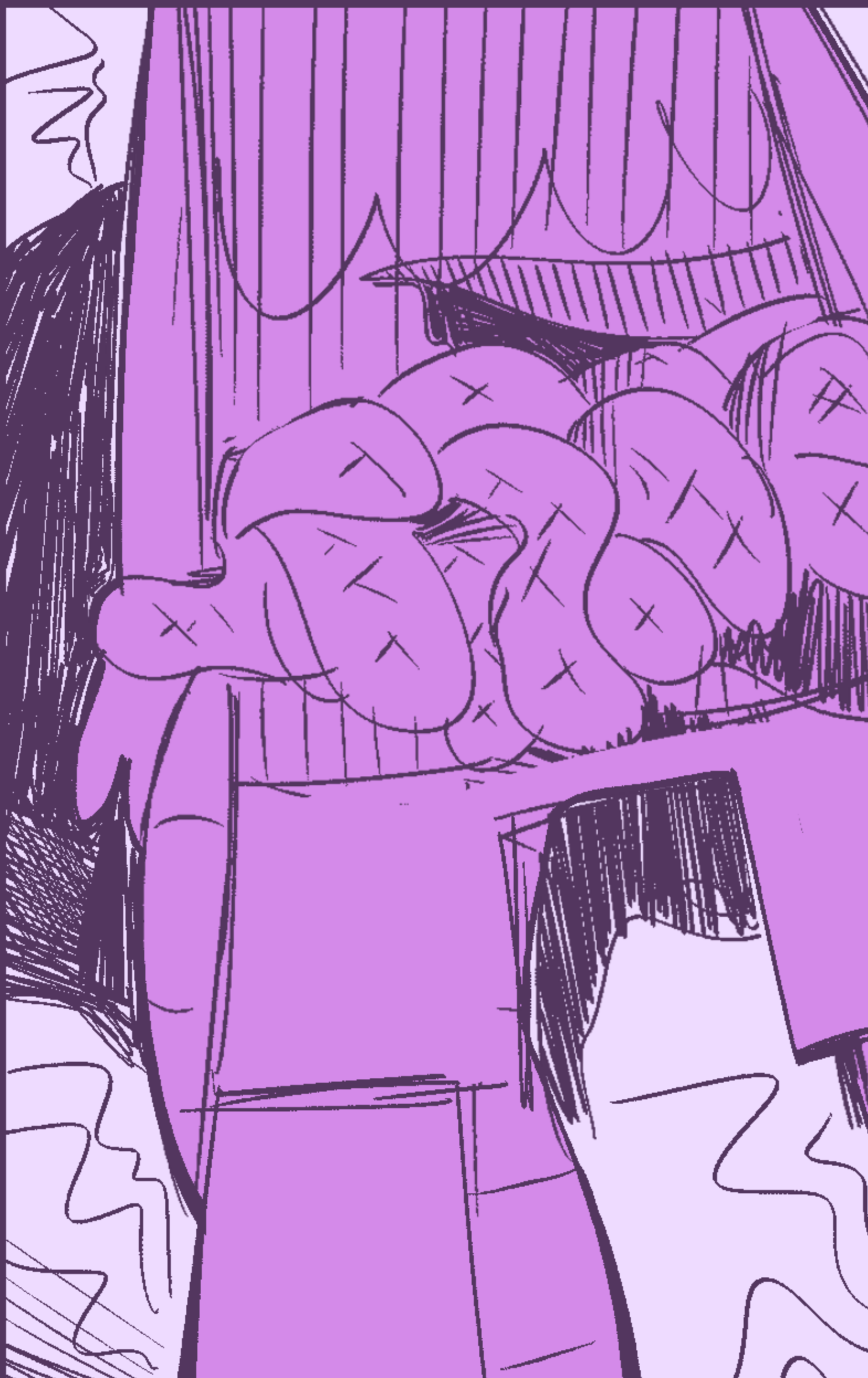
IT'S NOT FAIR THAT YOU GET TO
HAVE PEOPLE WHO LOVE YOU FOR
WHO YOU ARE, WHILE I GET NO ONE!!

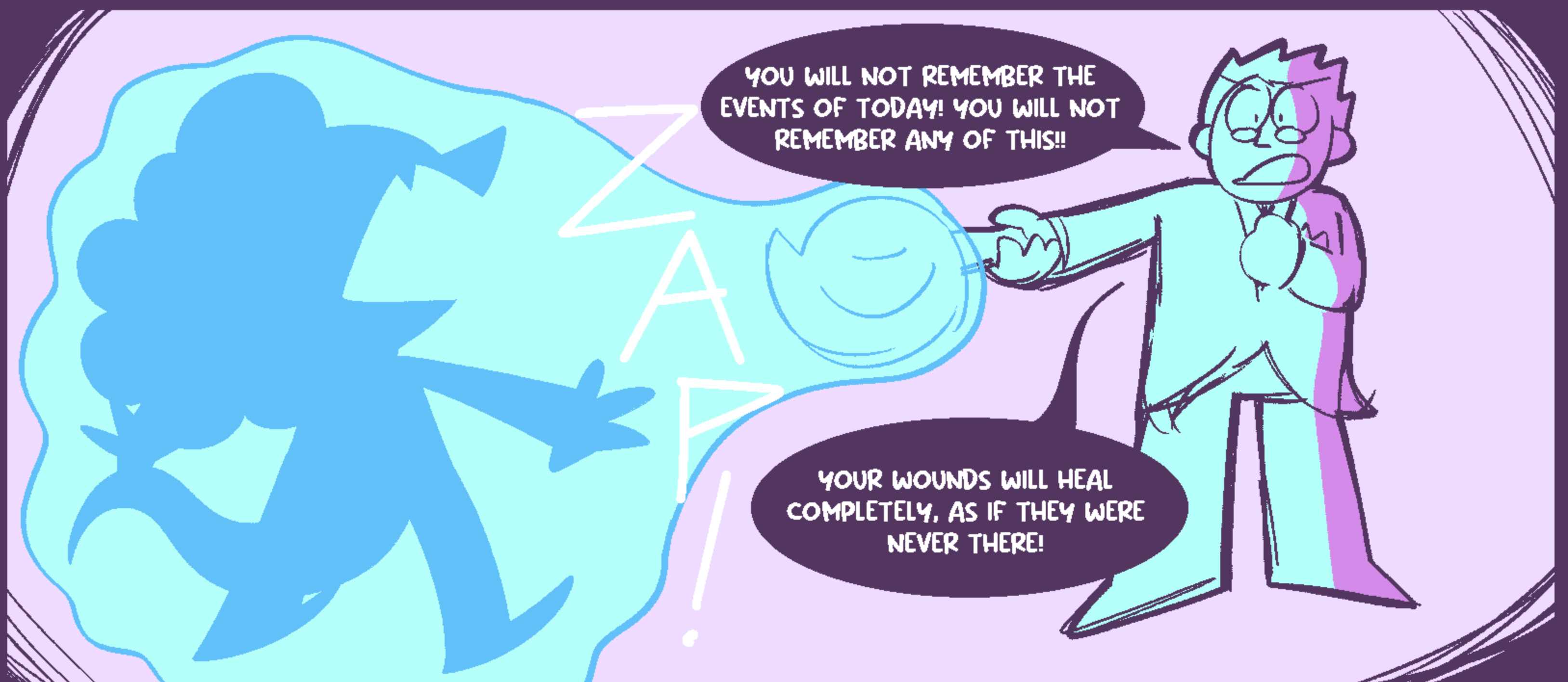
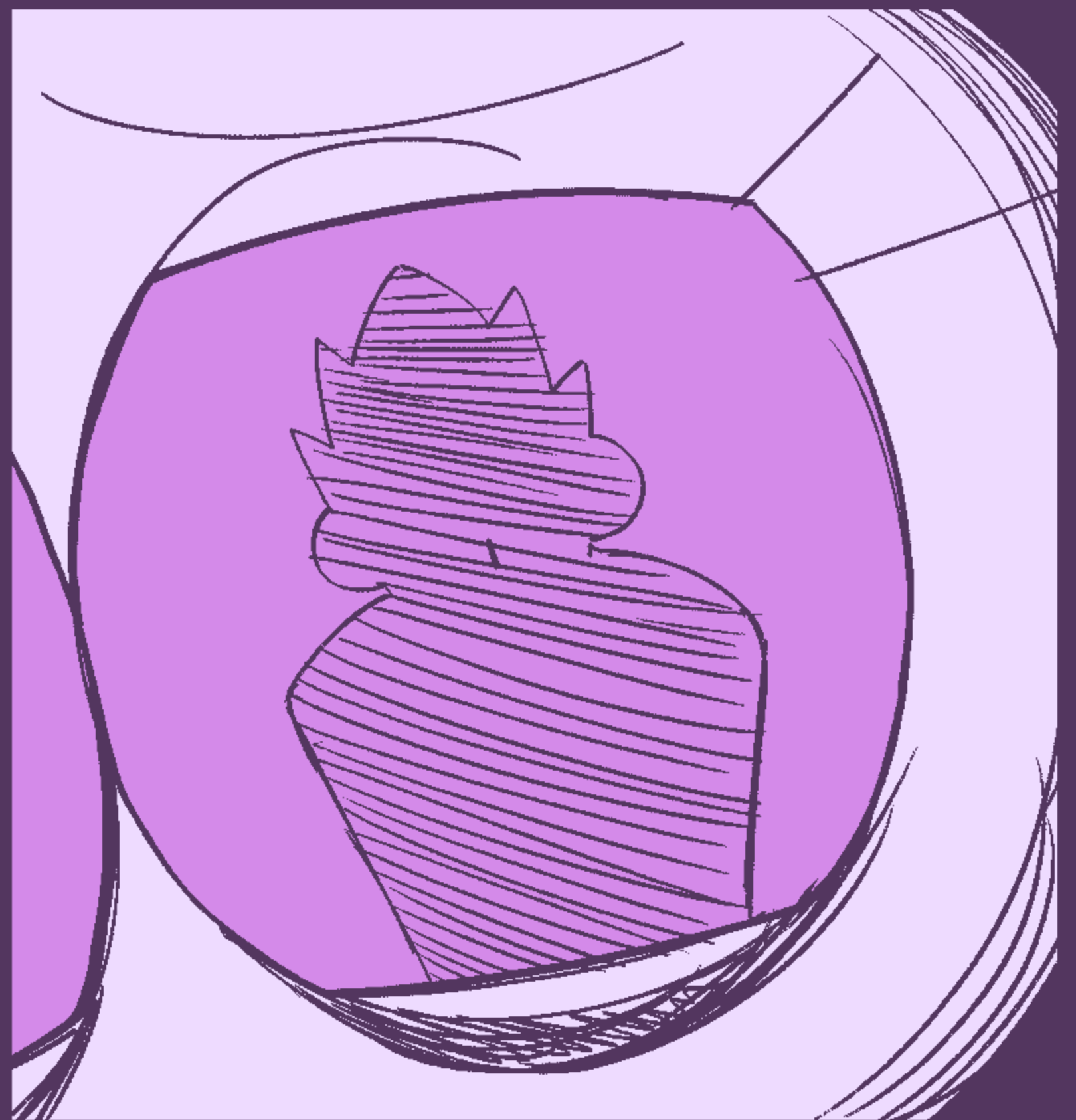
IF I HAD TO SUFFER,
THEN YOU SHOULD TOO!!!

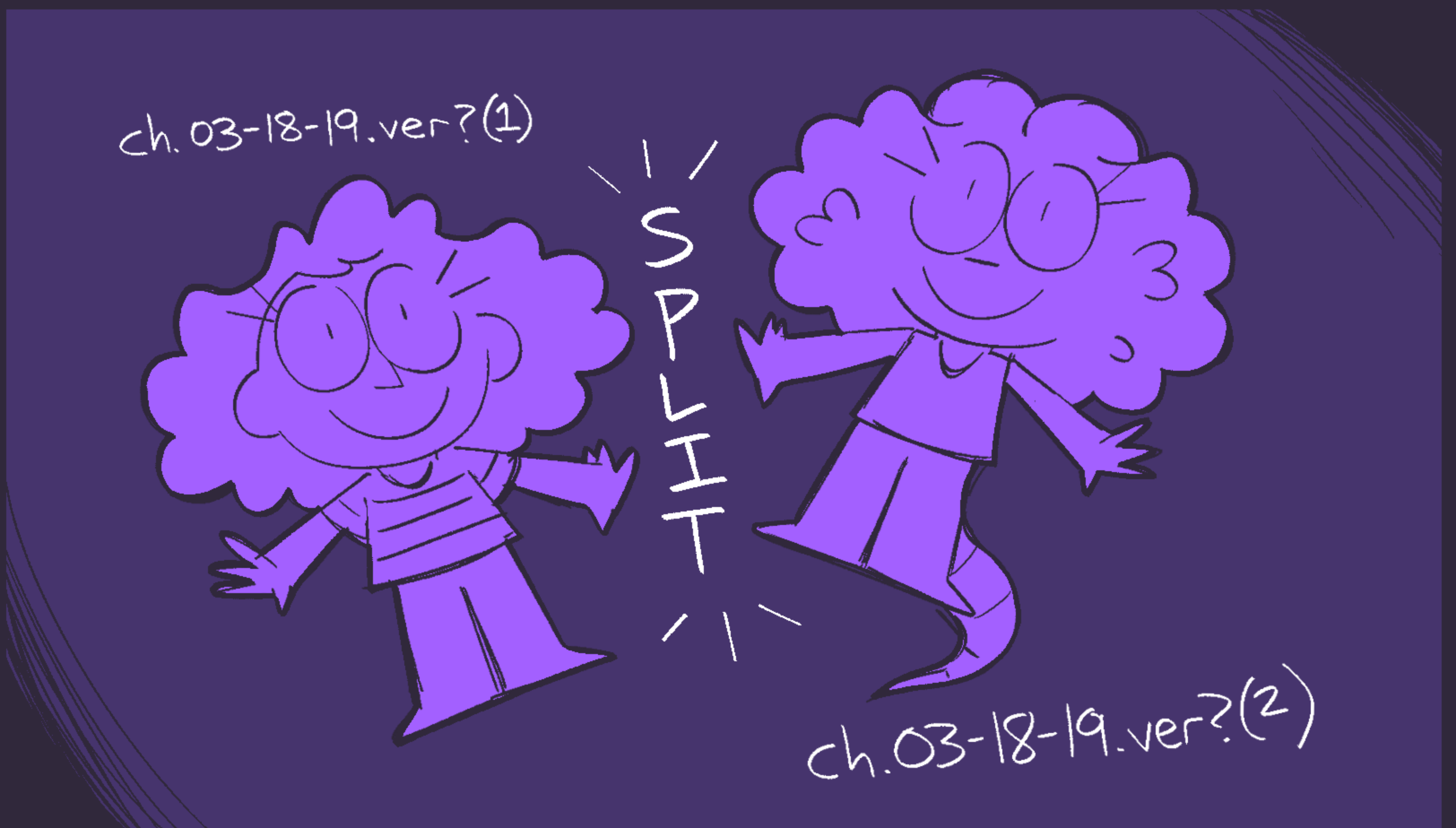
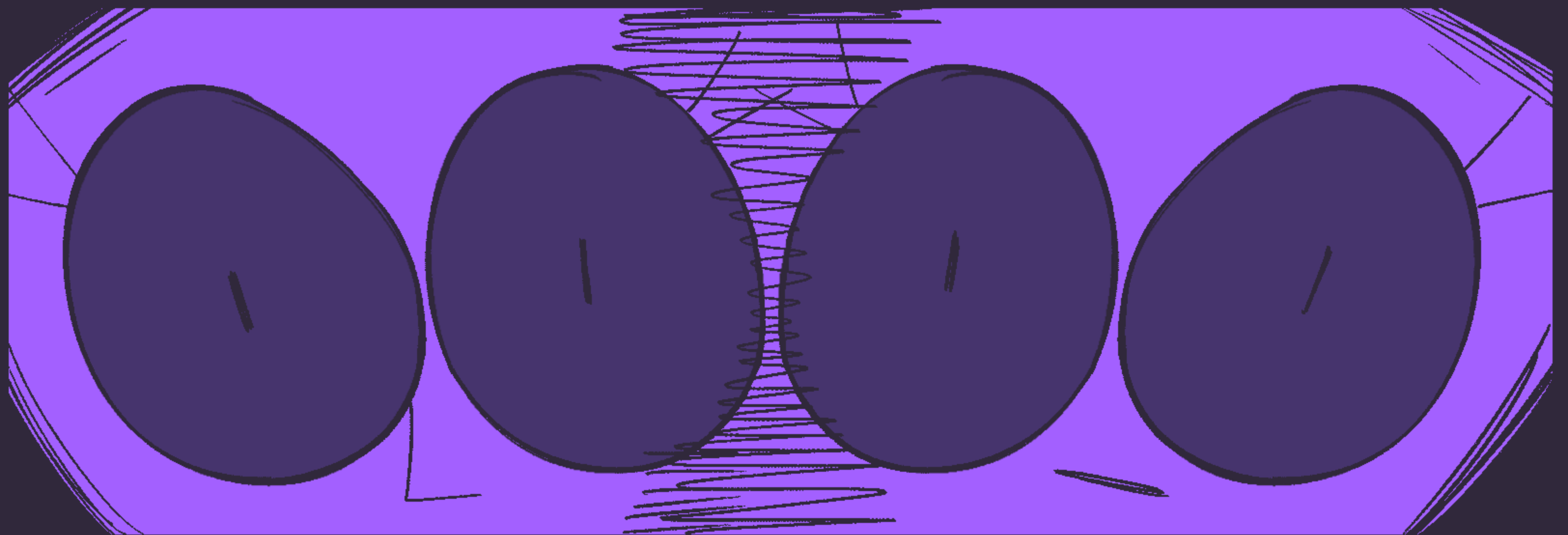
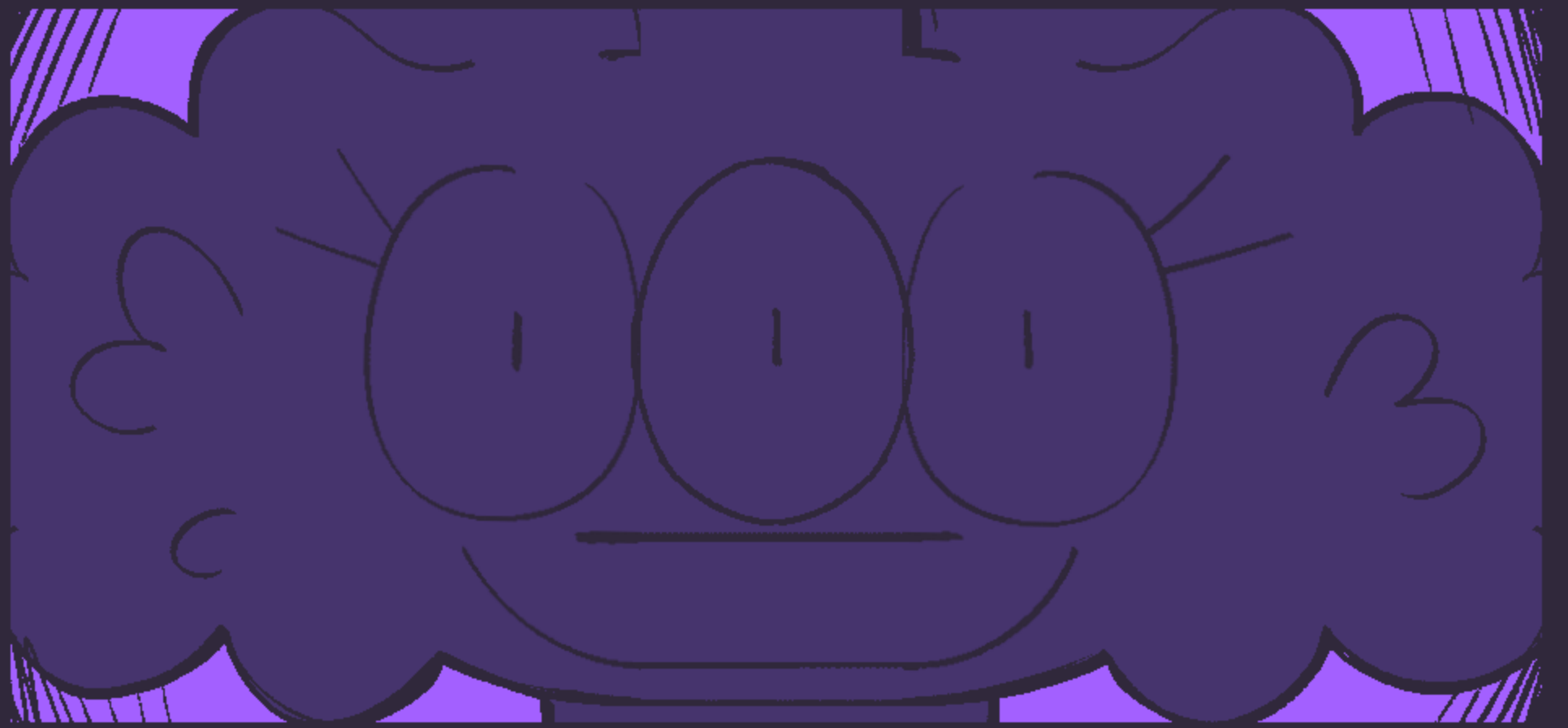
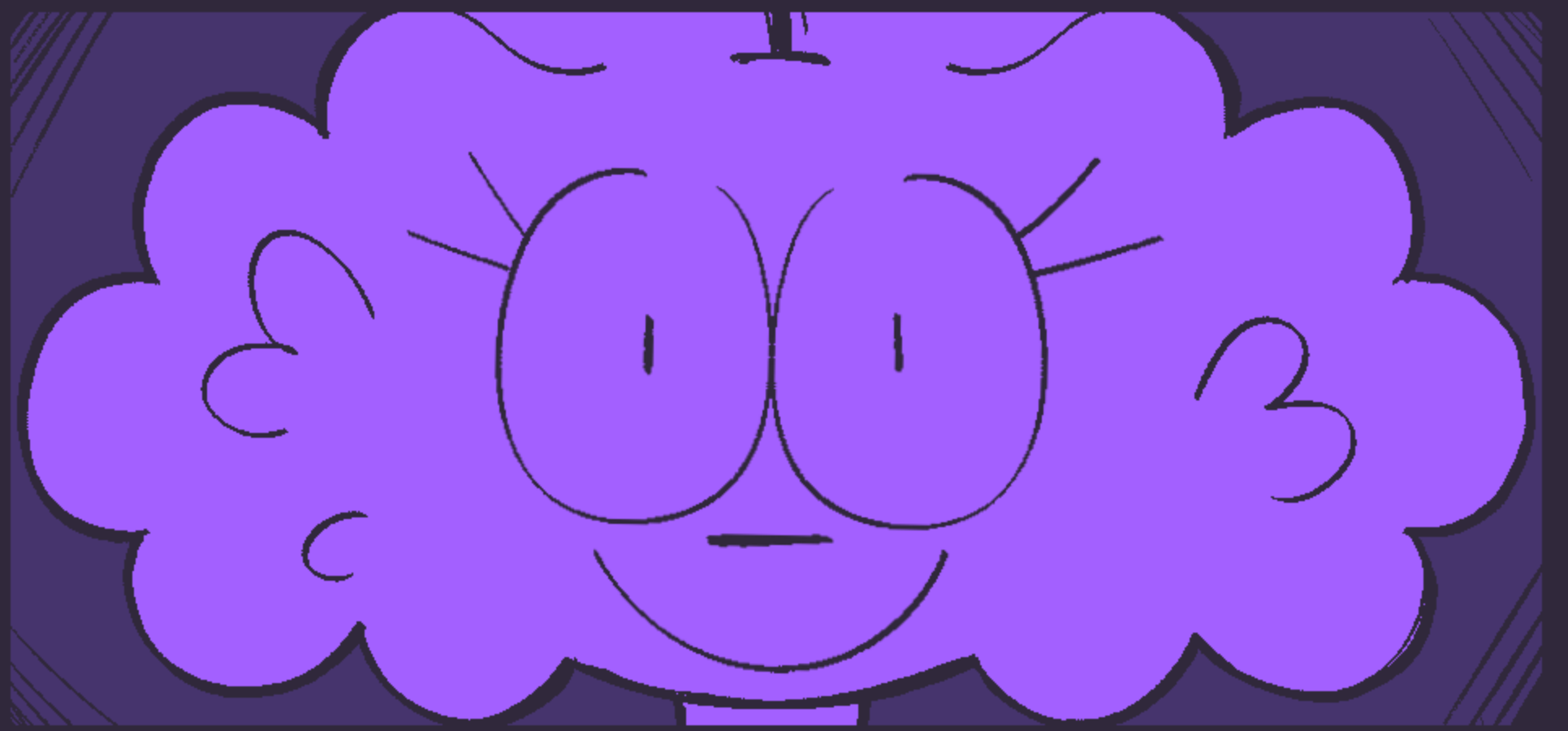


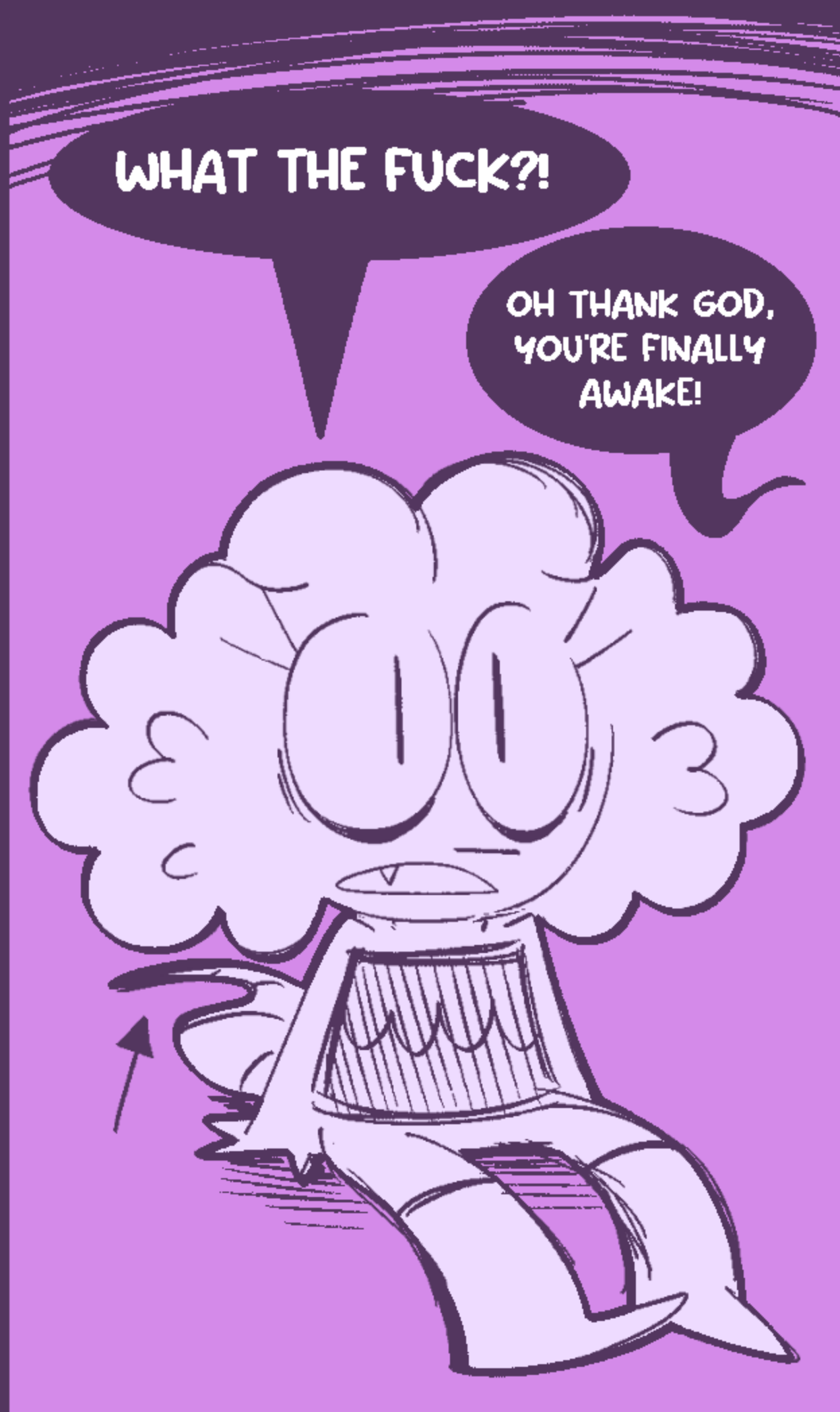
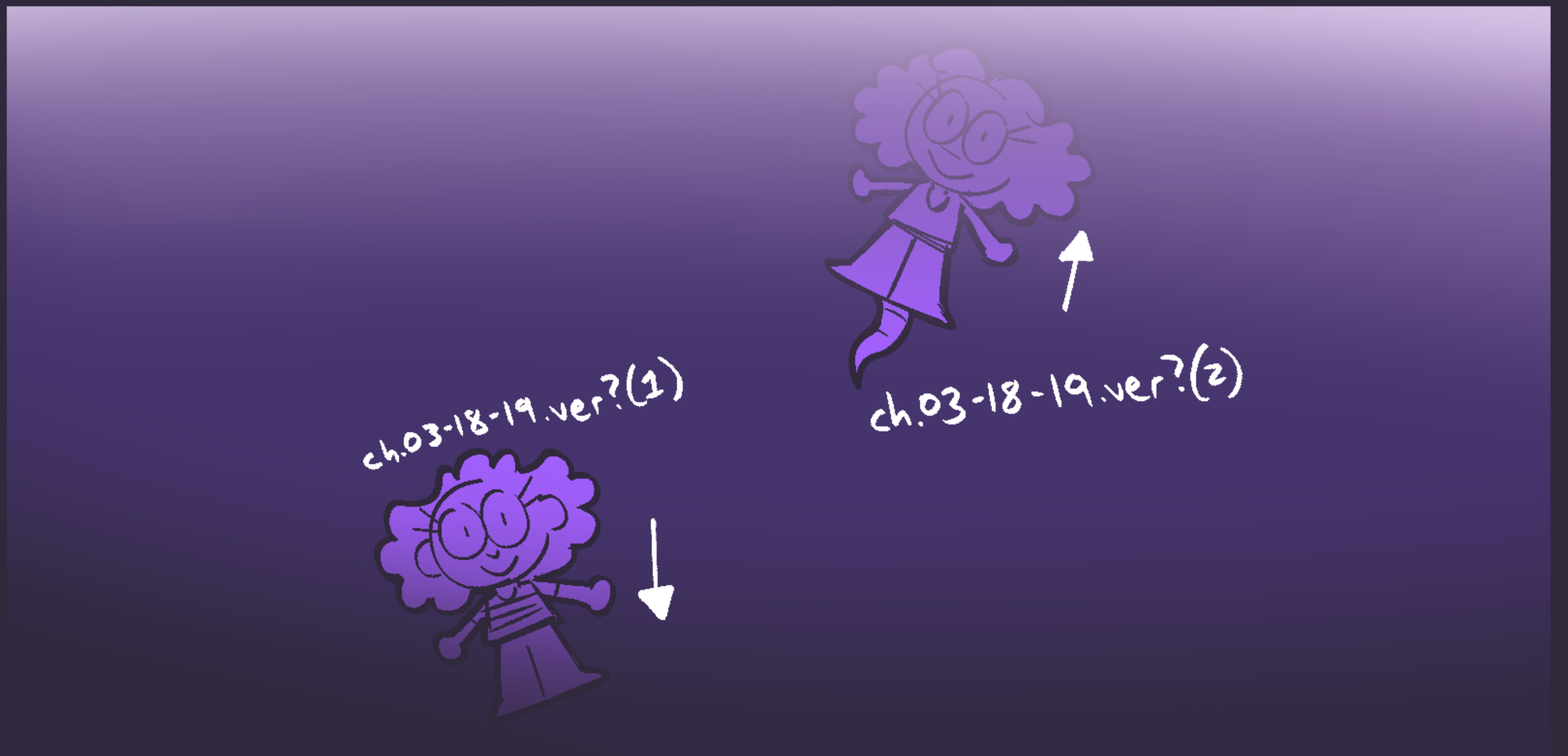


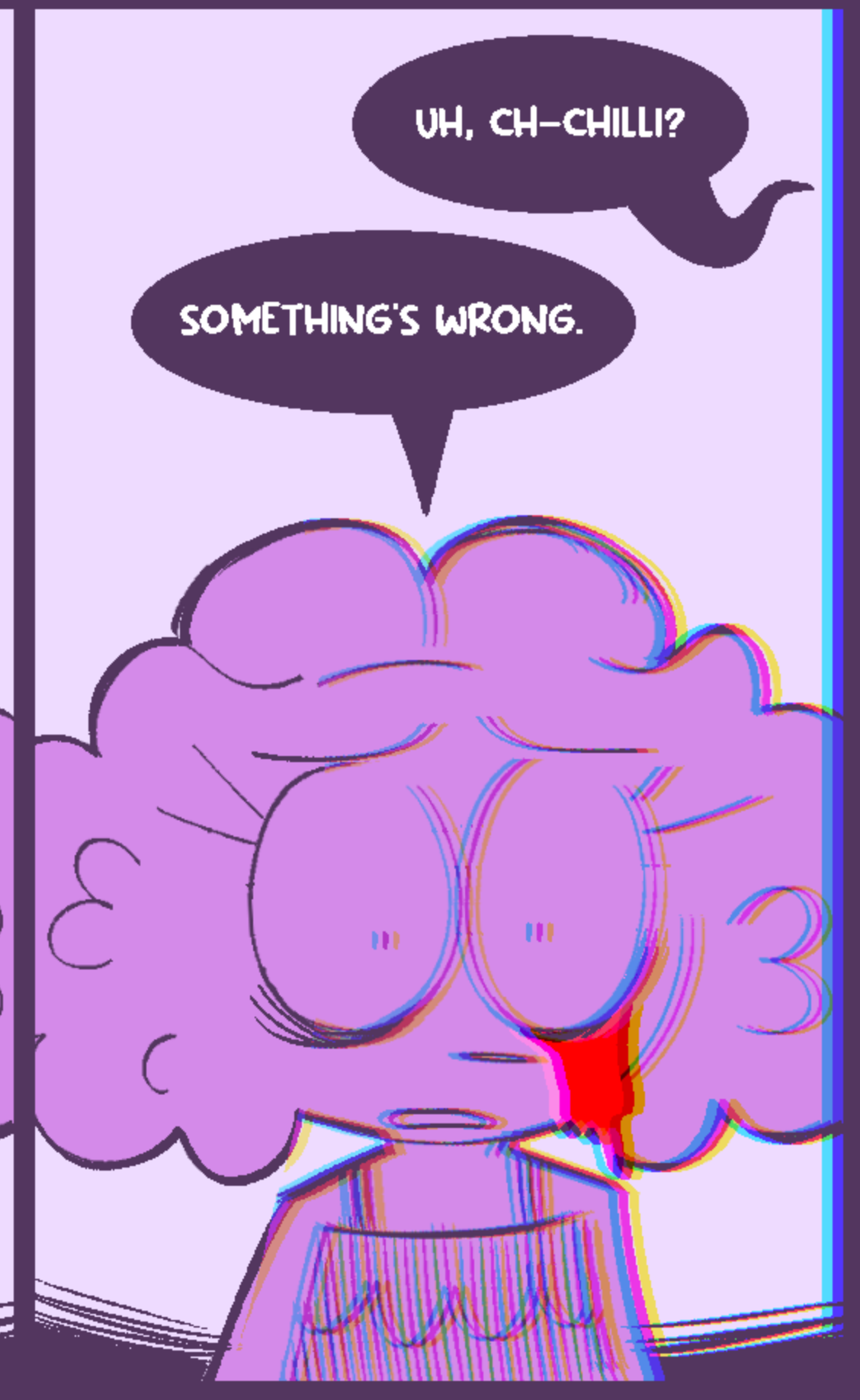
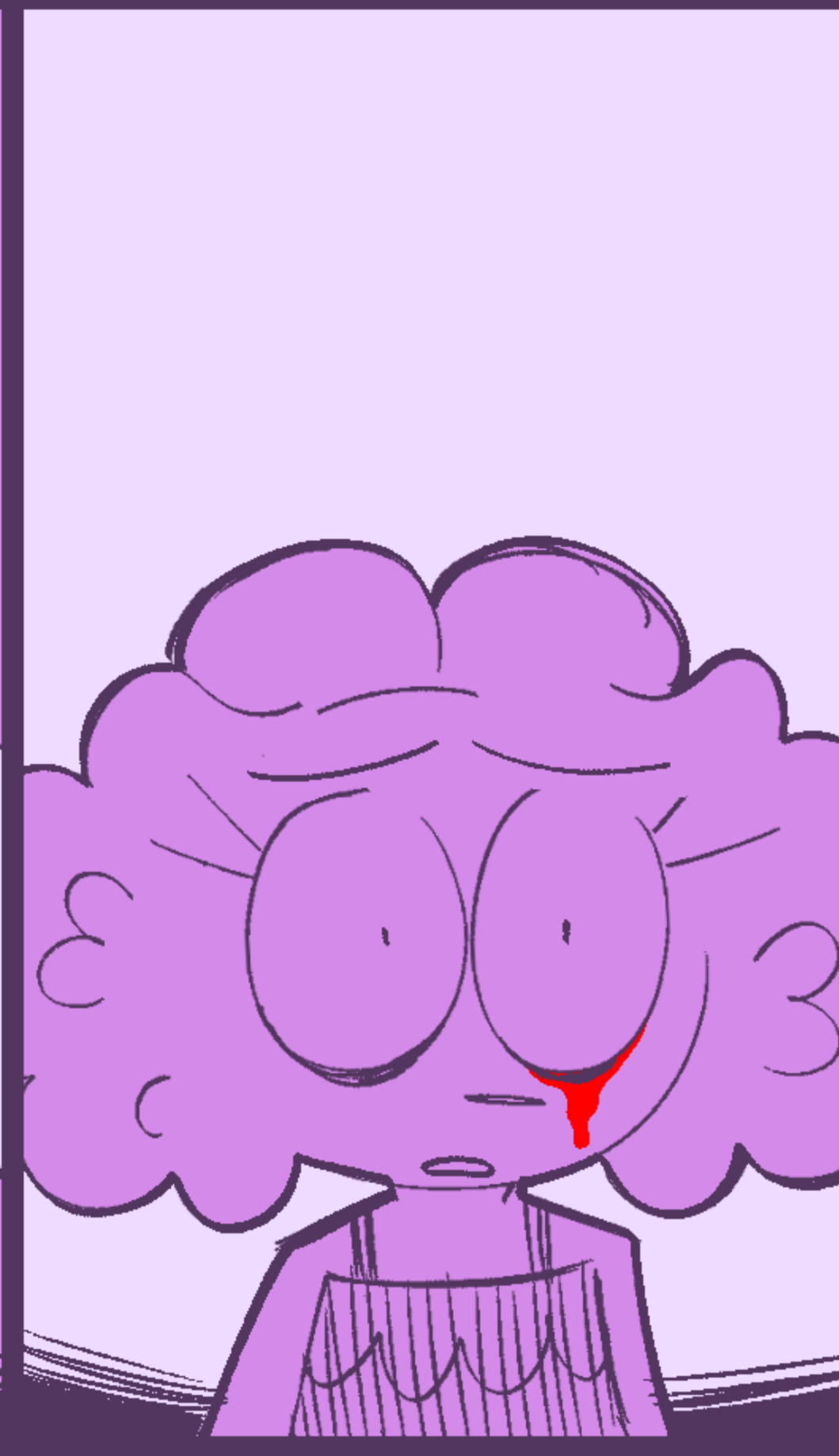


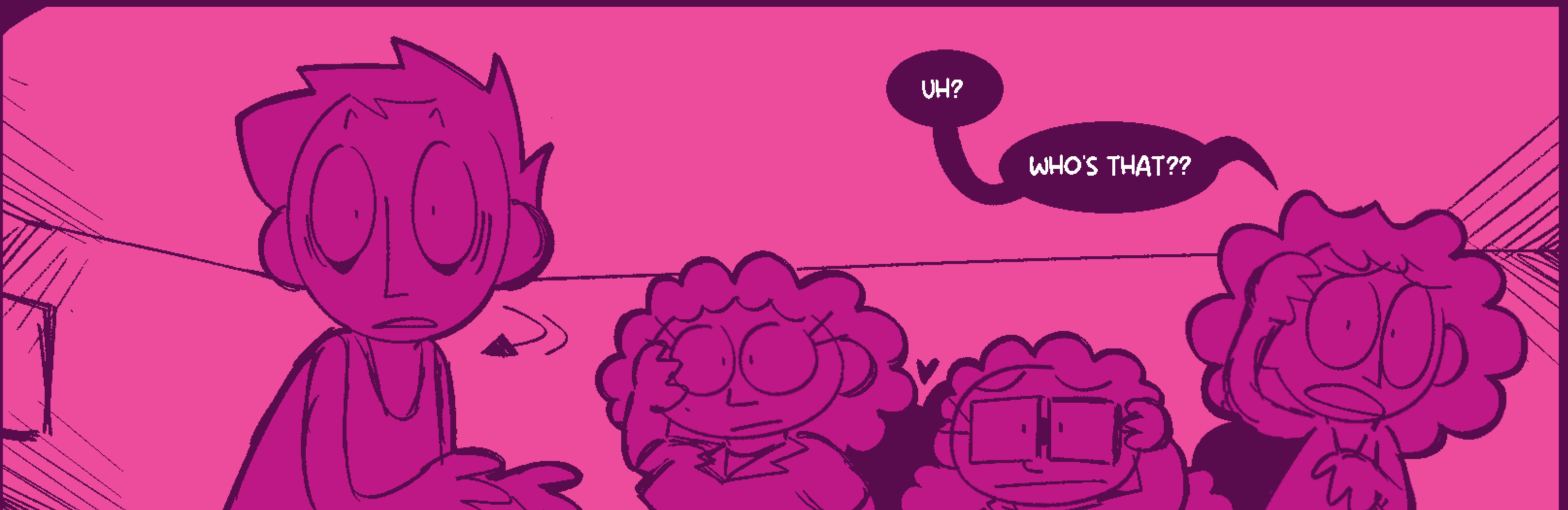
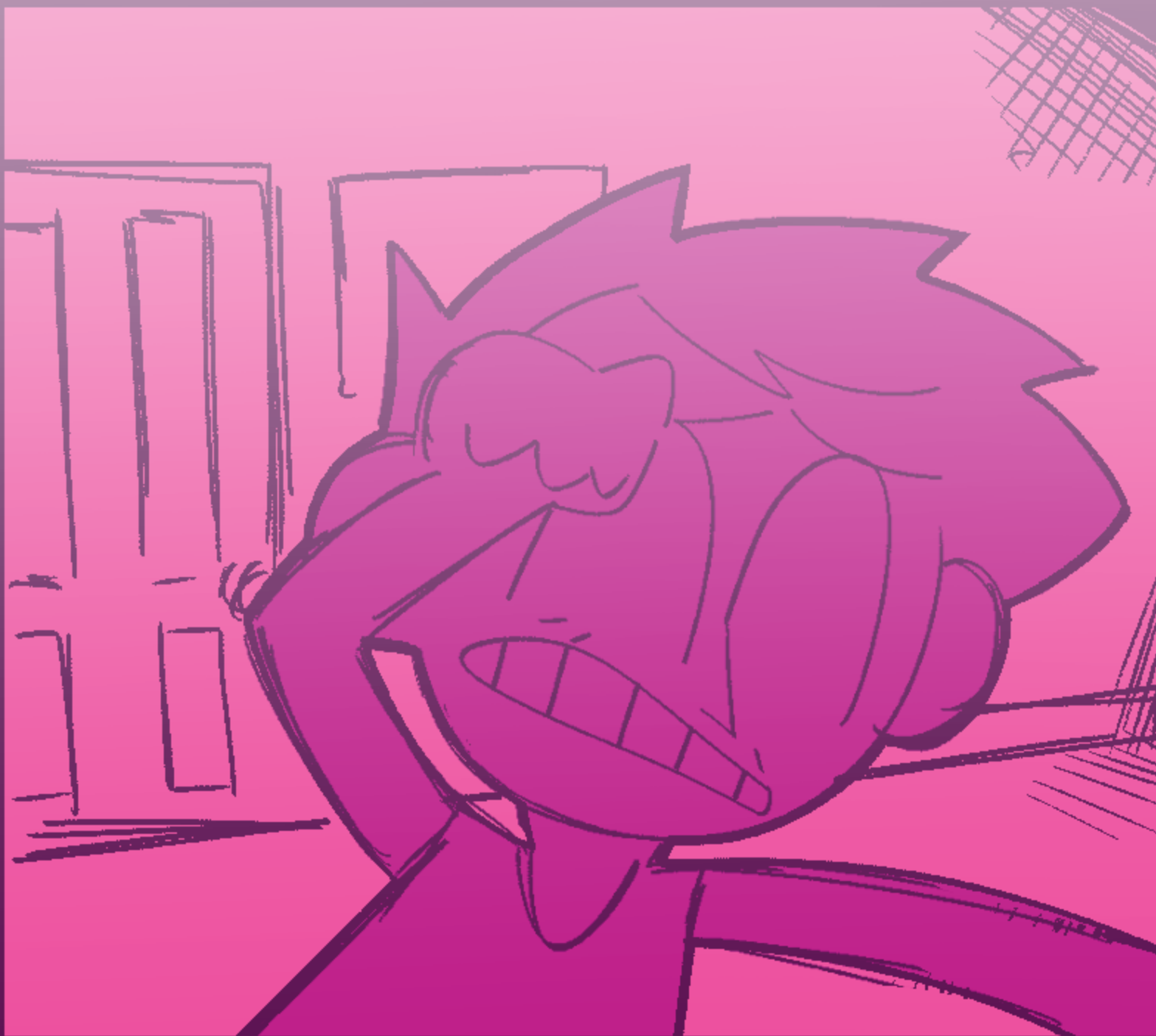


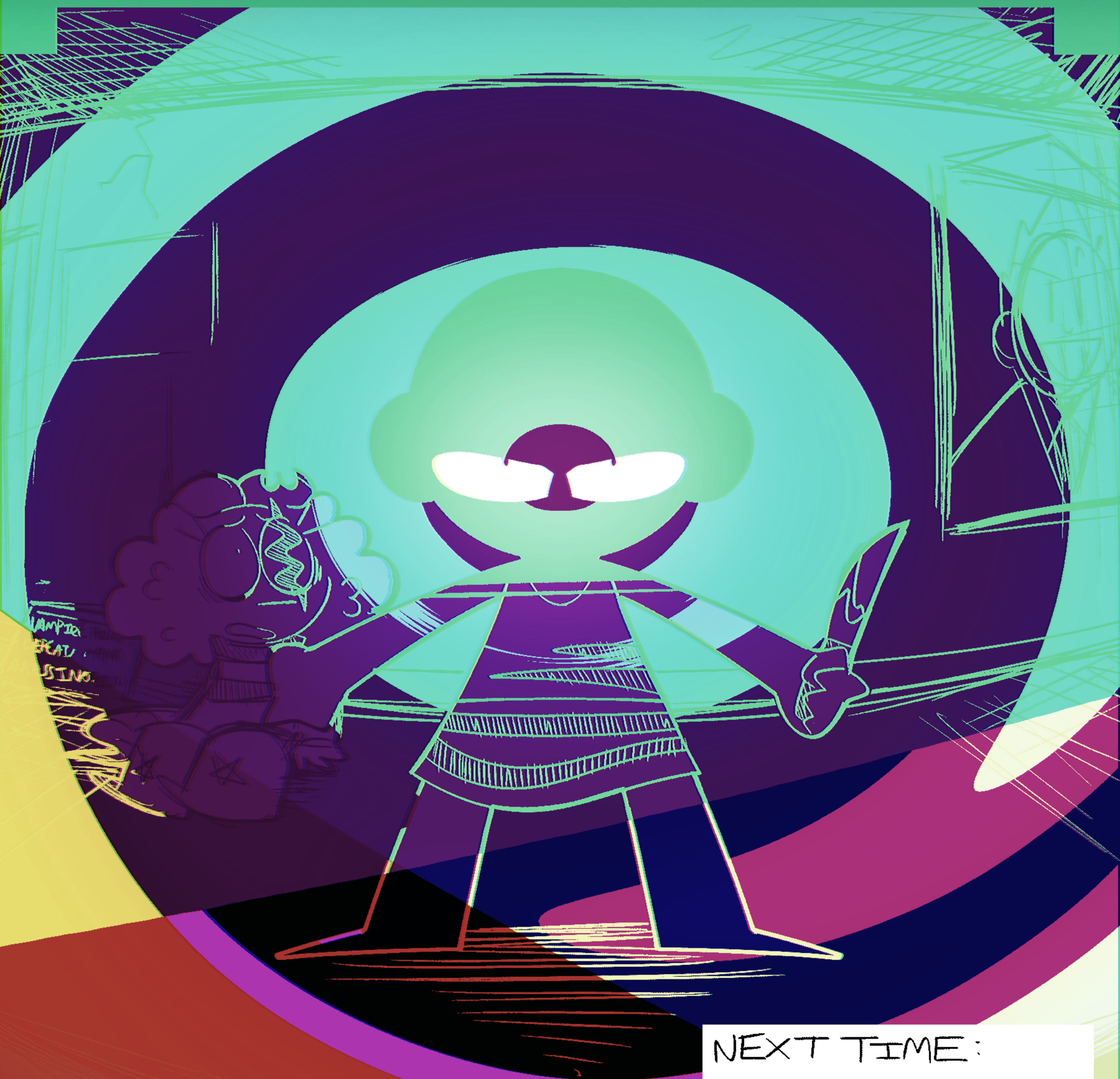
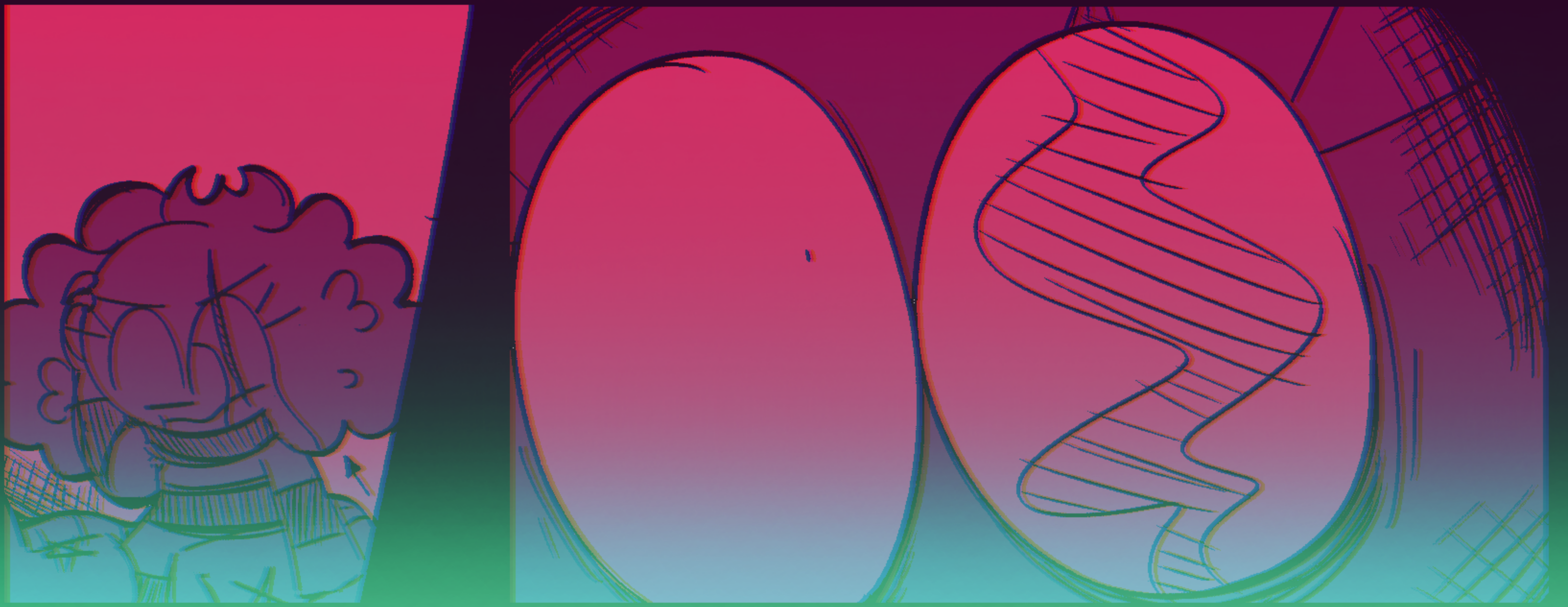












NEXT TIME:
OH SHIT

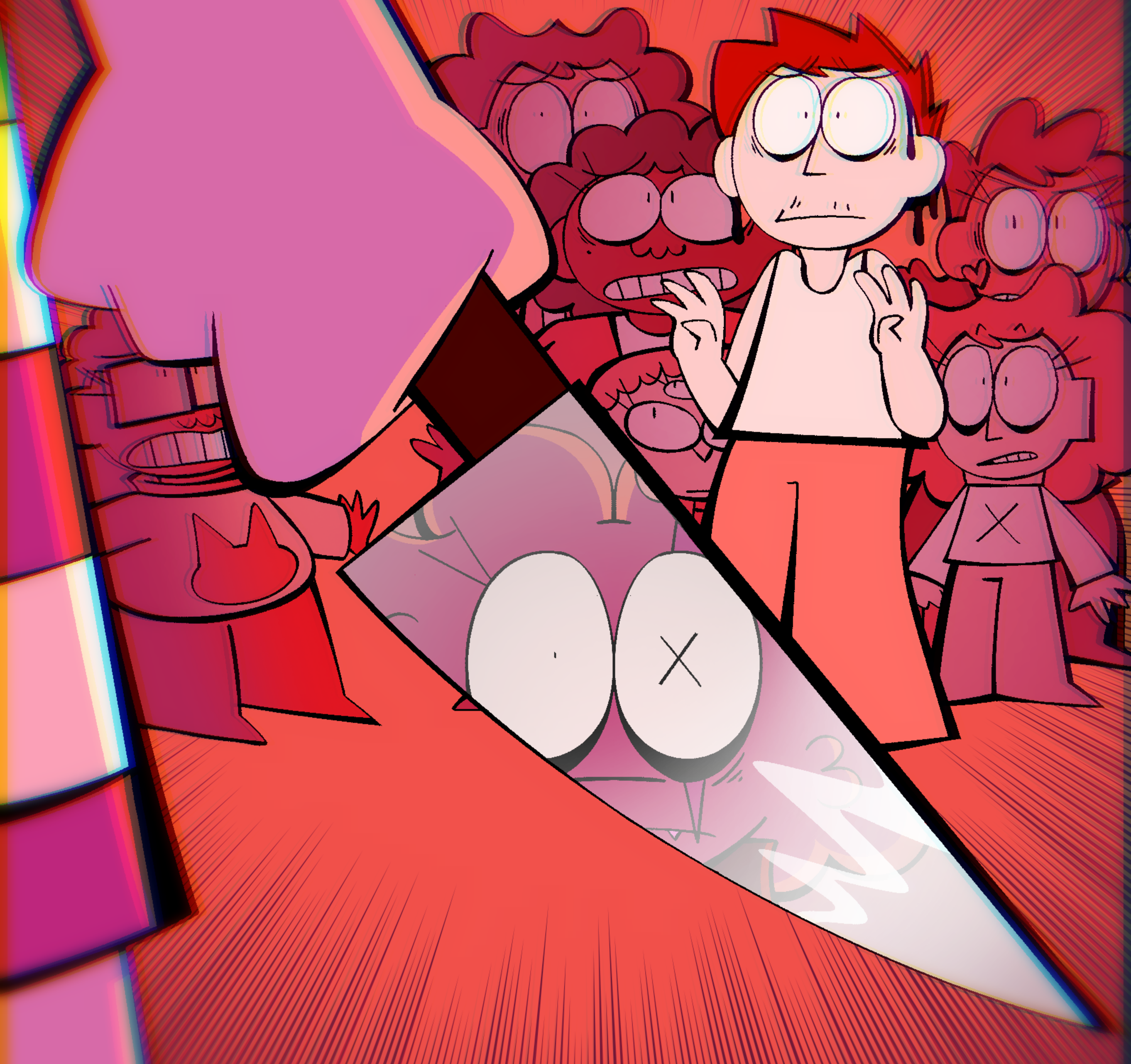
CHILLI

THE VAMPIRE OPOSSUM

SALONY CO.



#26



"RED MEAT", PART TWO

TW//

ABUSE

BLOOD

BREAKDOWN

BRIGHT COLORS

CAR CRASH

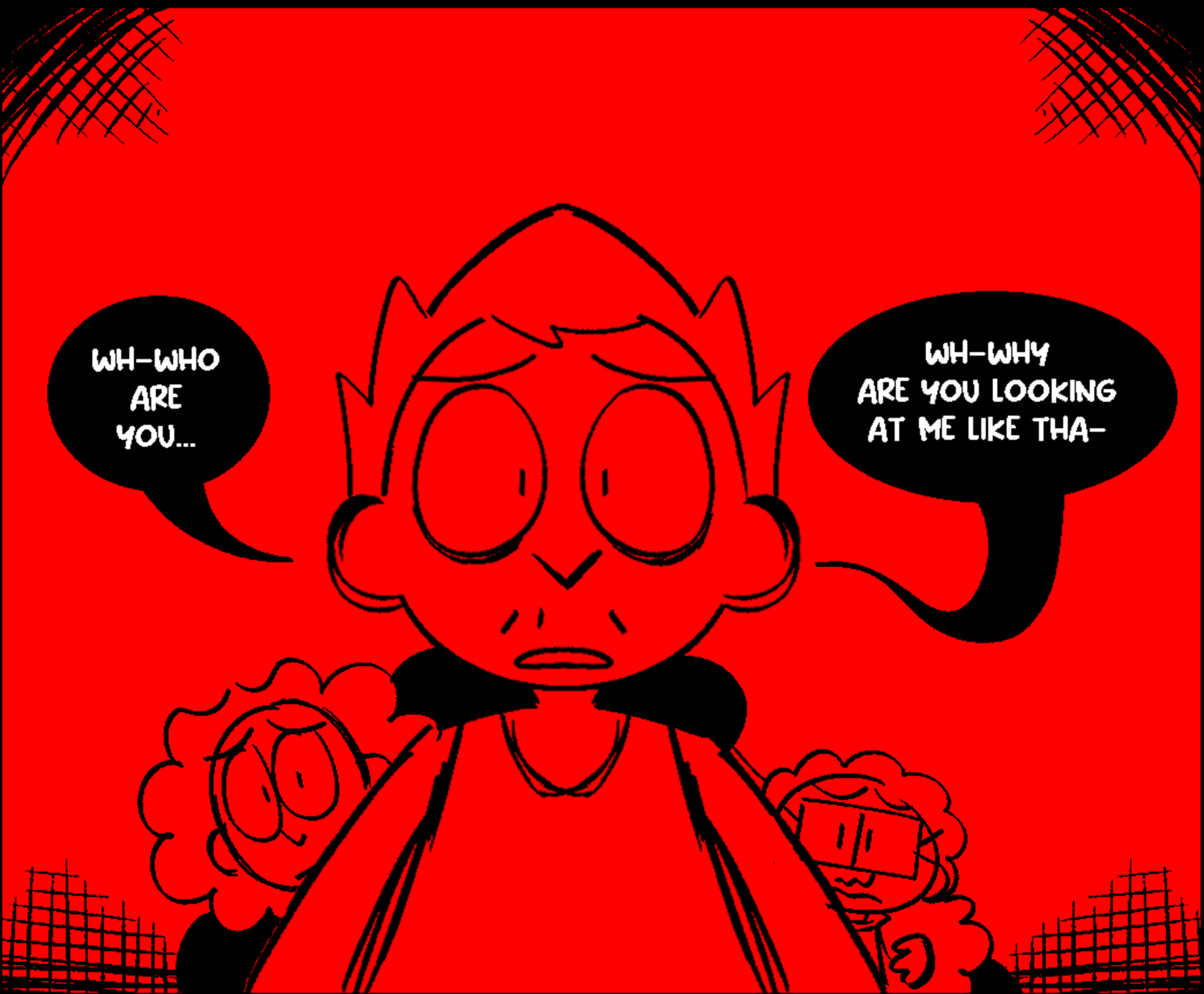
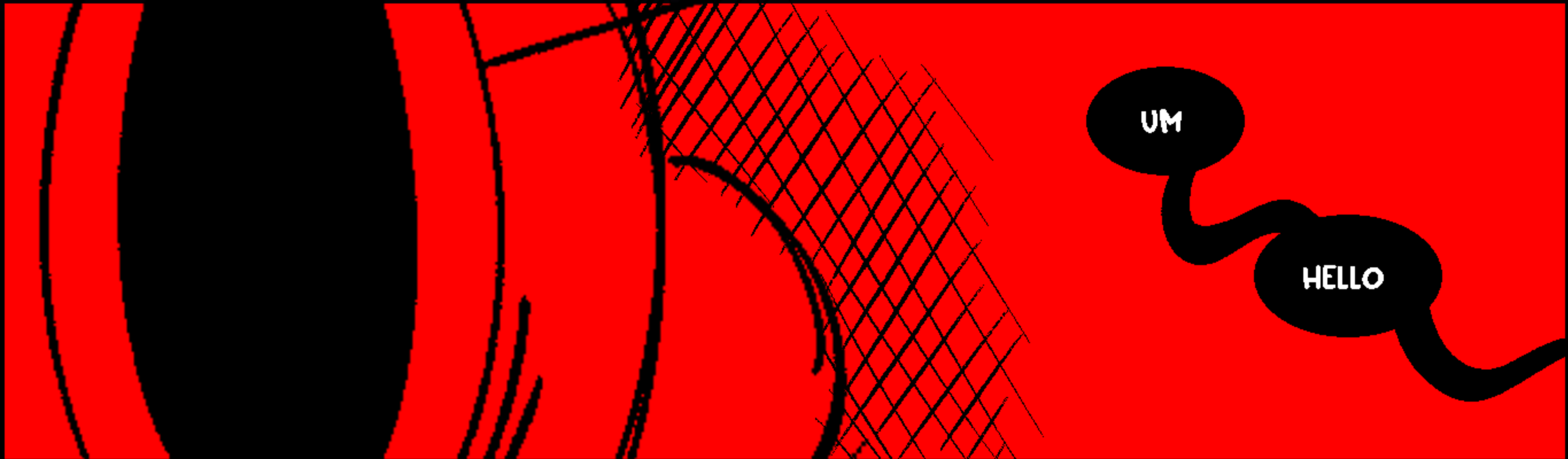
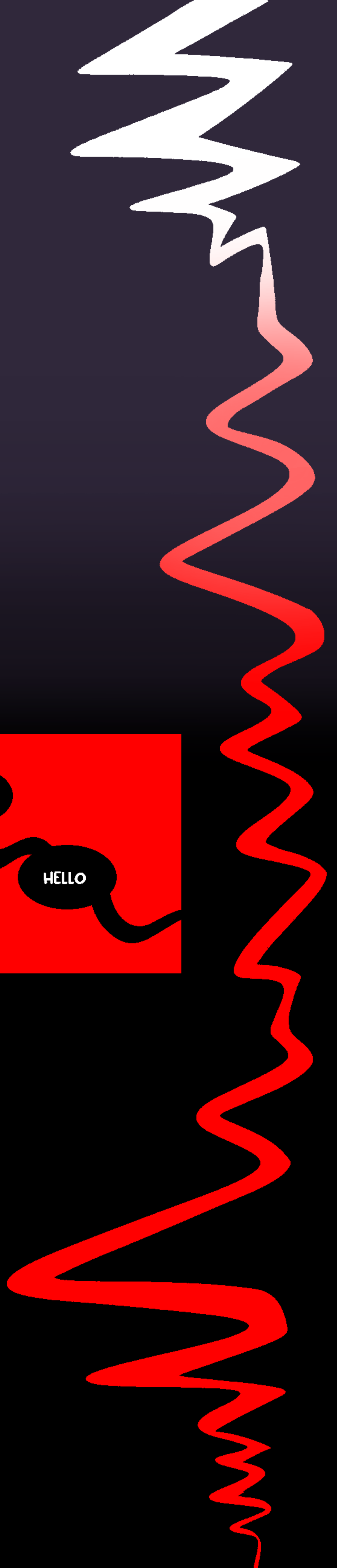
DECAPITATION

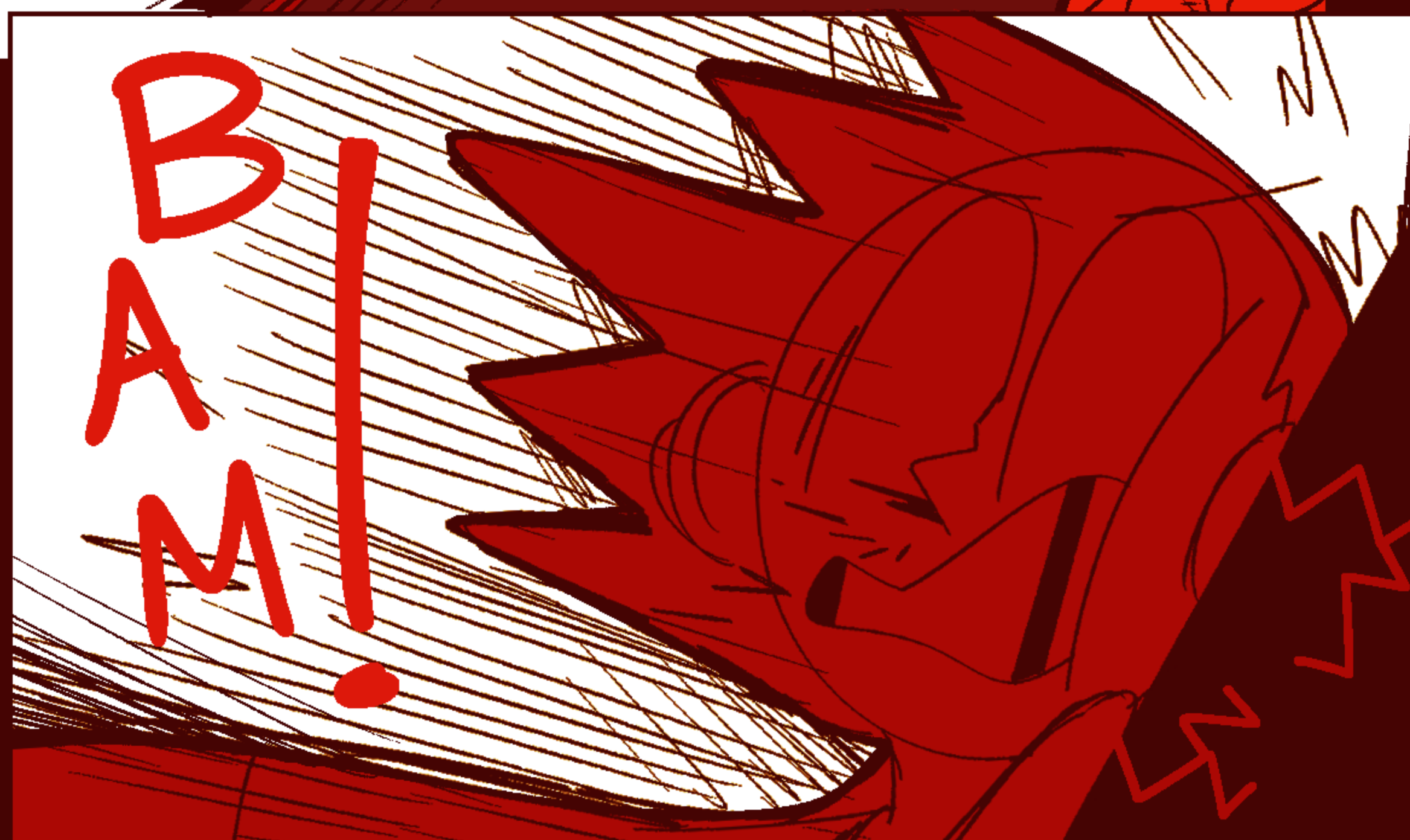
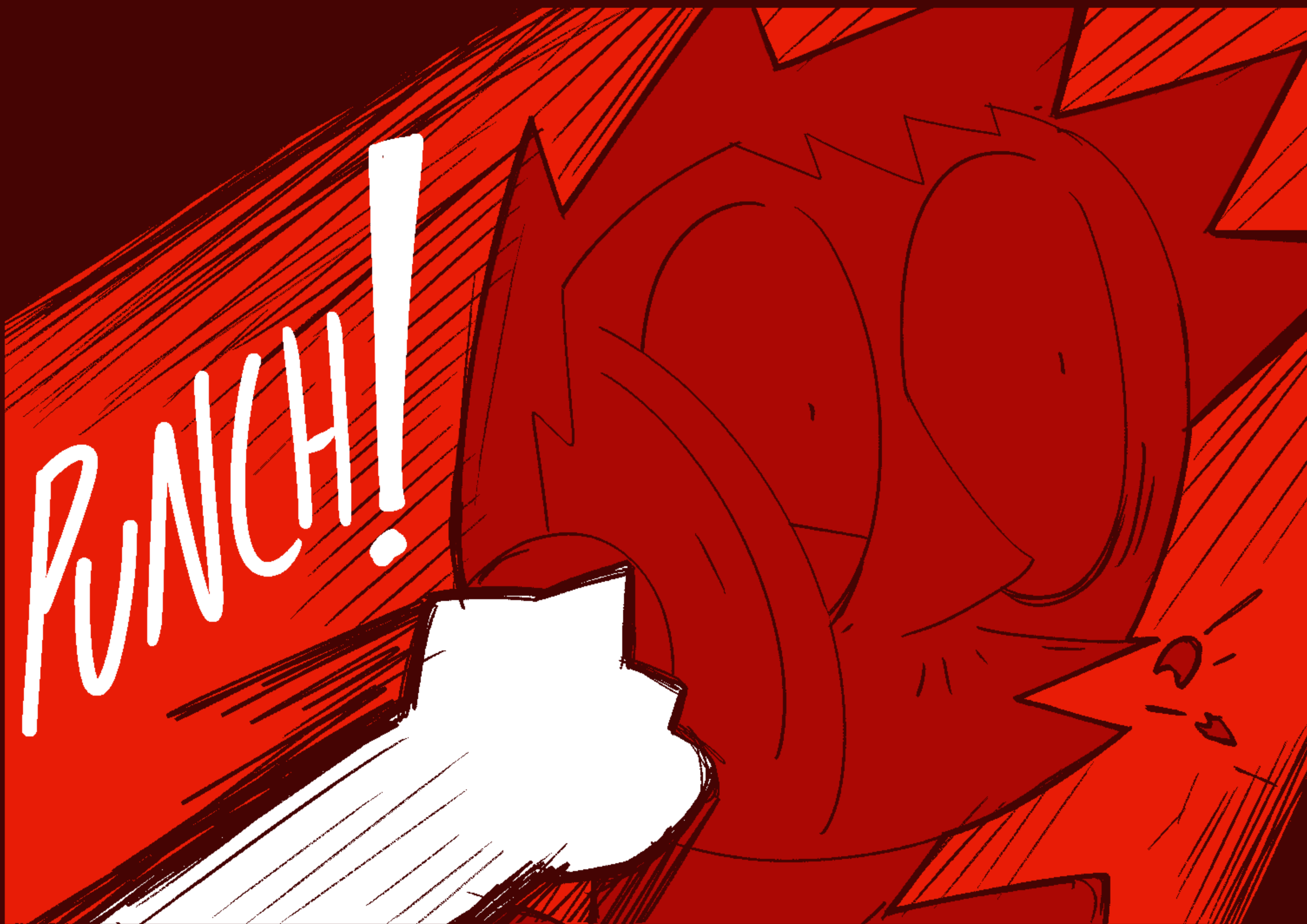
GORE

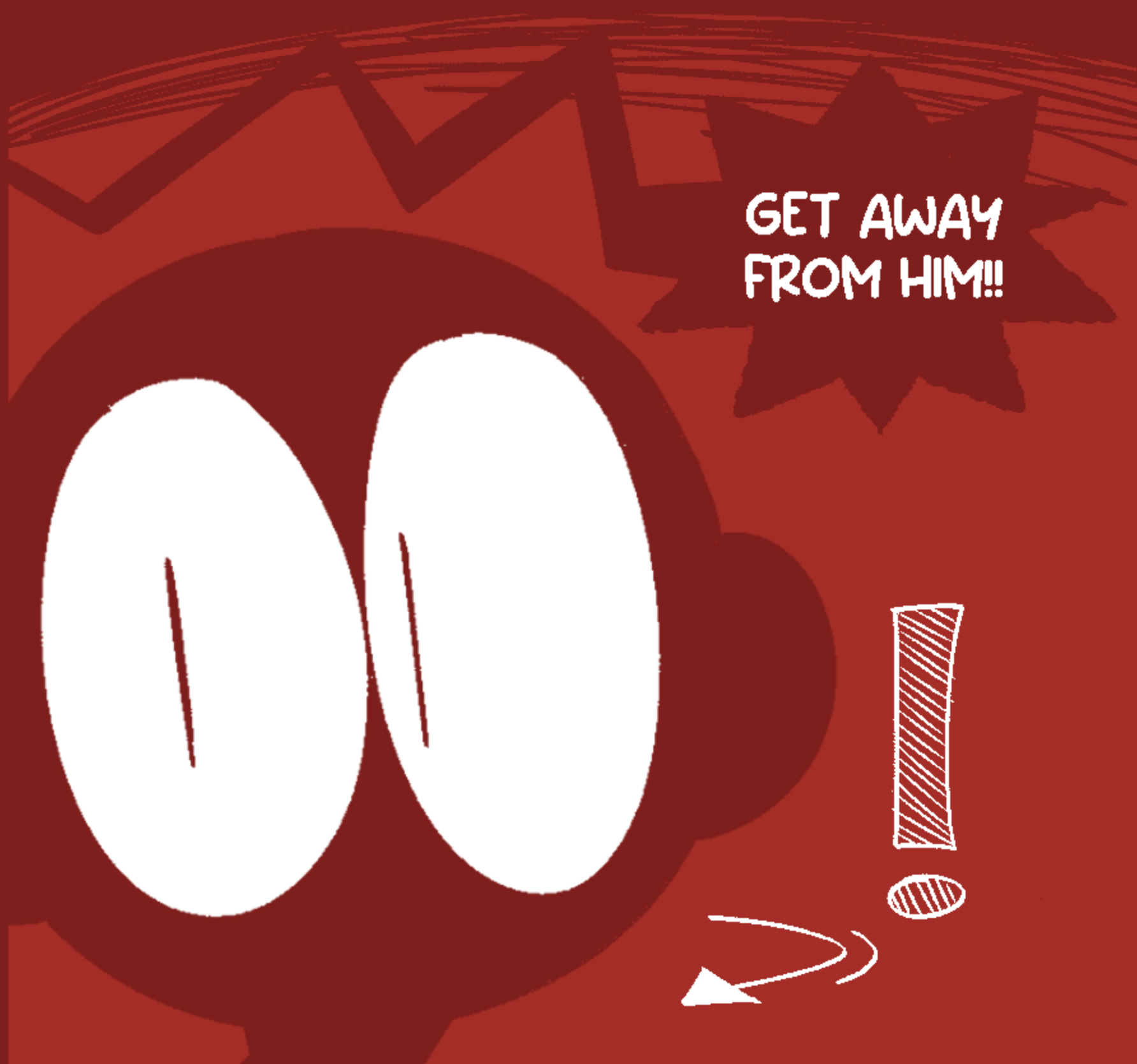
GUN

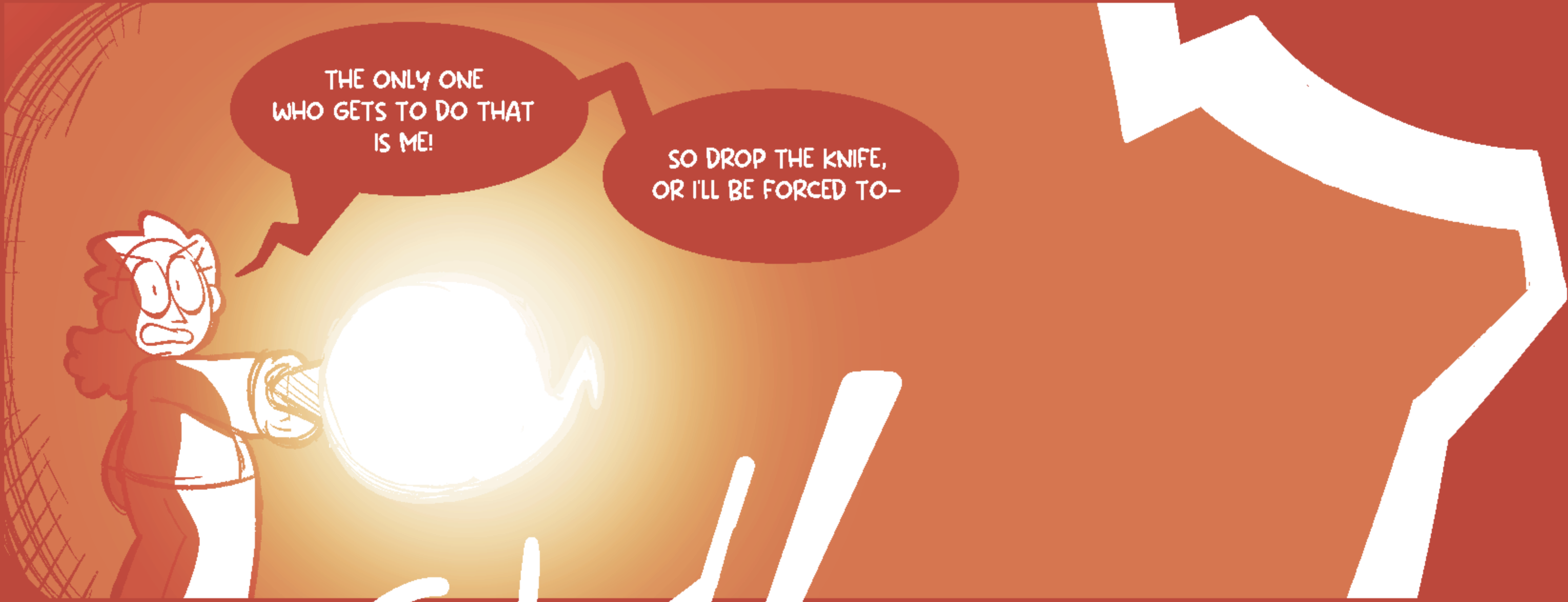
KNIFE

TRAUMA

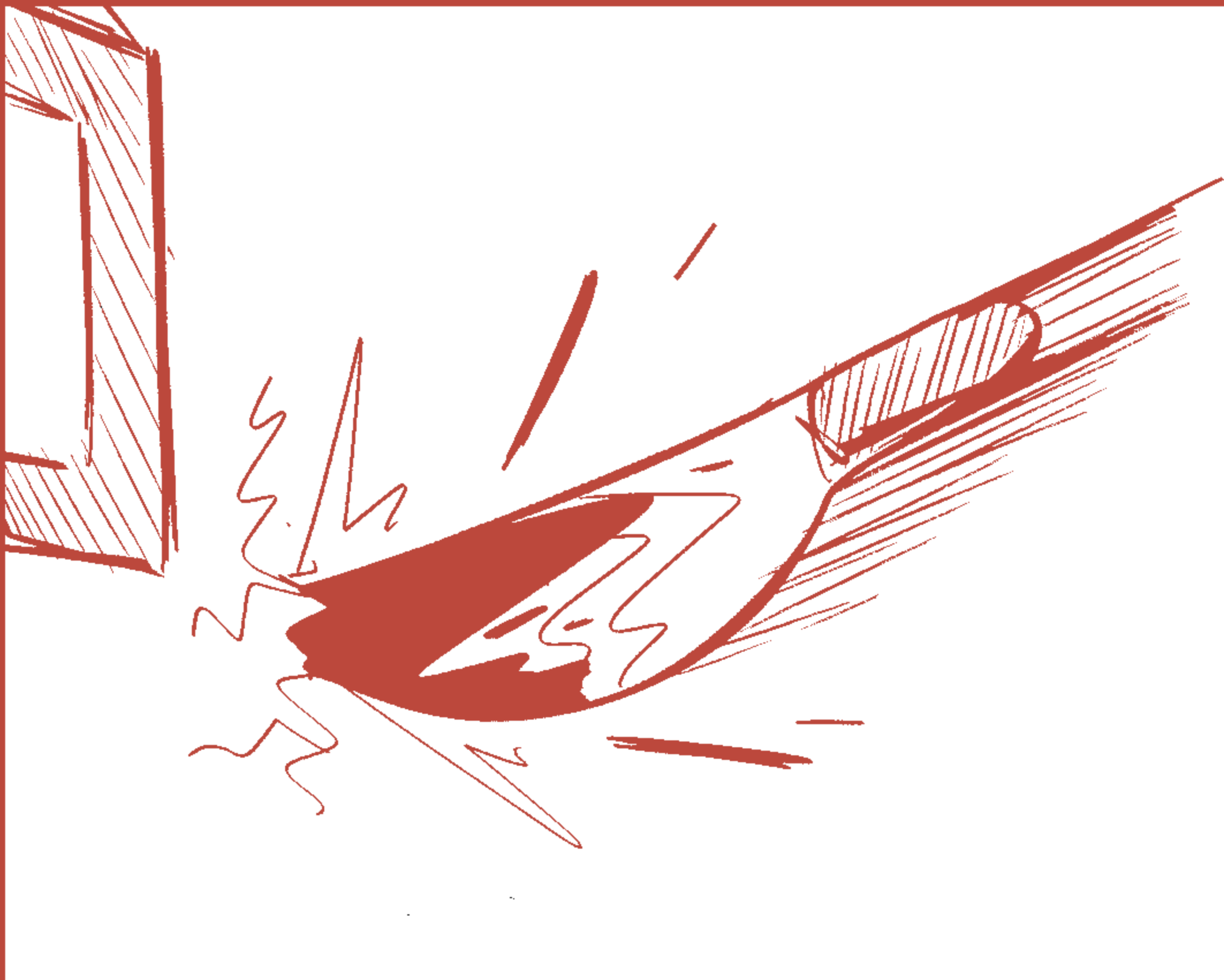


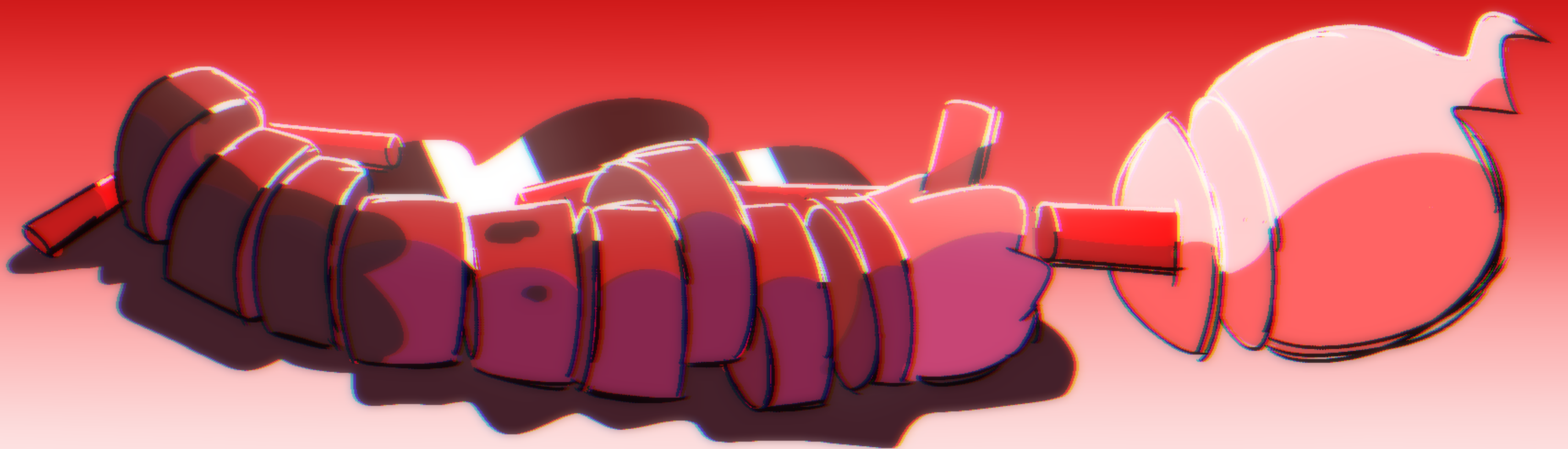
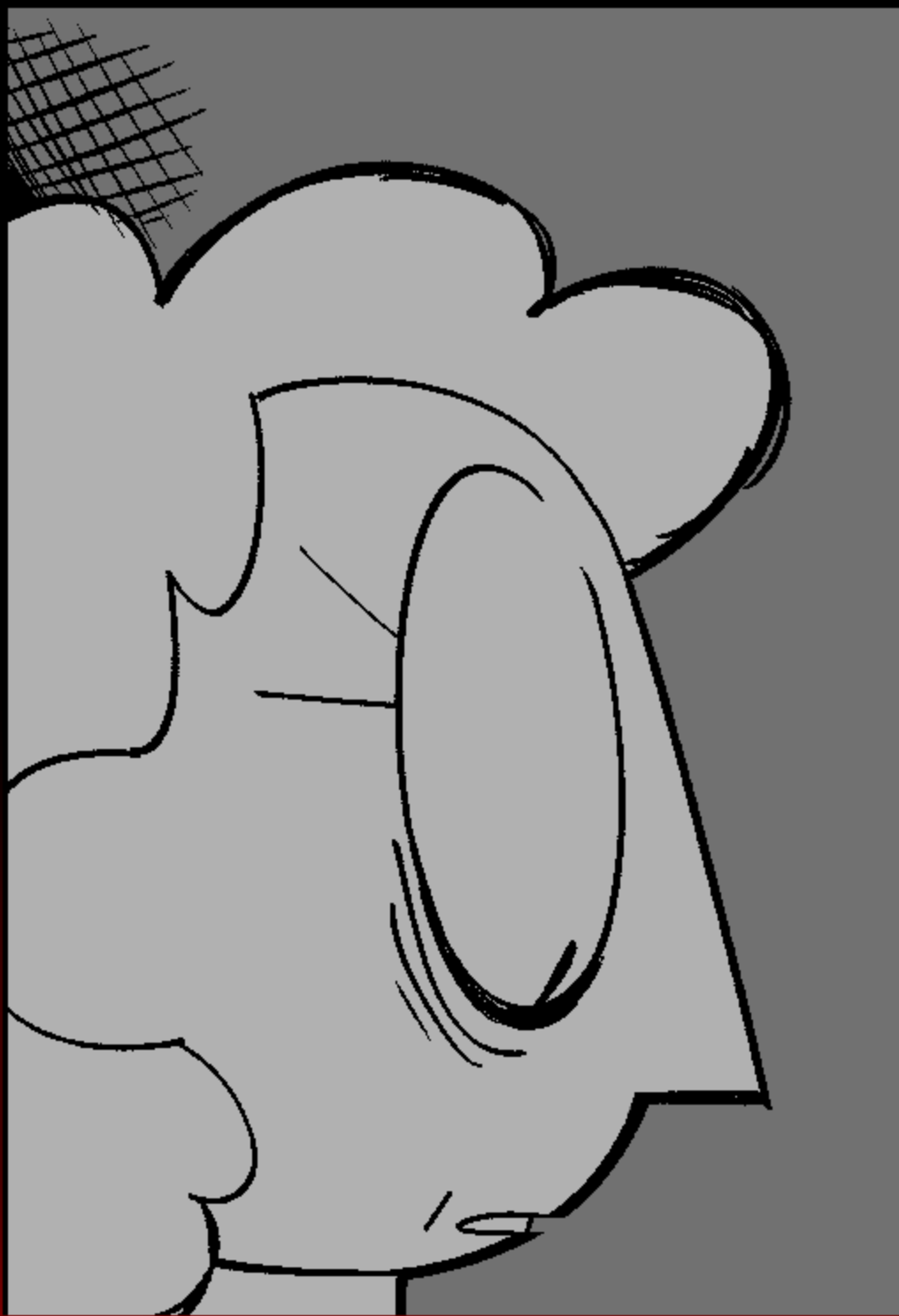
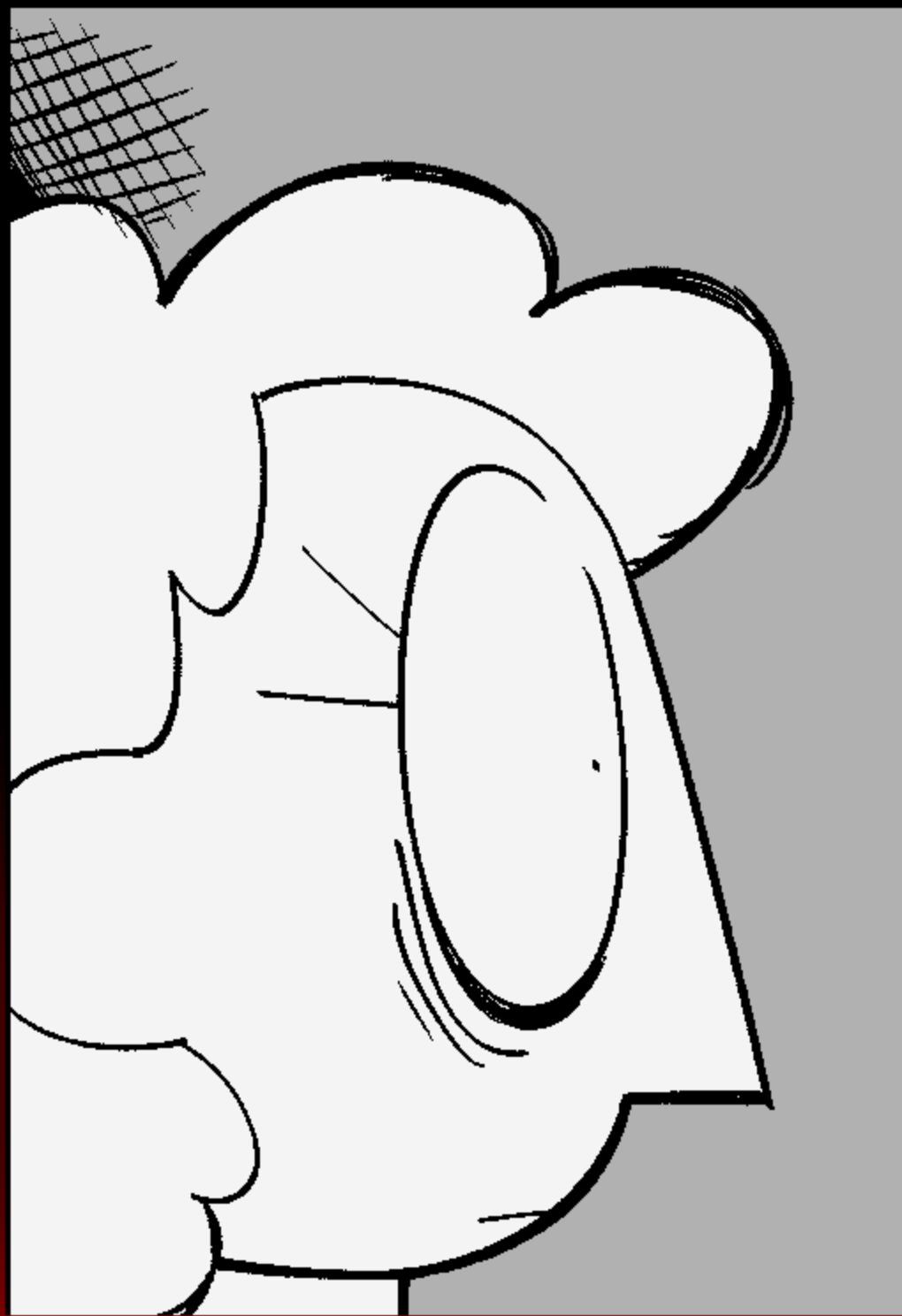
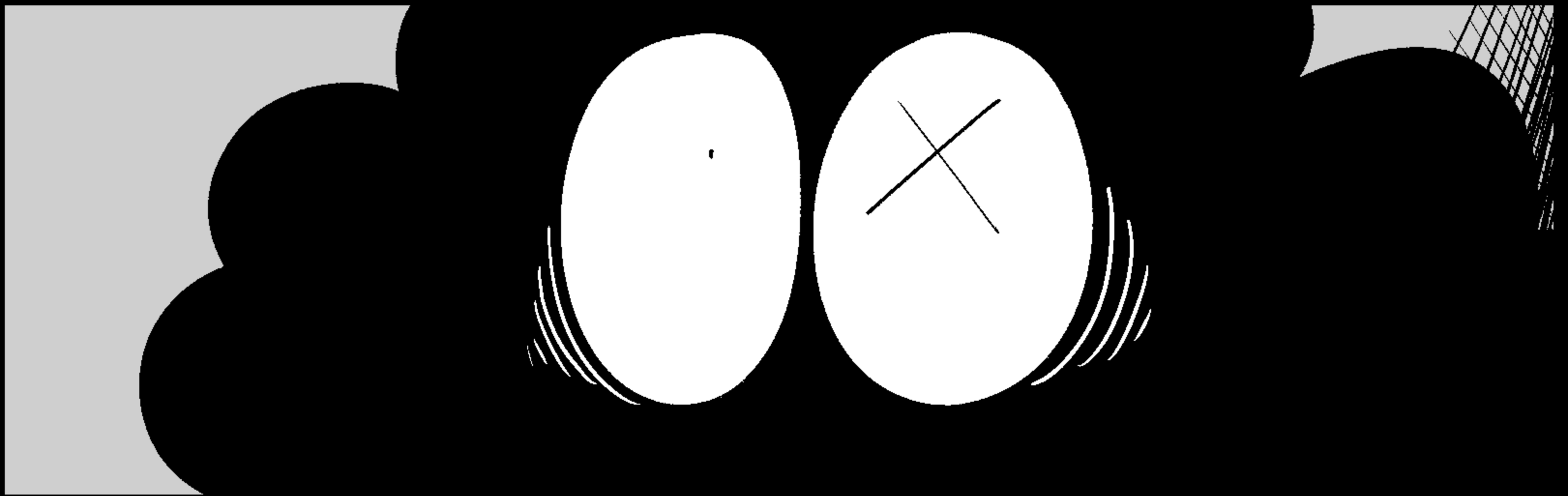
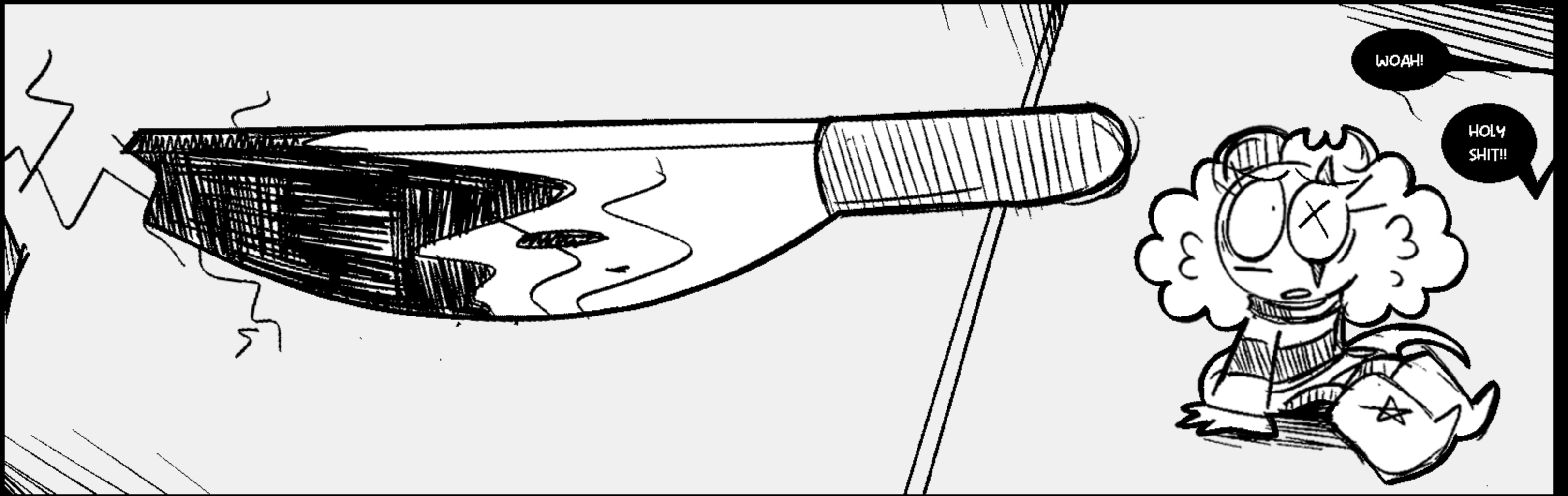




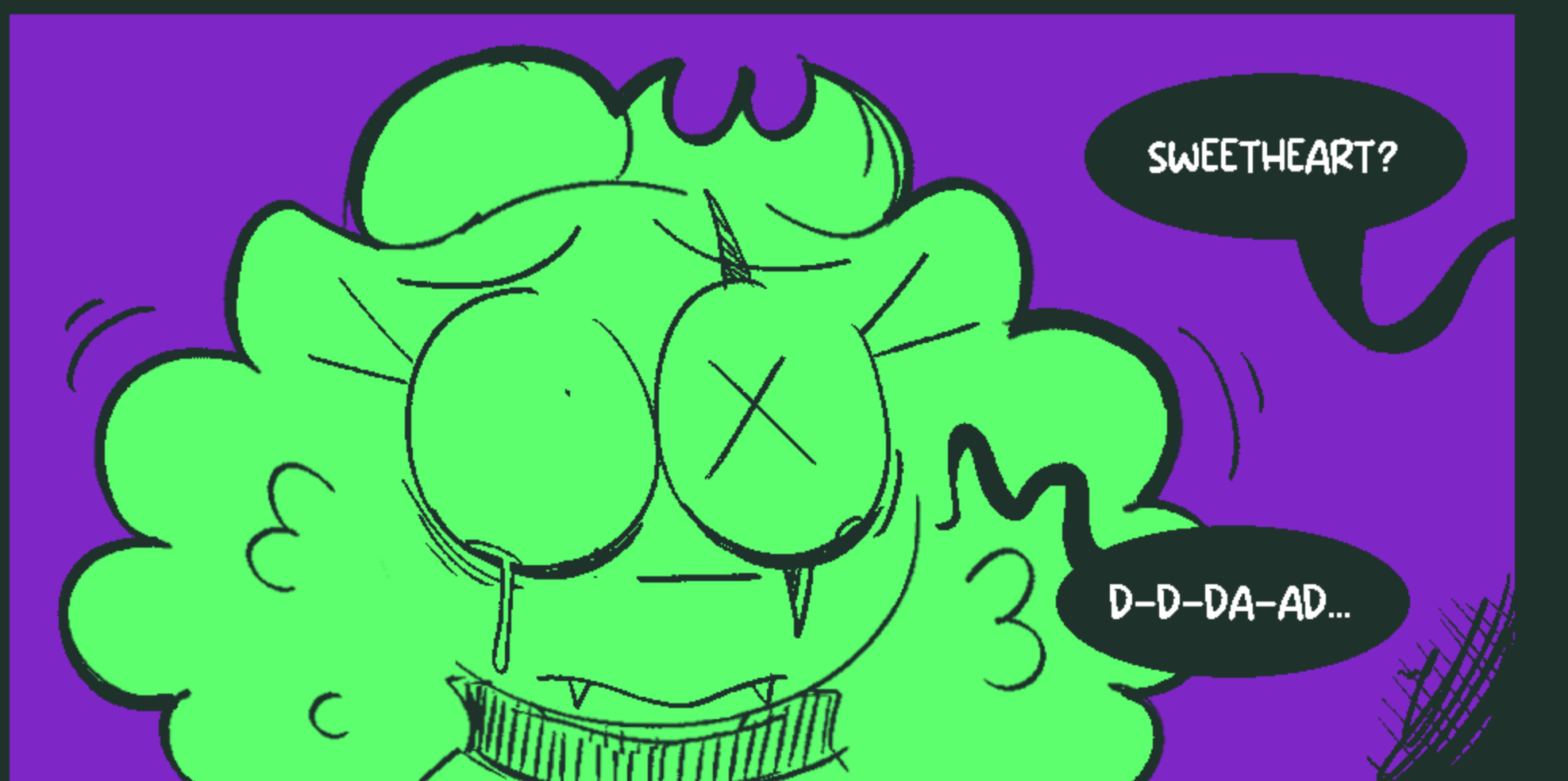
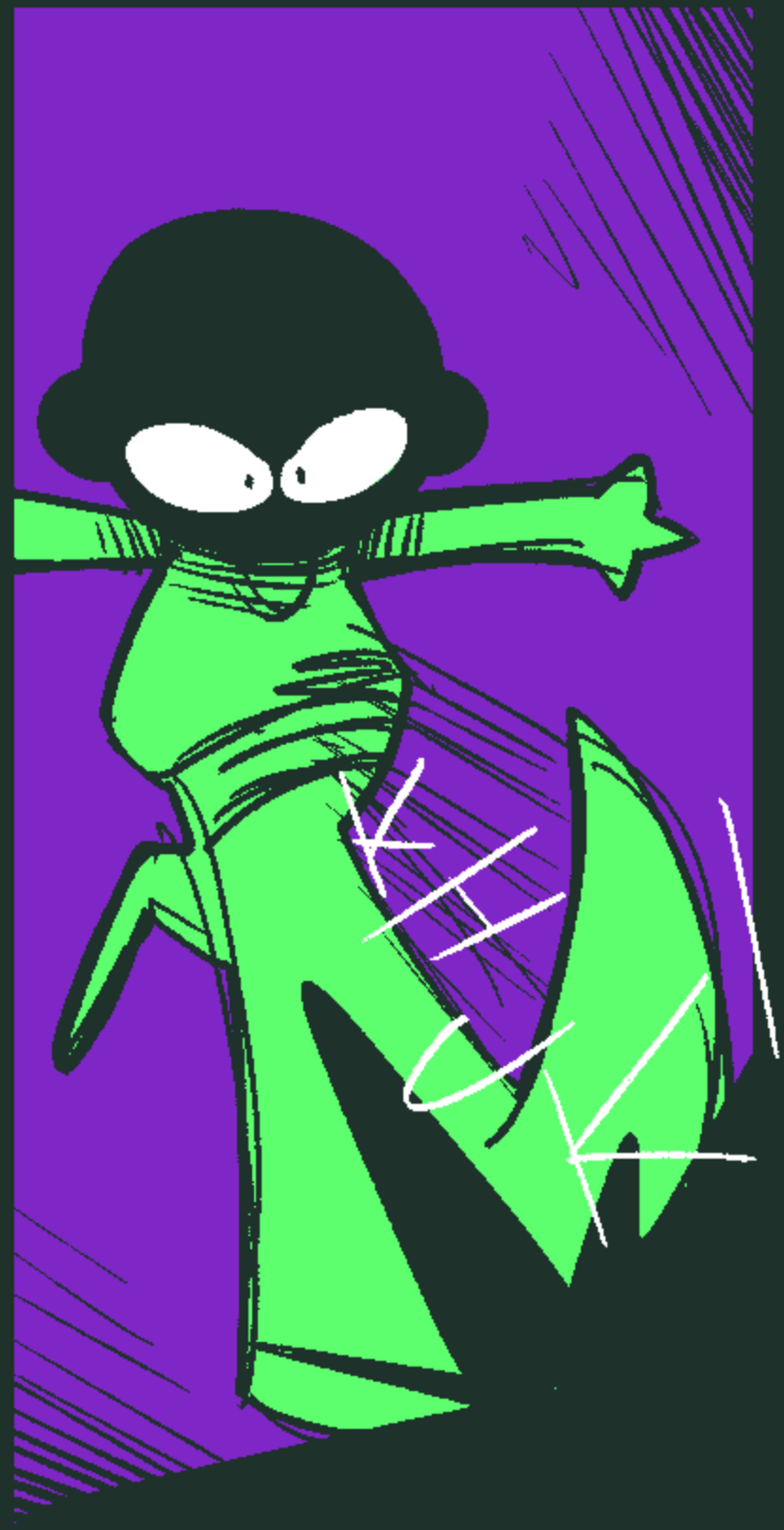
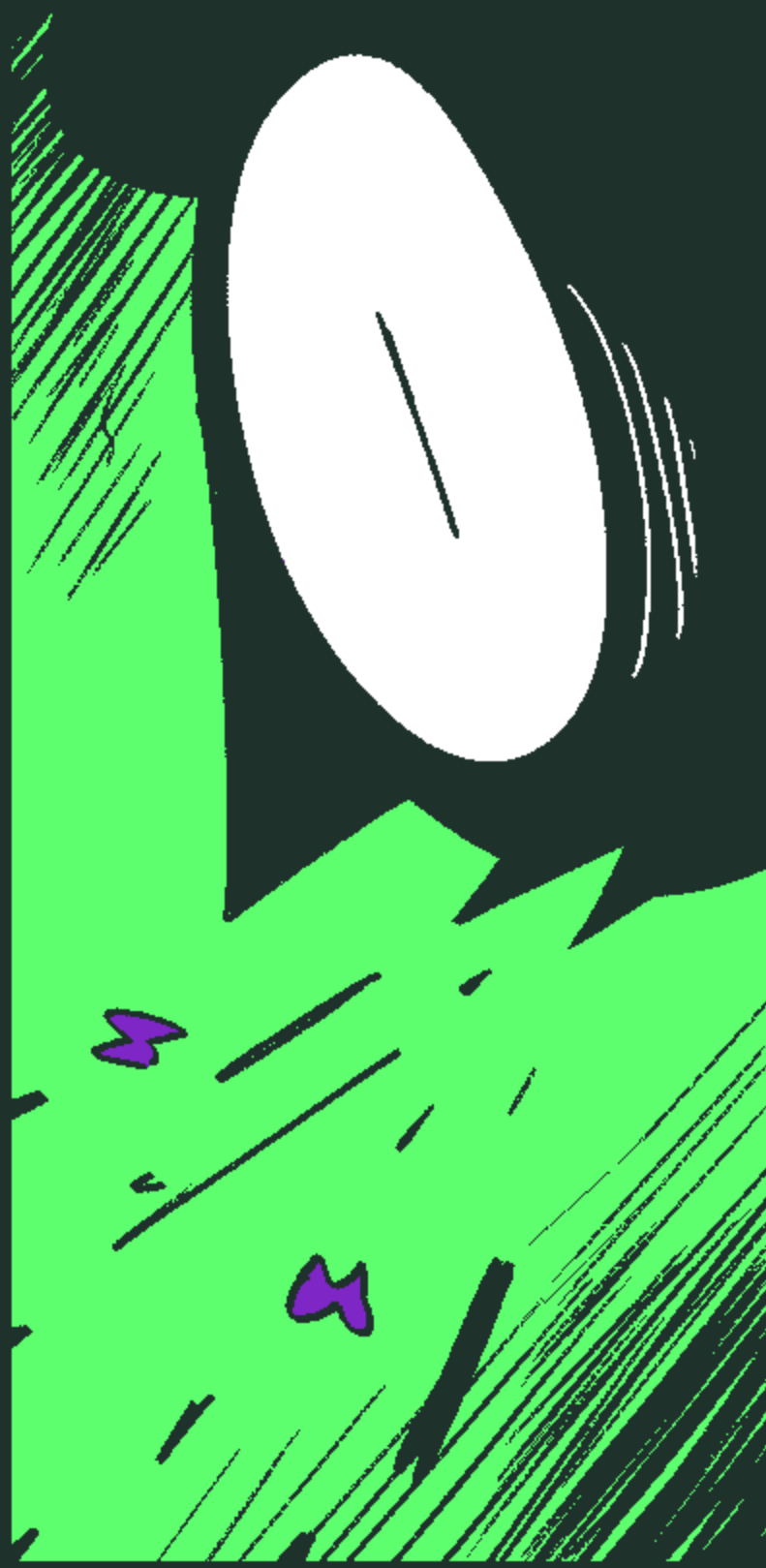


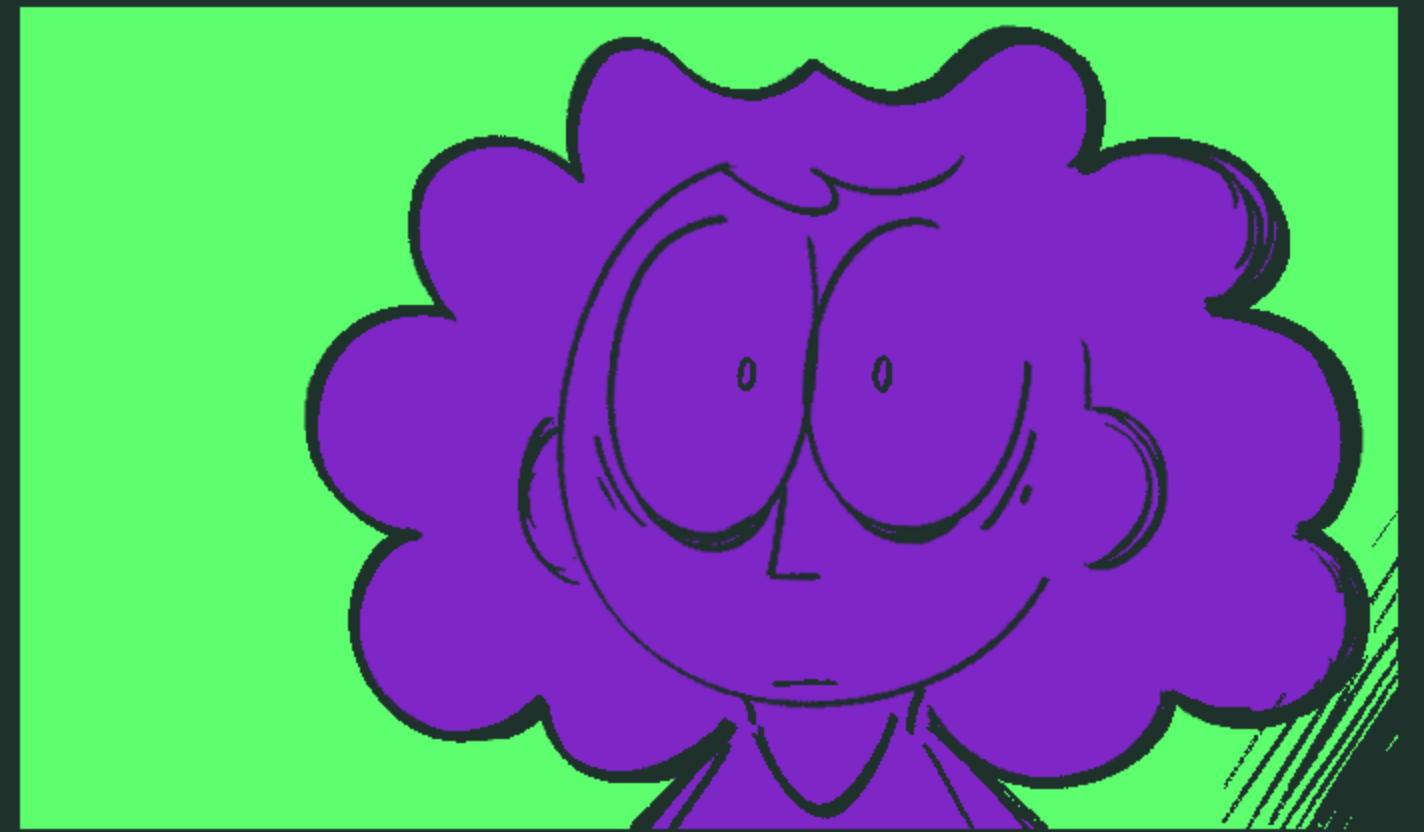
SLASH!!

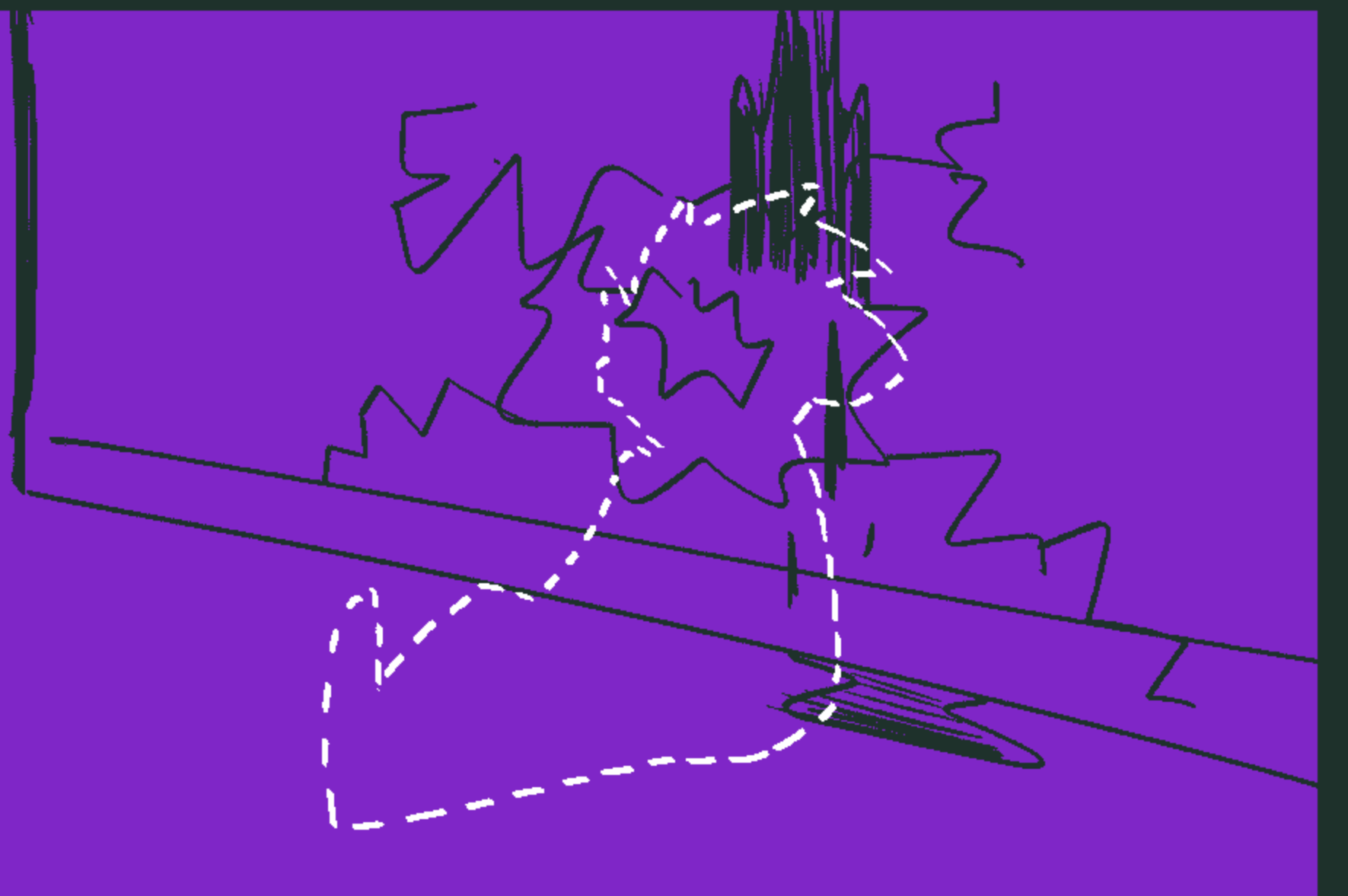
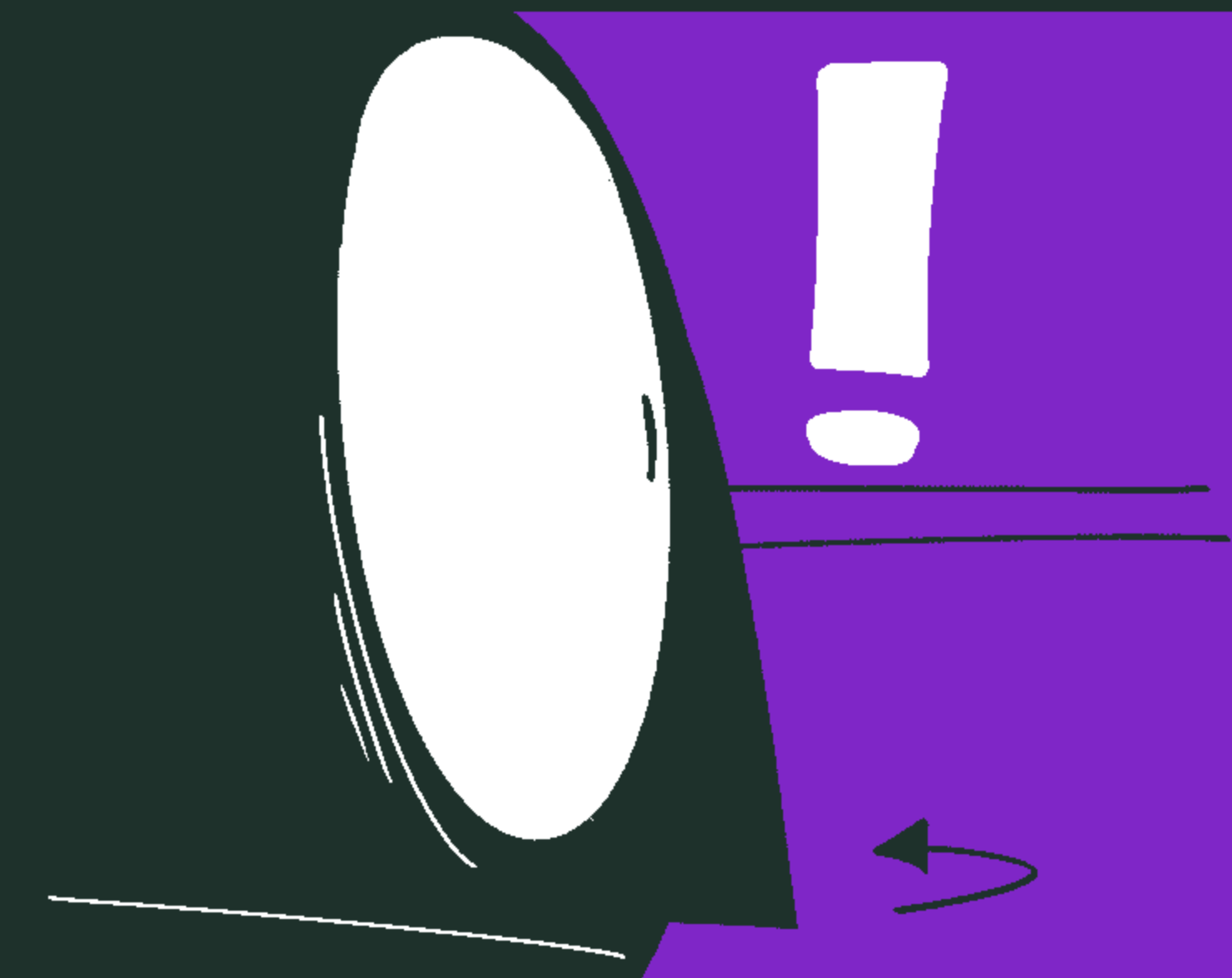


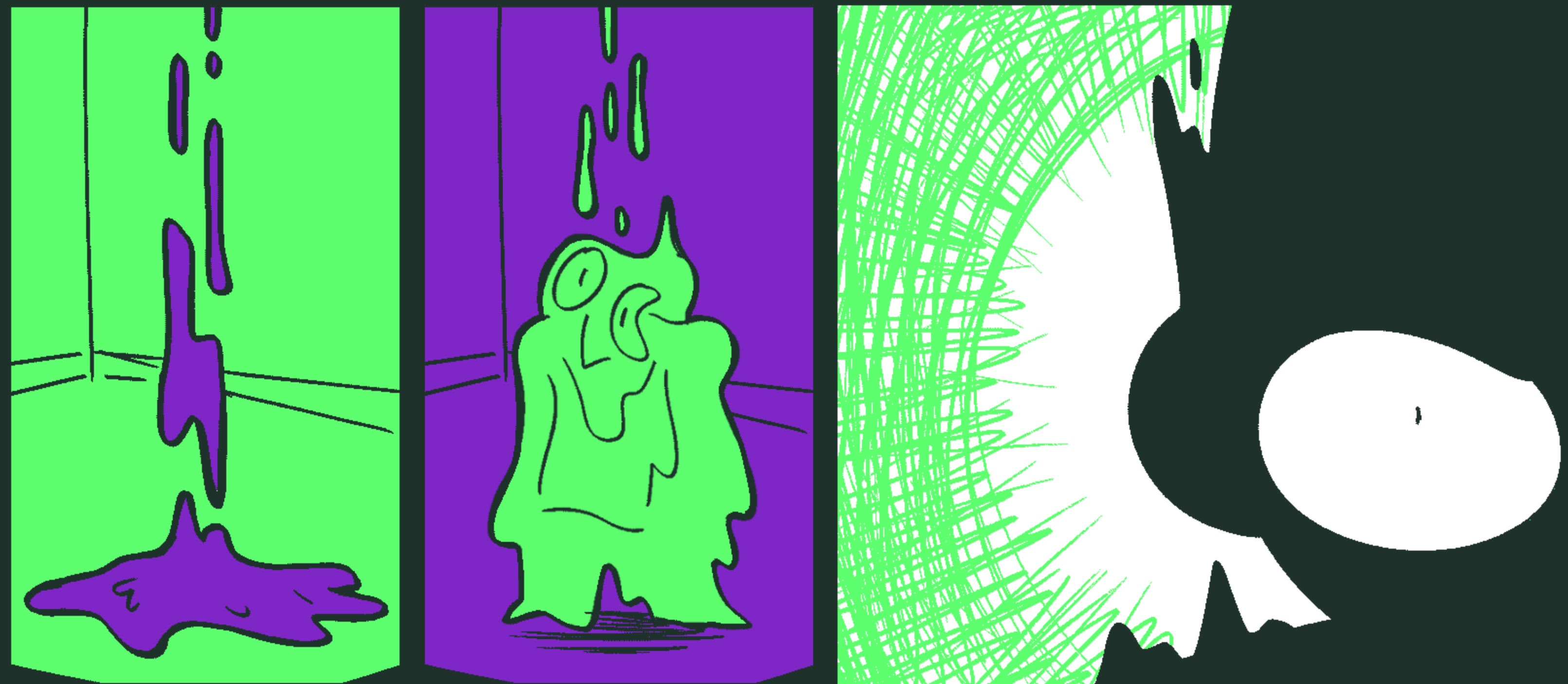


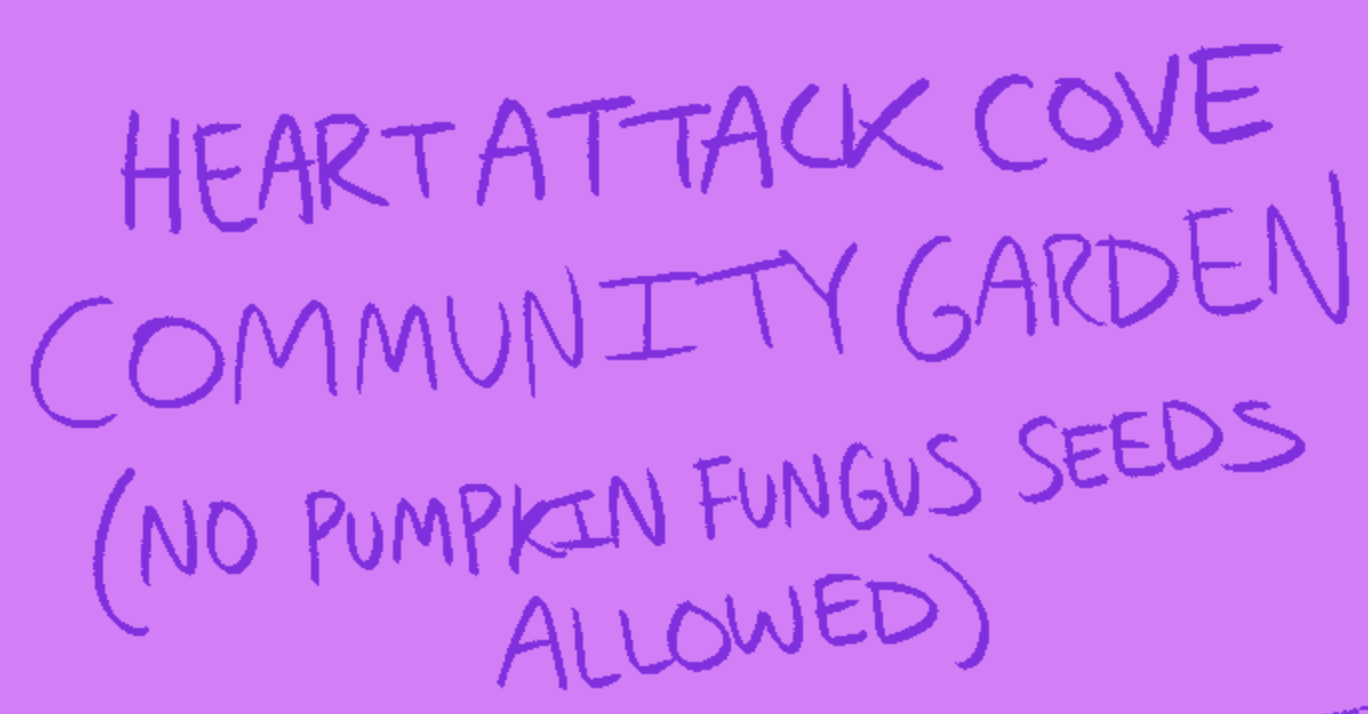












I USE THESE TO
CALM ME DOWN
WHEN I'M UPSET...

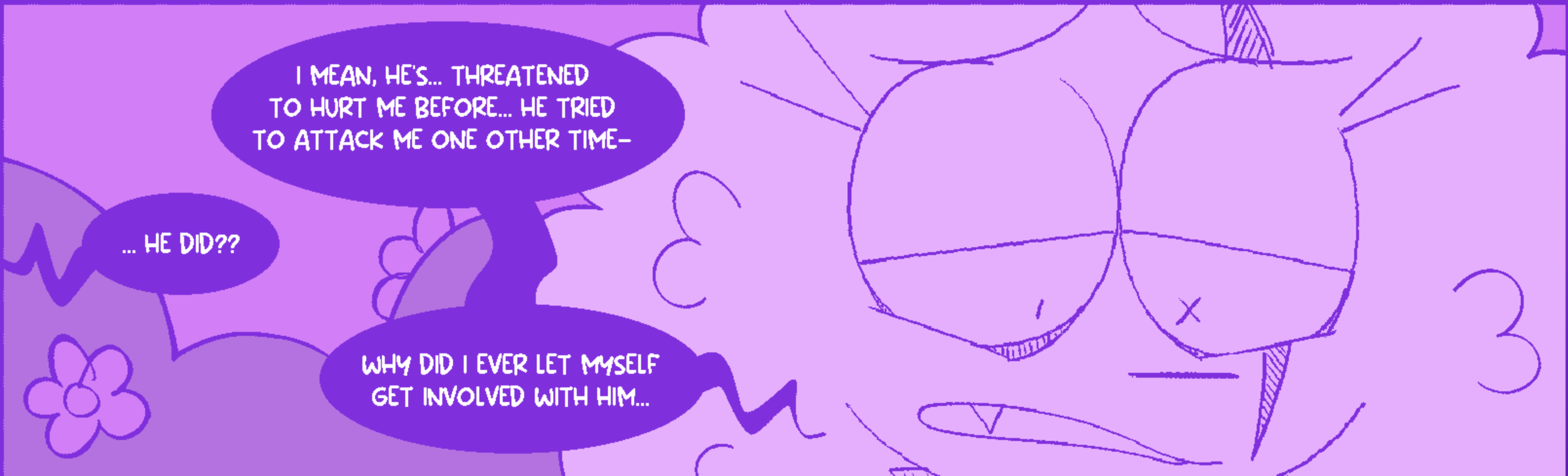
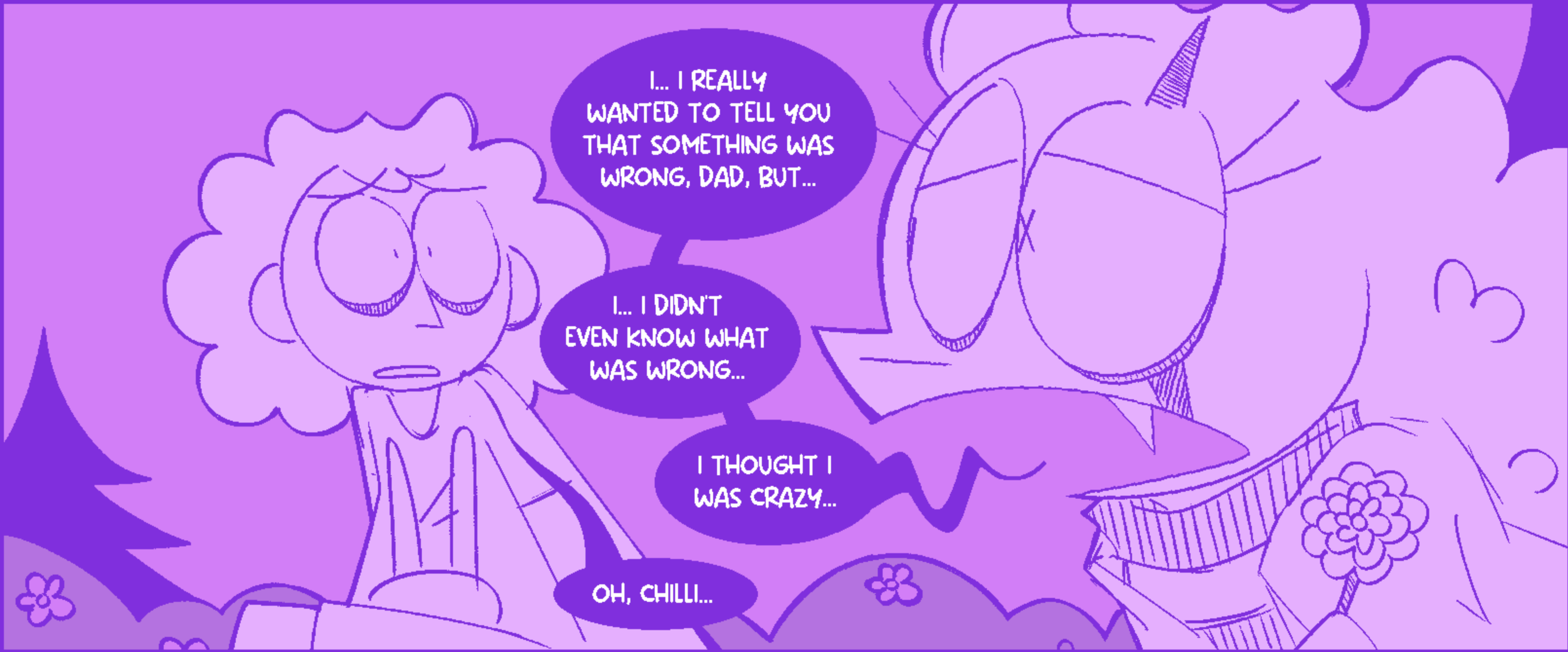
THANKS, ANNA.

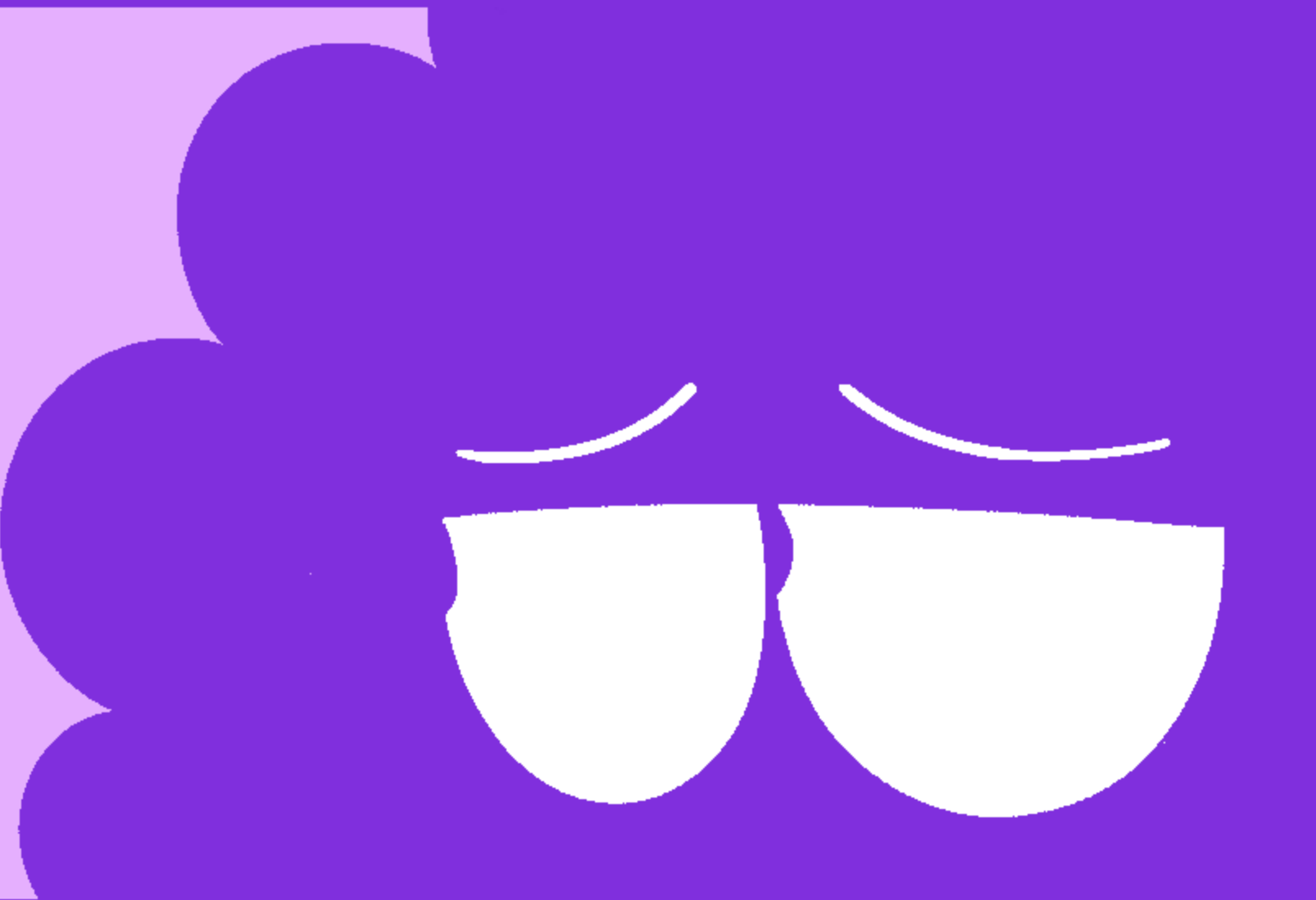
THESE ARE PRETTY.

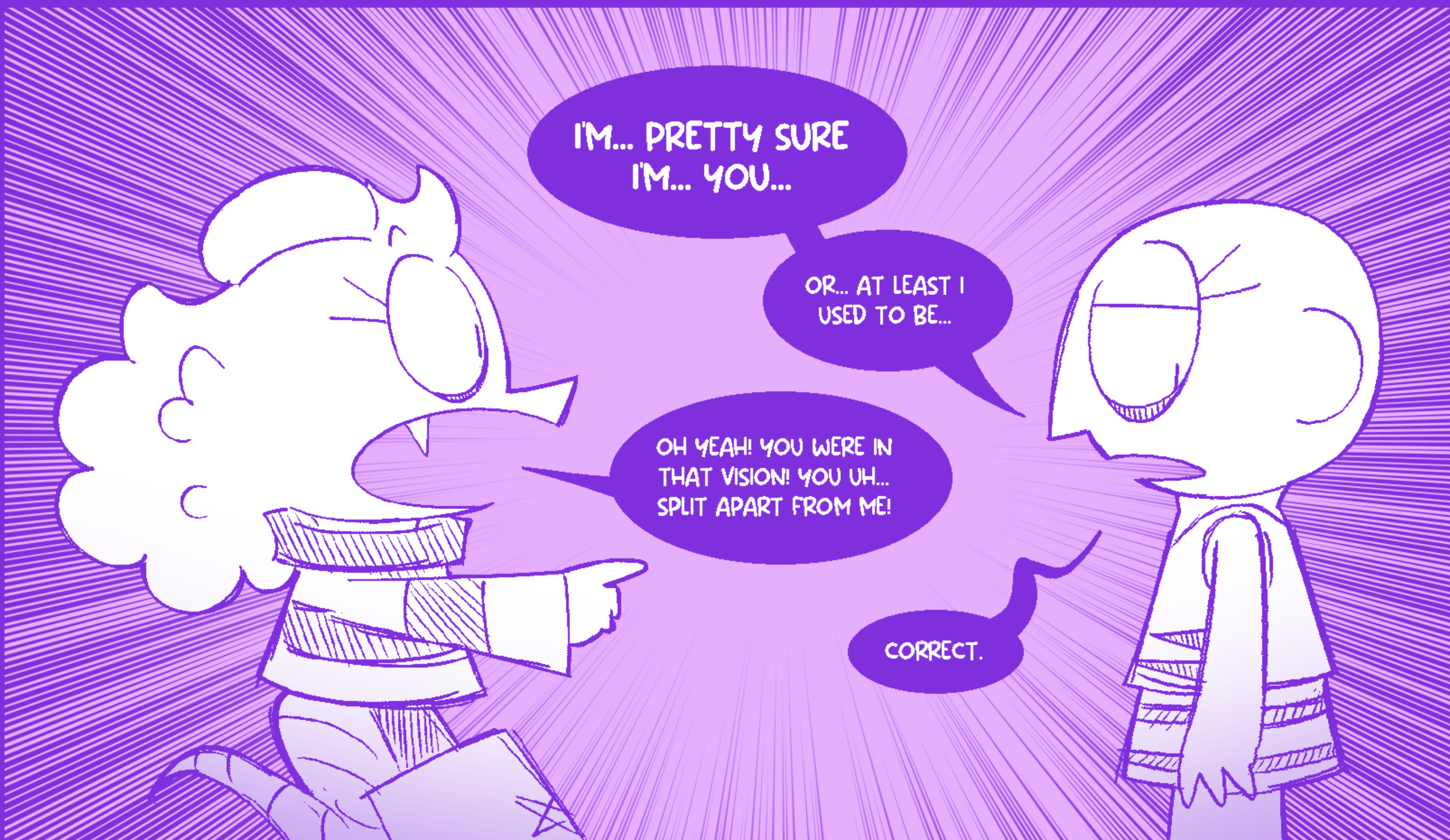
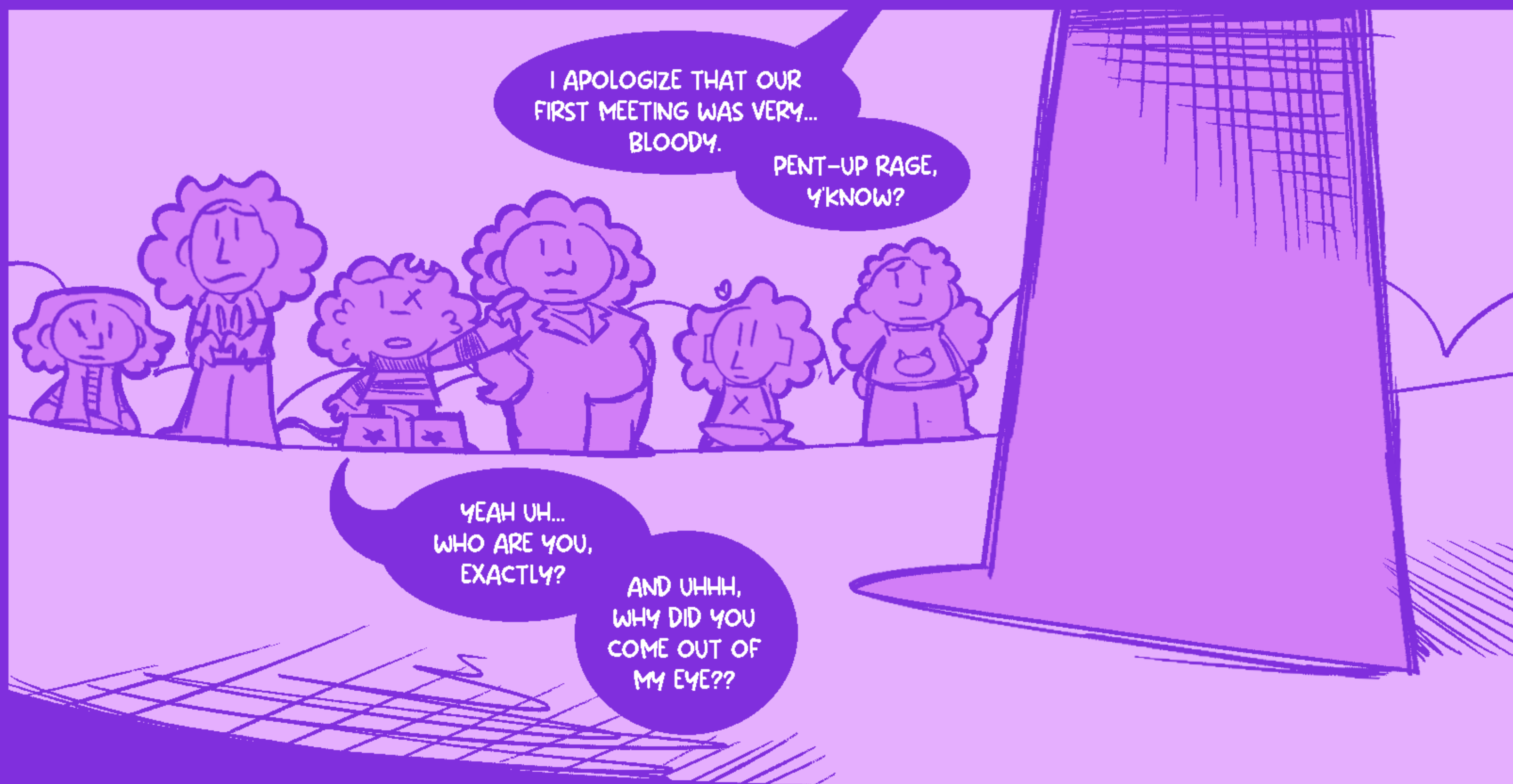


I'M SO SORRY,
CHILLI...











UP UNTIL THE POOL INCIDENT, CHILLI AND I WERE JUST... CHILLI. WE WERE ONE AND THE SAME.

WHEN THE MAYOR TRIED TO ERASE OUR MEMORY, HE ESSENTIALLY SPLIT US INTO TWO.

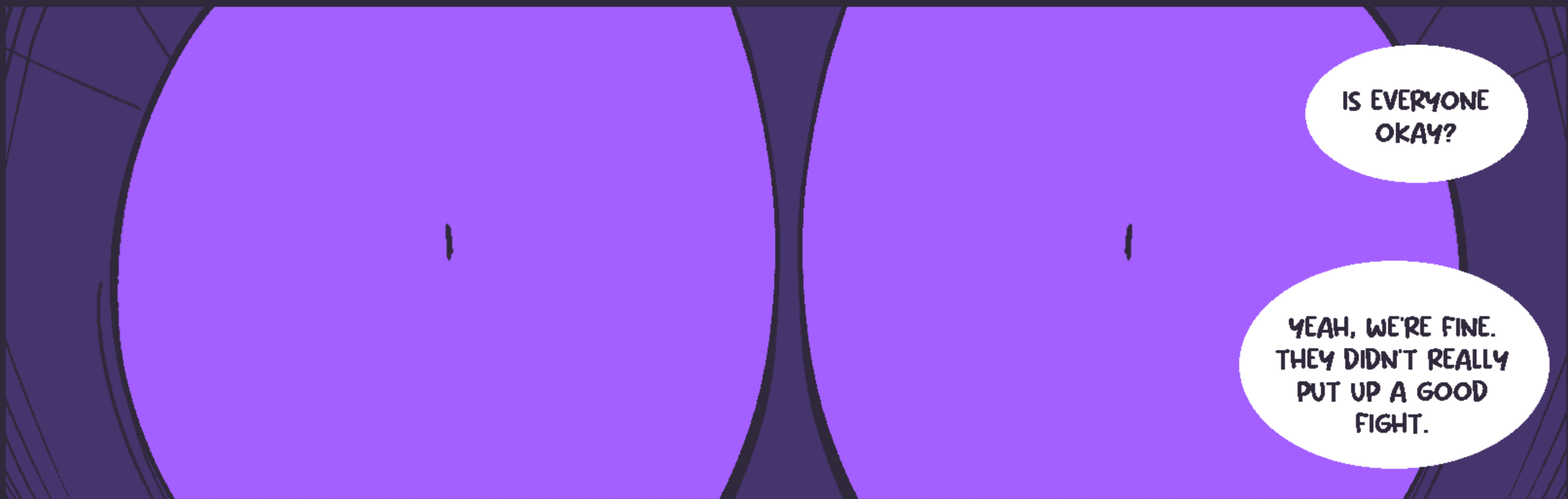


ONE CHILLI, WITHOUT THE MEMORY OF THE POOL INCIDENT, GOT TO KEEP LIVING HER LIFE, UNAWARE OF THE TRAUMA.

THE OTHER CHILLI, WITH THE MEMORY, WAS LOCKED AWAY IN THE DEEPEST PARTS OF HER SUBCONSCIOUS.

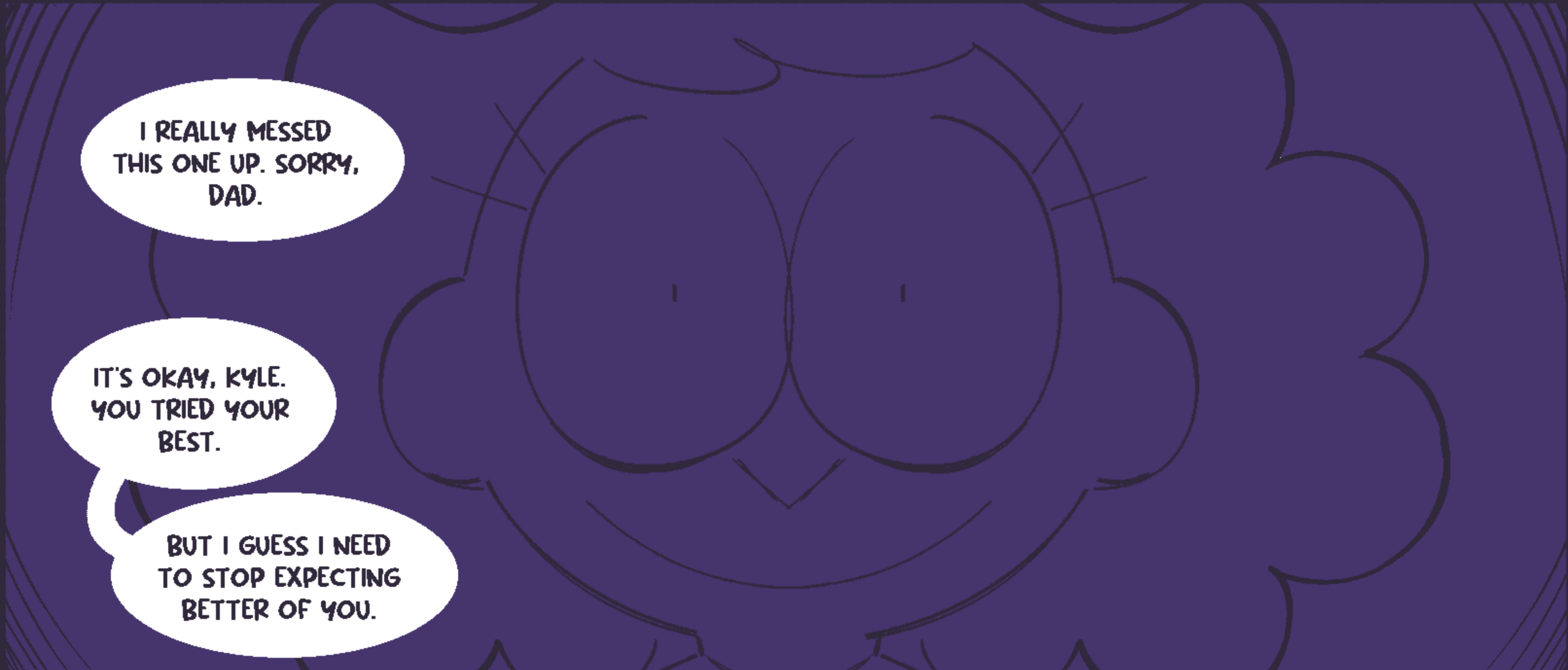
THANKFULLY, UP UNTIL THE LAST FEW MONTHS, I WAS IN A DEEP SLEEP.

UNTIL ONE NIGHT...



IS EVERYONE
OKAY?

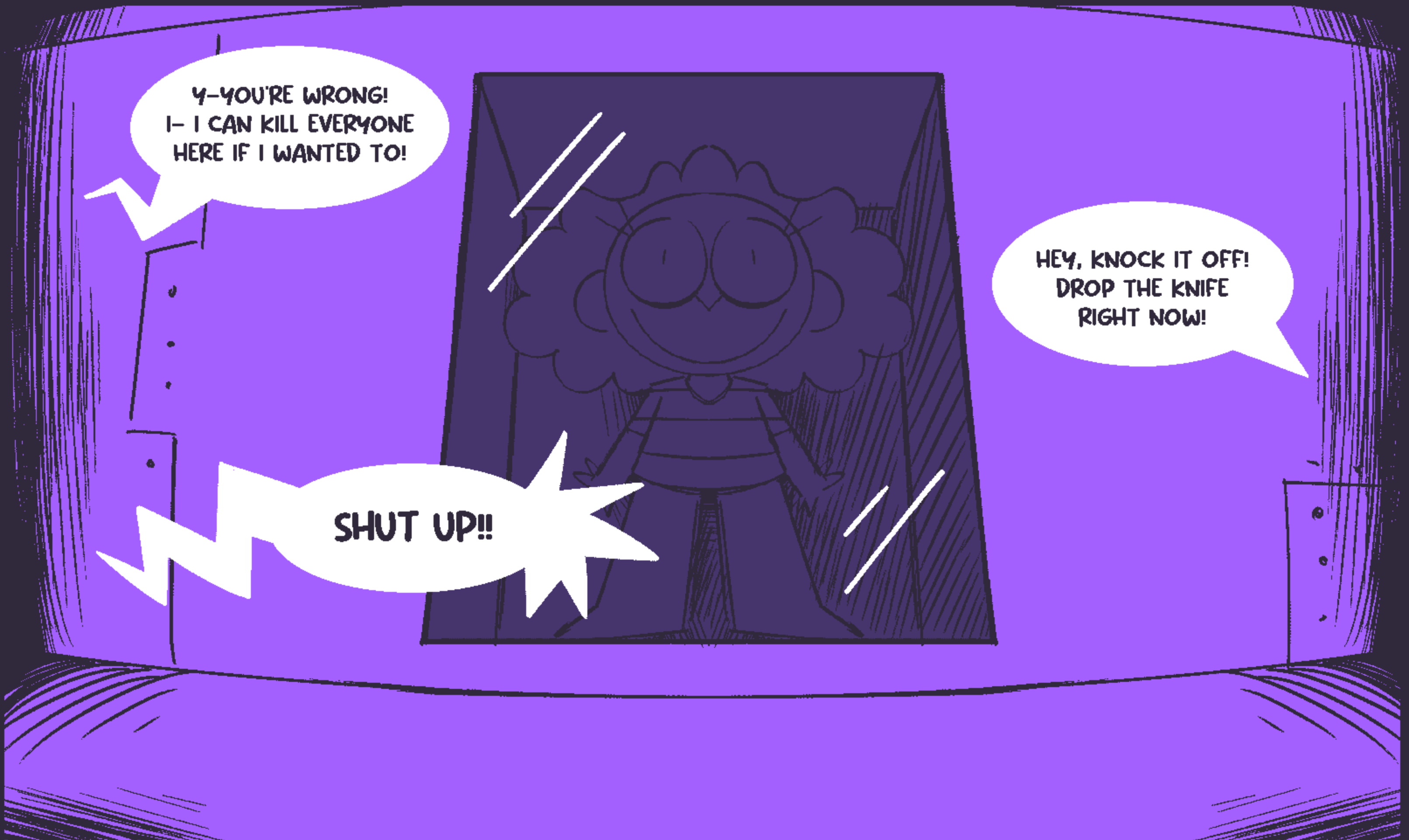
YEAH, WE'RE FINE.
THEY DIDN'T REALLY
PUT UP A GOOD
FIGHT.



I REALLY MESSED
THIS ONE UP. SORRY,
DAD.

IT'S OKAY, KYLE.
YOU TRIED YOUR
BEST.

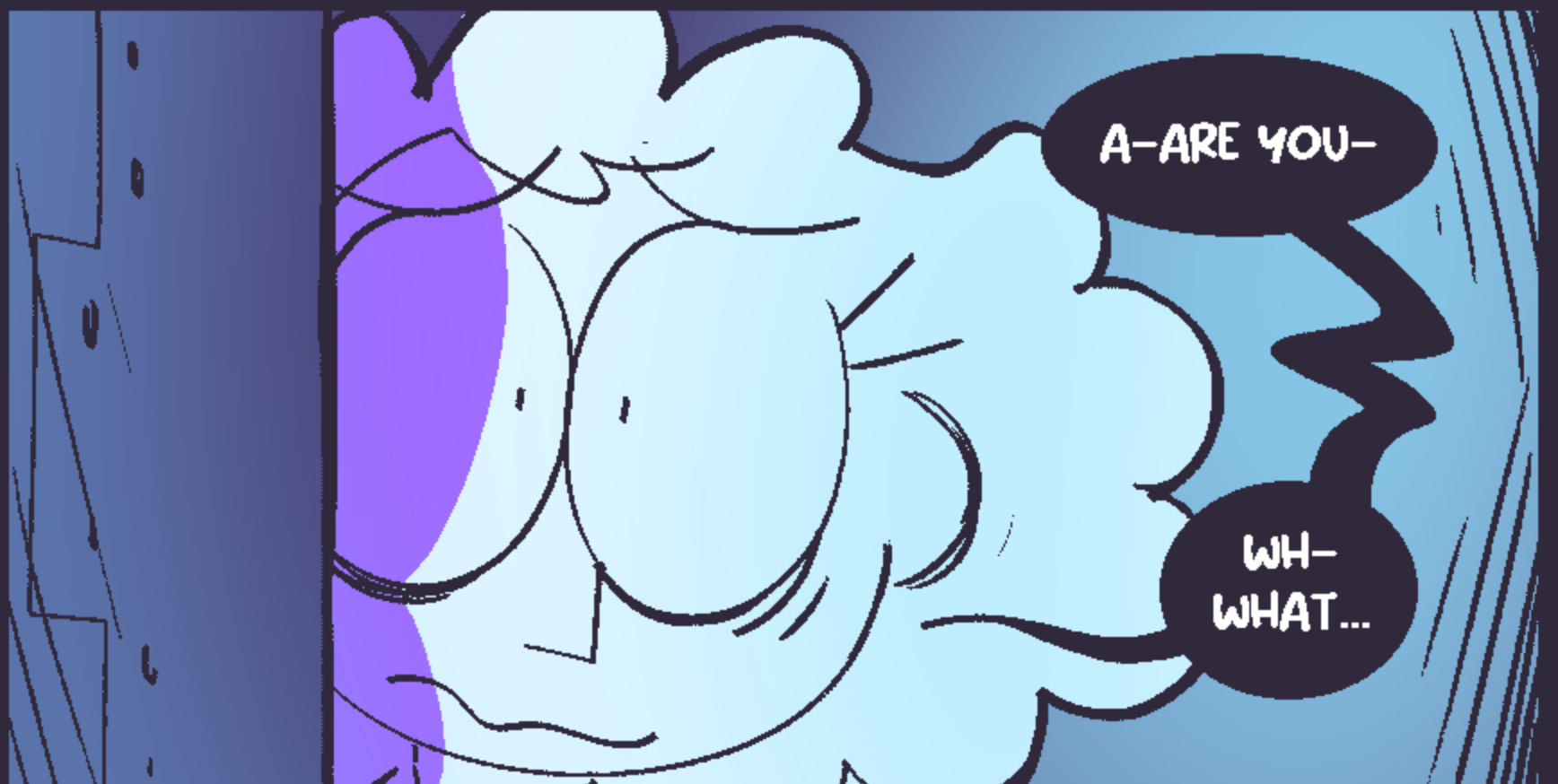
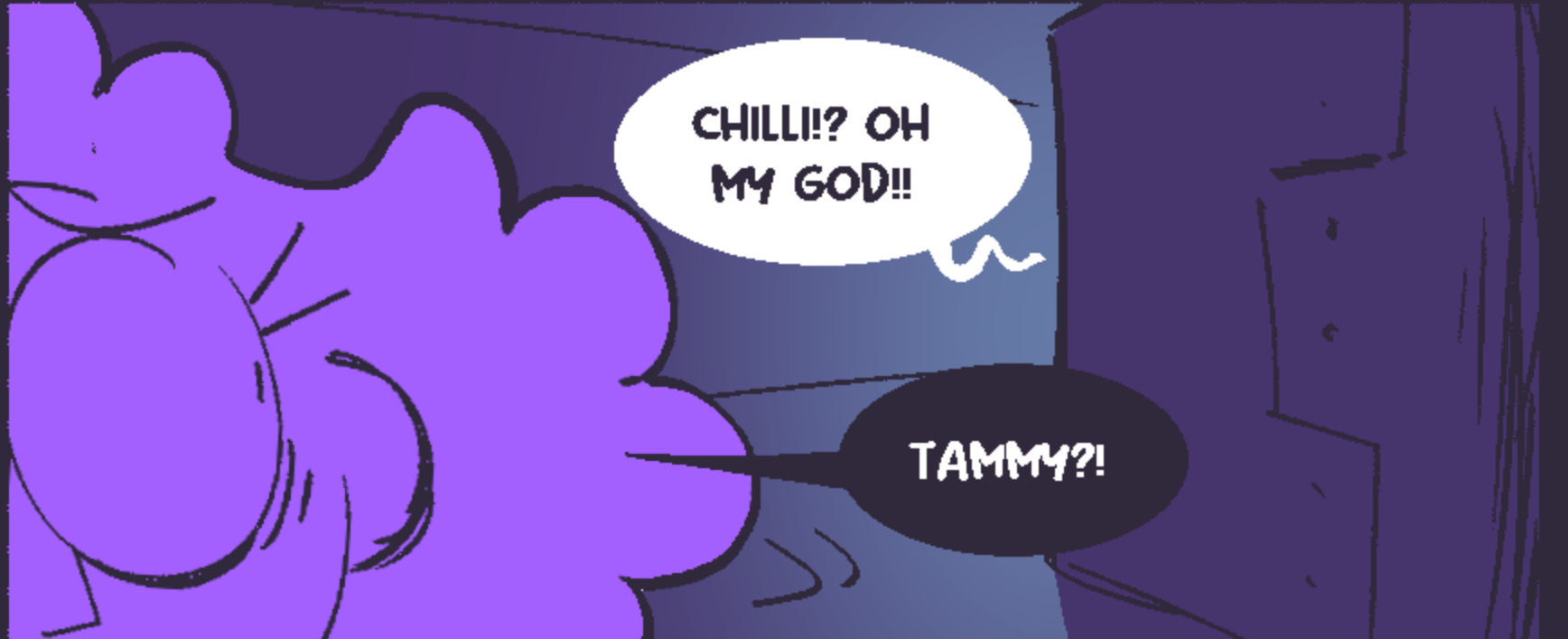
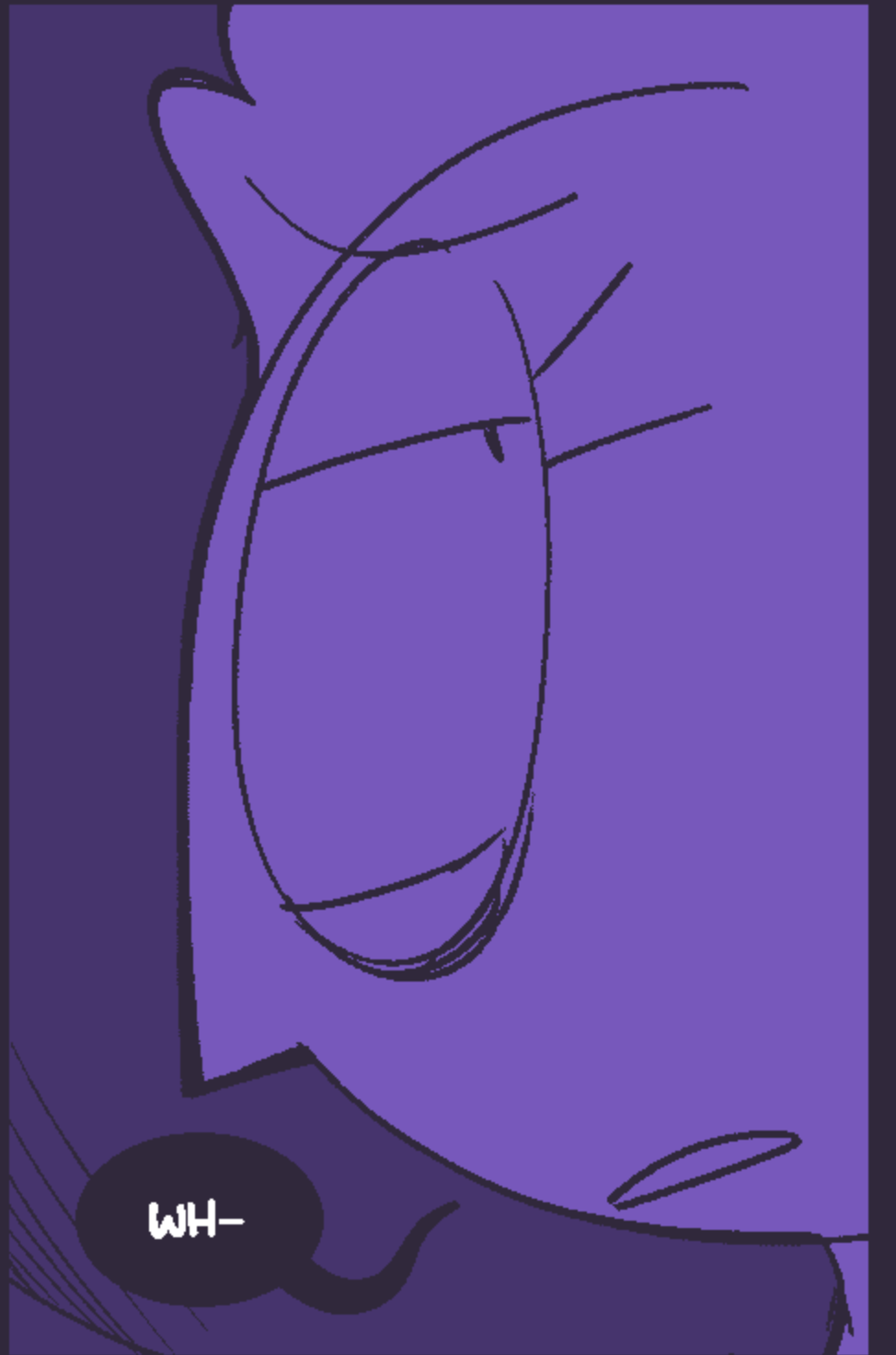
BUT I GUESS I NEED
TO STOP EXPECTING
BETTER OF YOU.

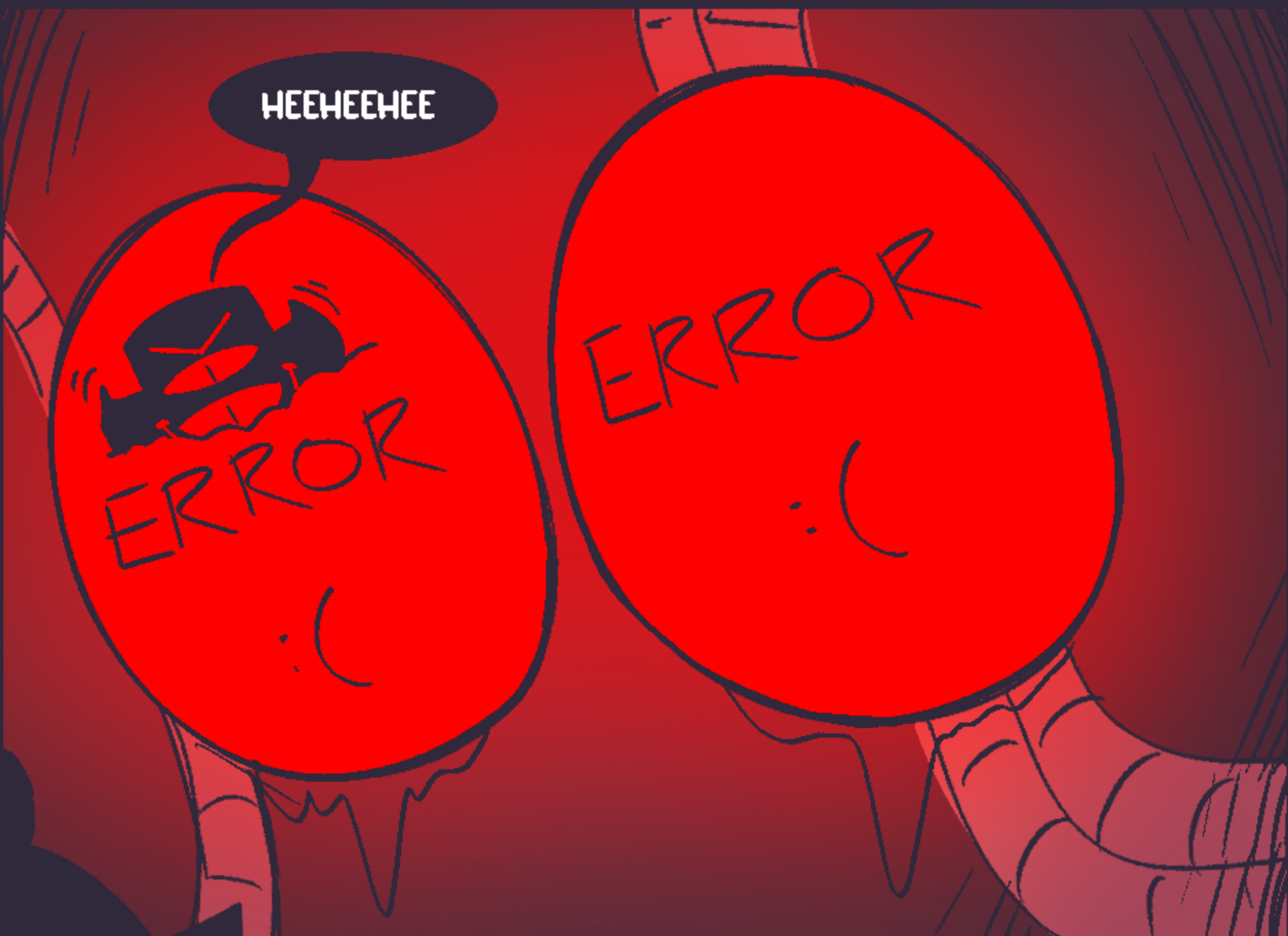
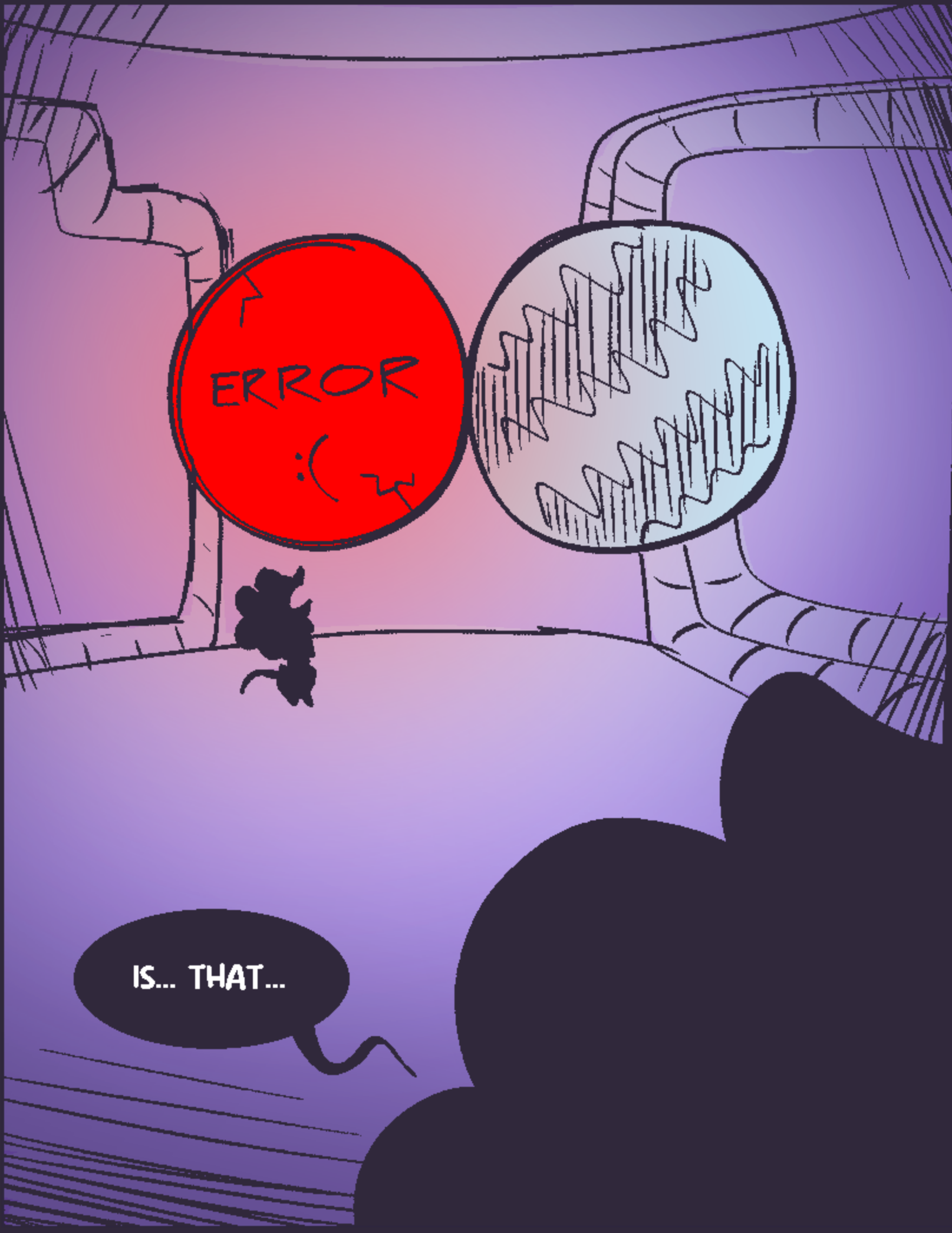


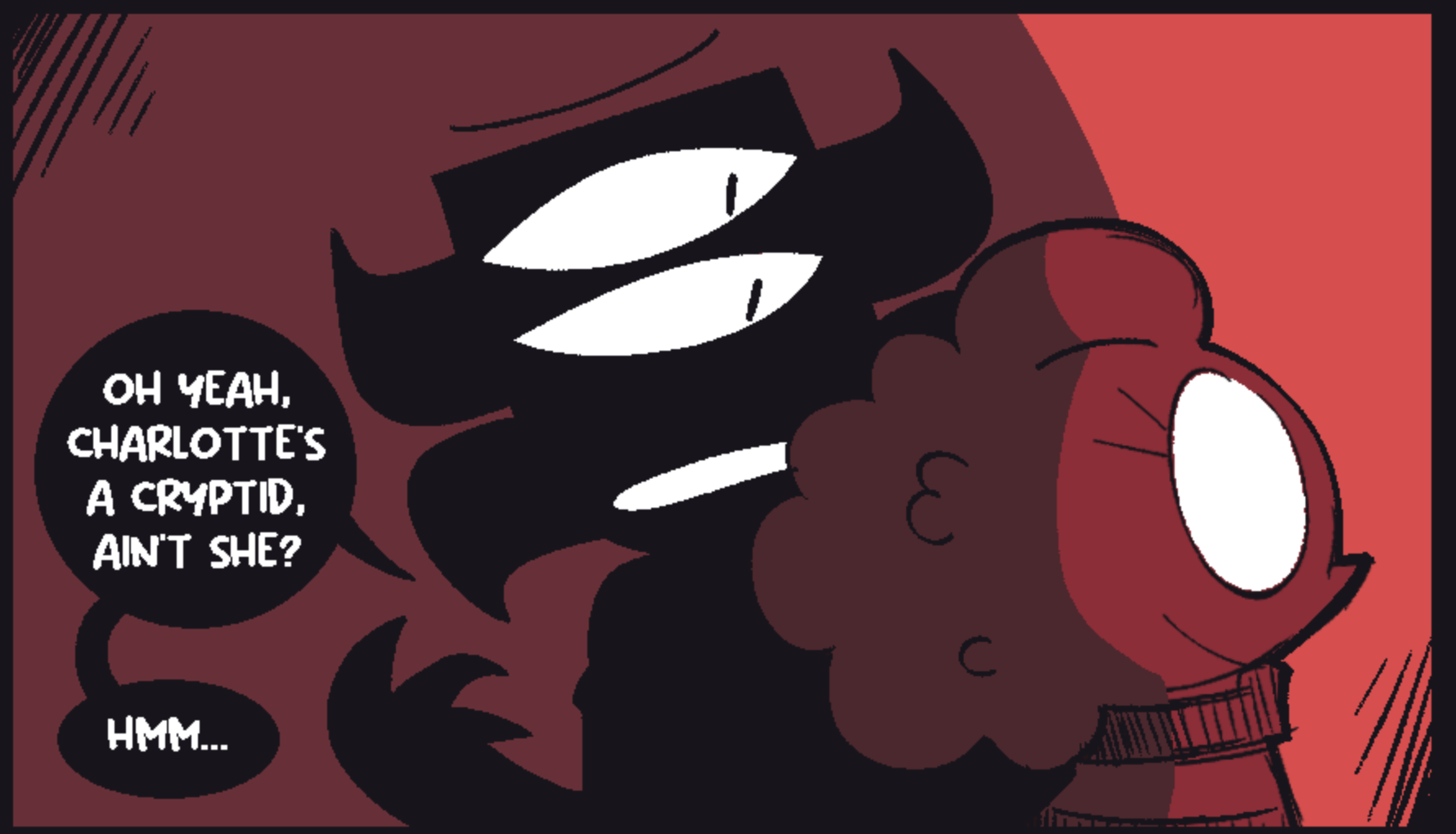
Y-YOU'RE WRONG!
I- I CAN KILL EVERYONE
HERE IF I WANTED TO!

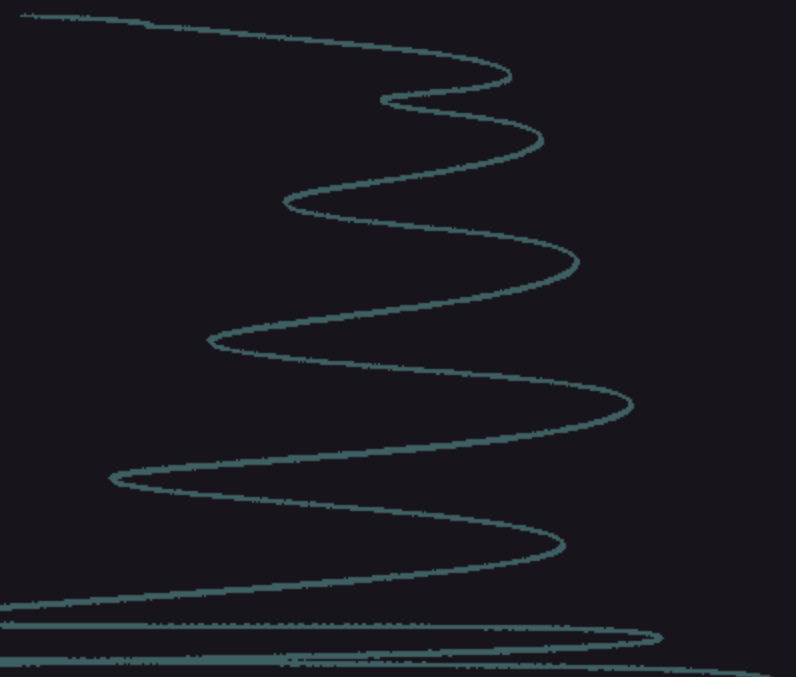
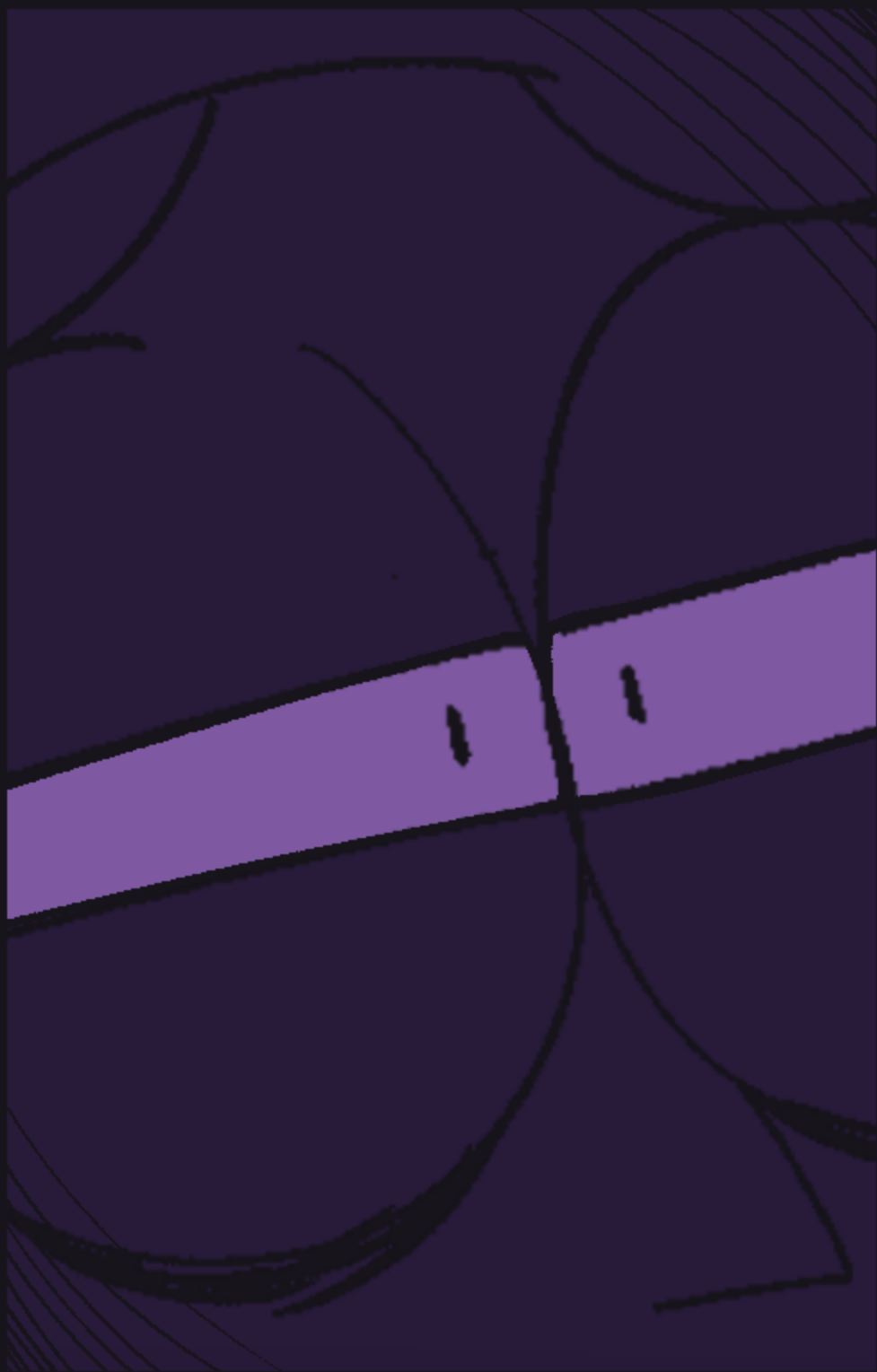
SHUT UP!!

HEY, KNOCK IT OFF!
DROP THE KNIFE
RIGHT NOW!









I WAS LOCKED OUT
OF YOUR BRAIN.

BUT DESPITE THAT,
I COULD STILL HEAR
EVERYTHING.



ONE MORE CHANCE,
CHARLOTTE. JOIN ME.
DON'T WASTE YOUR LIFE
ON THESE HUMANS. YOU'RE
CAPABLE OF SO MUCH
MORE...

SYNTH!! I... I'M SO
SORRY. I... I DIDN'T THINK
THAT PUNCH WOULD...

SHE WAS A DEMON,
I KNOW...

YOU JERK! GIVE CHILLI
HER TEETH BACK!!

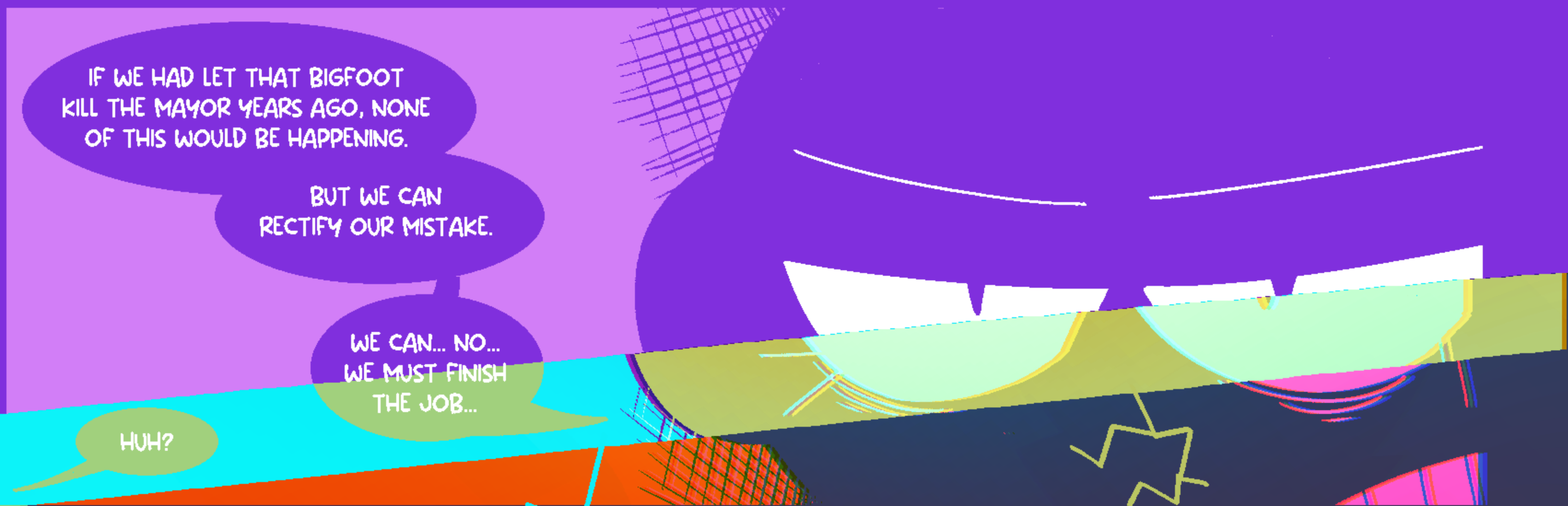
EVERYTHING...



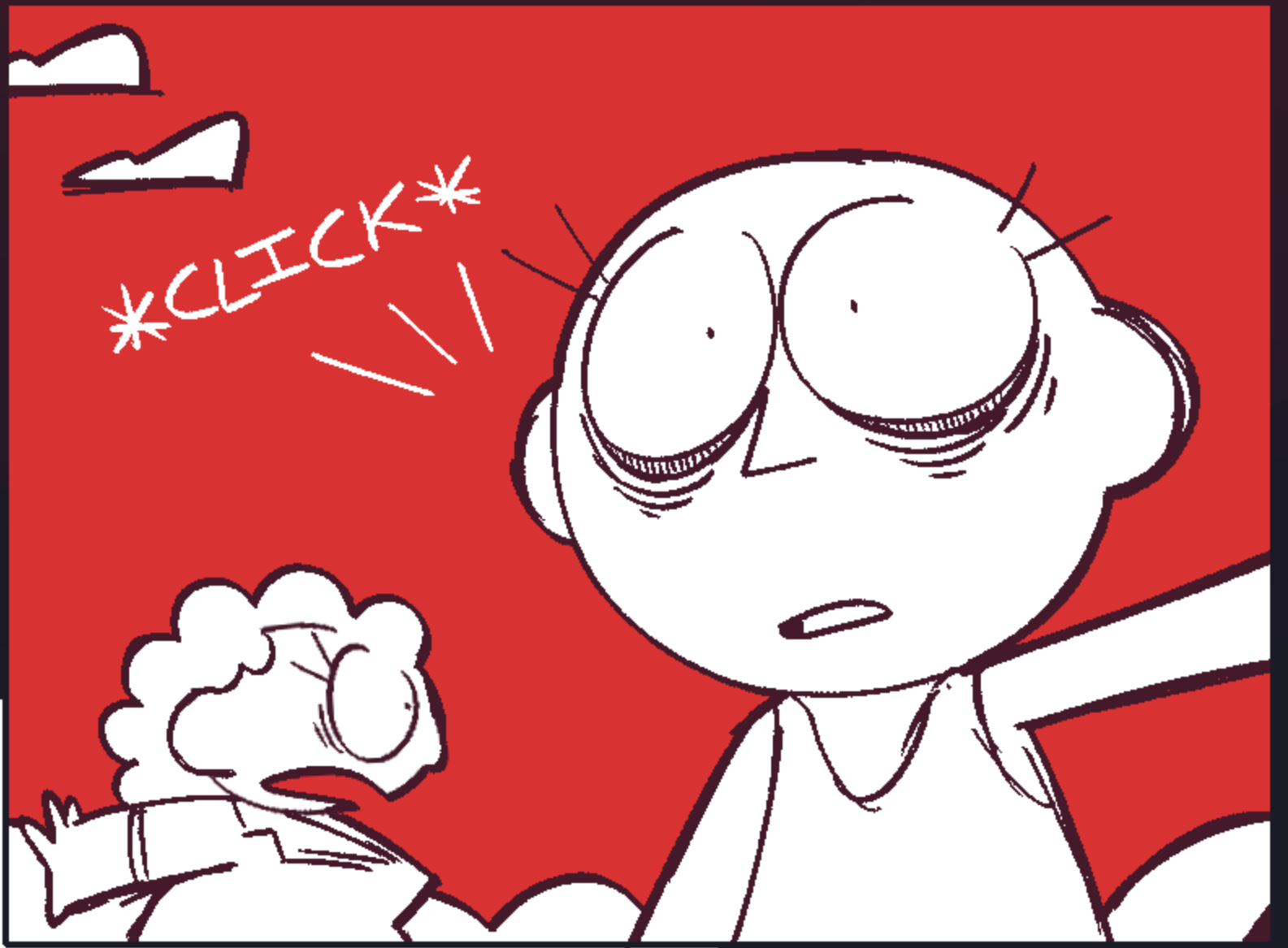
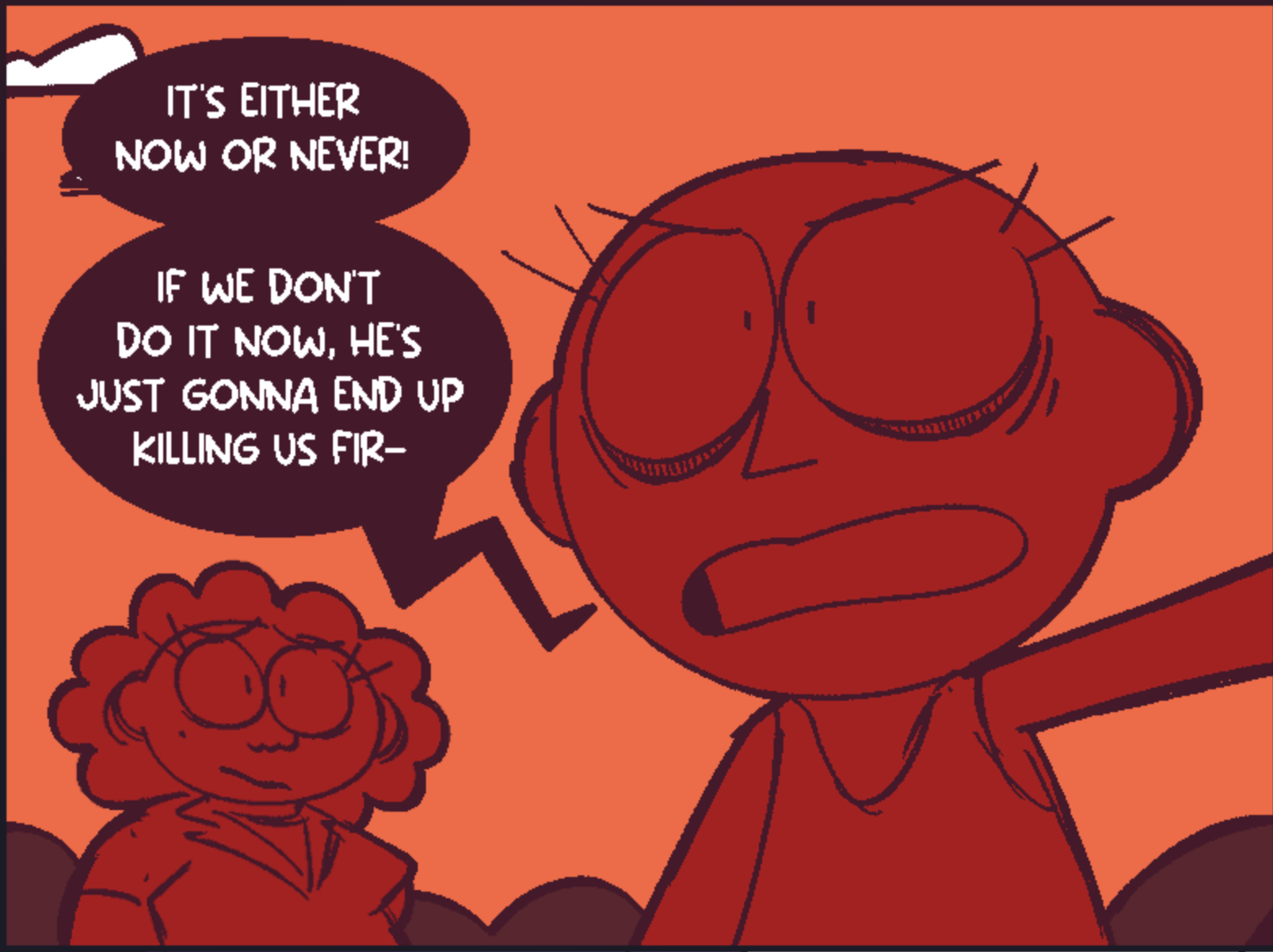
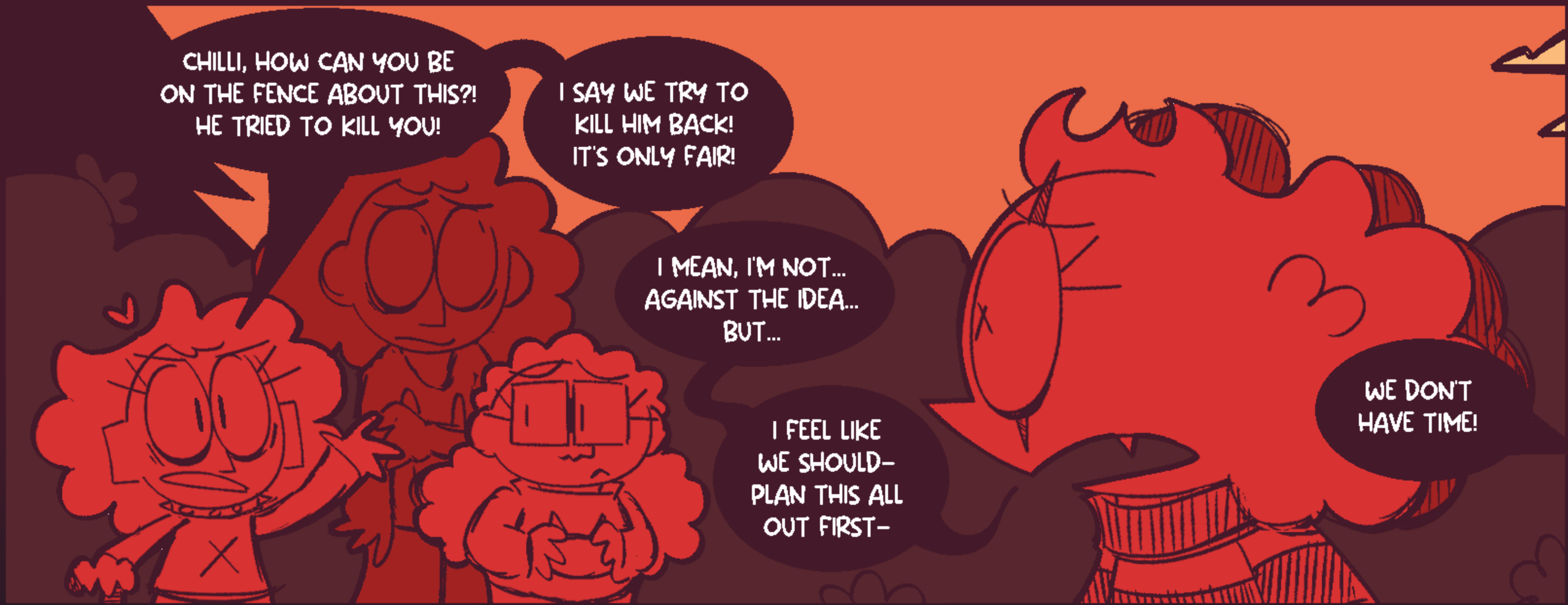
YOU'D BE OUR
GREATEST
WEAPON.

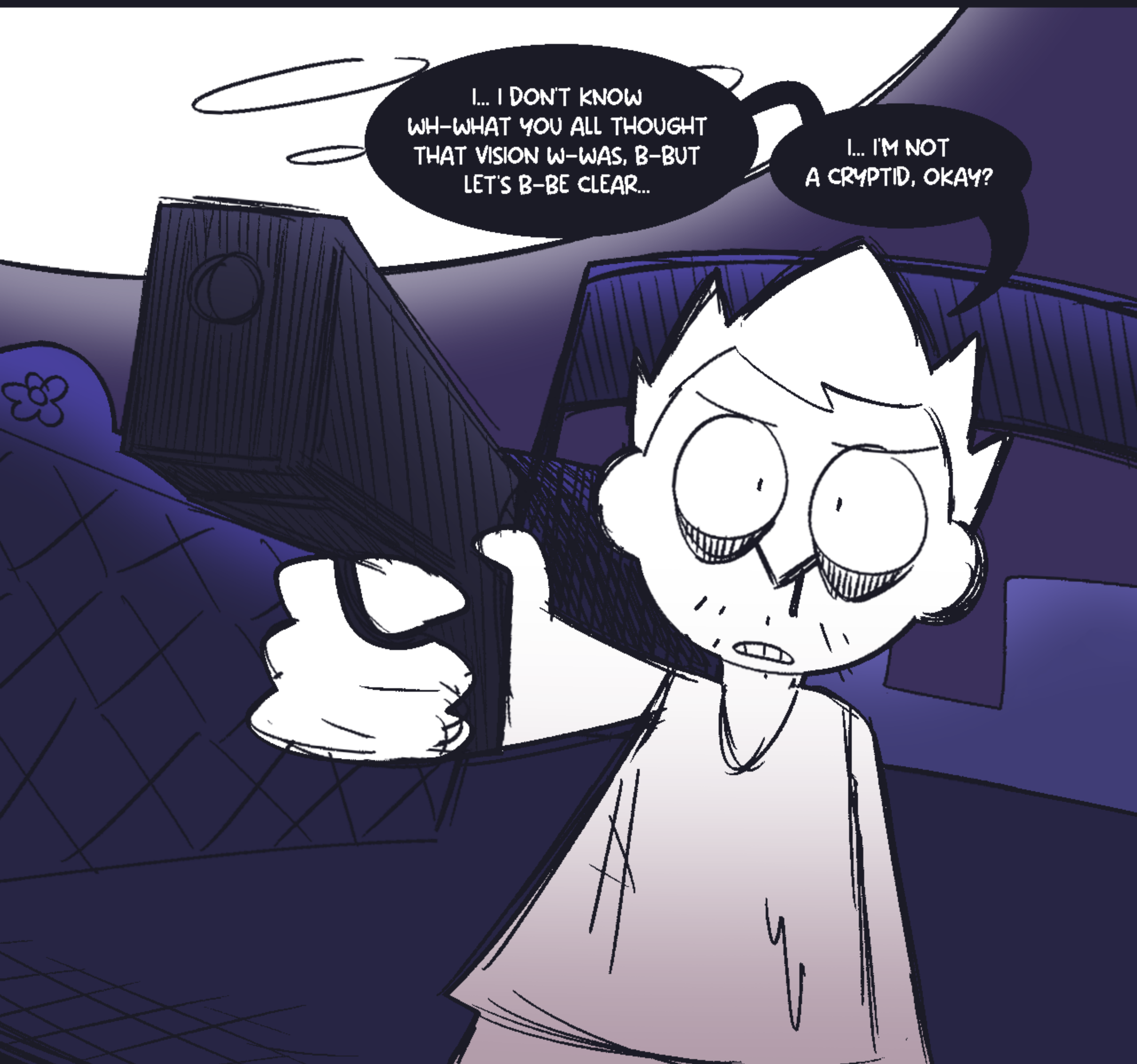
WHAT HAPPENED
TO YOU?

THAT MEETING WITH
THE MAYOR WAS THE
LAST STRAW.









I... I DON'T KNOW
WH-WHAT YOU ALL THOUGHT
THAT VISION W-WAS, B-BUT
LET'S B-BE CLEAR...

I... I'M NOT
A CRYPTID, OKAY?



A-AND I CAN'T HAVE YOU
TELLING ANYONE THAT I AM,
B-BECAUSE I'M NOT!

GUN
GUN
GUN
GUN
GUN
GUN
GUN

OH GO
OH GO
OH GO
OH GO
OH GO
OH GO



I-I MEAN, IF I WAS
A CRYPTID, W-WHY
WOULD I USE A GUN
TO KILL YOU?

IF I WAS A CRYPTID,
I-I'D JUST KILL YOU WITH
MY UH, MY HYPOTHETICAL
CRYPTID POWERS,
RIGHT?



TH-THE FACT THAT
I'M USING A GUN MEANS
I CAN'T POSSIBLY BE-

WOAH WAIT
I'M NOT DONE
TALKING YE-



WACK!



WE DON'T CARE
THAT YOU'RE A
CRYPTID-



YOU TRIED TO
KILL ME! AND THEN
TRIED TO ERASE MY
MEMORY!

AND THEN DID A
HORRIBLE JOB AT
DOING BOTH!

HHH...



YOU KNOW WHAT?!

FINE!!



THERE'S...
THERE'S NO
USE...

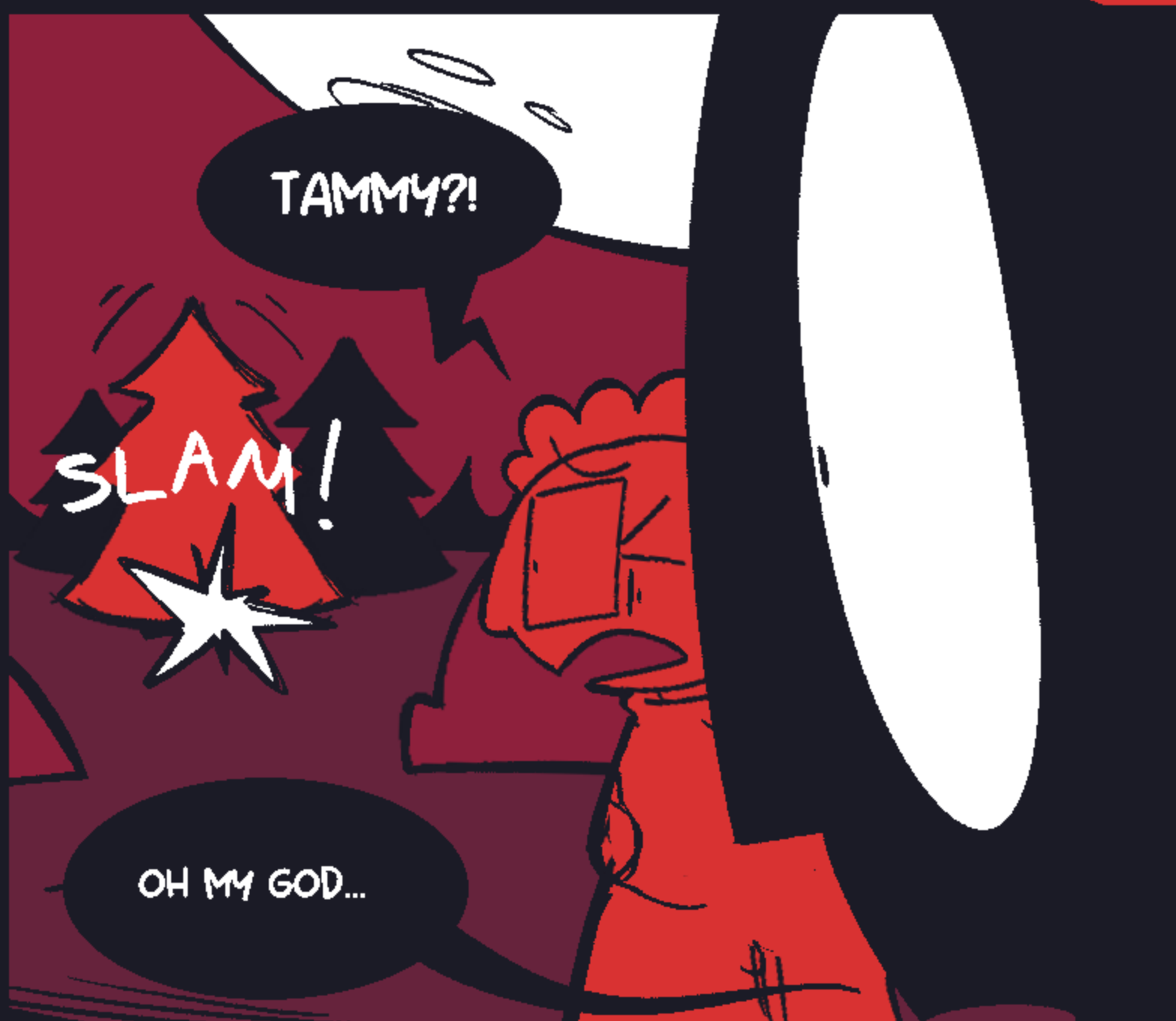
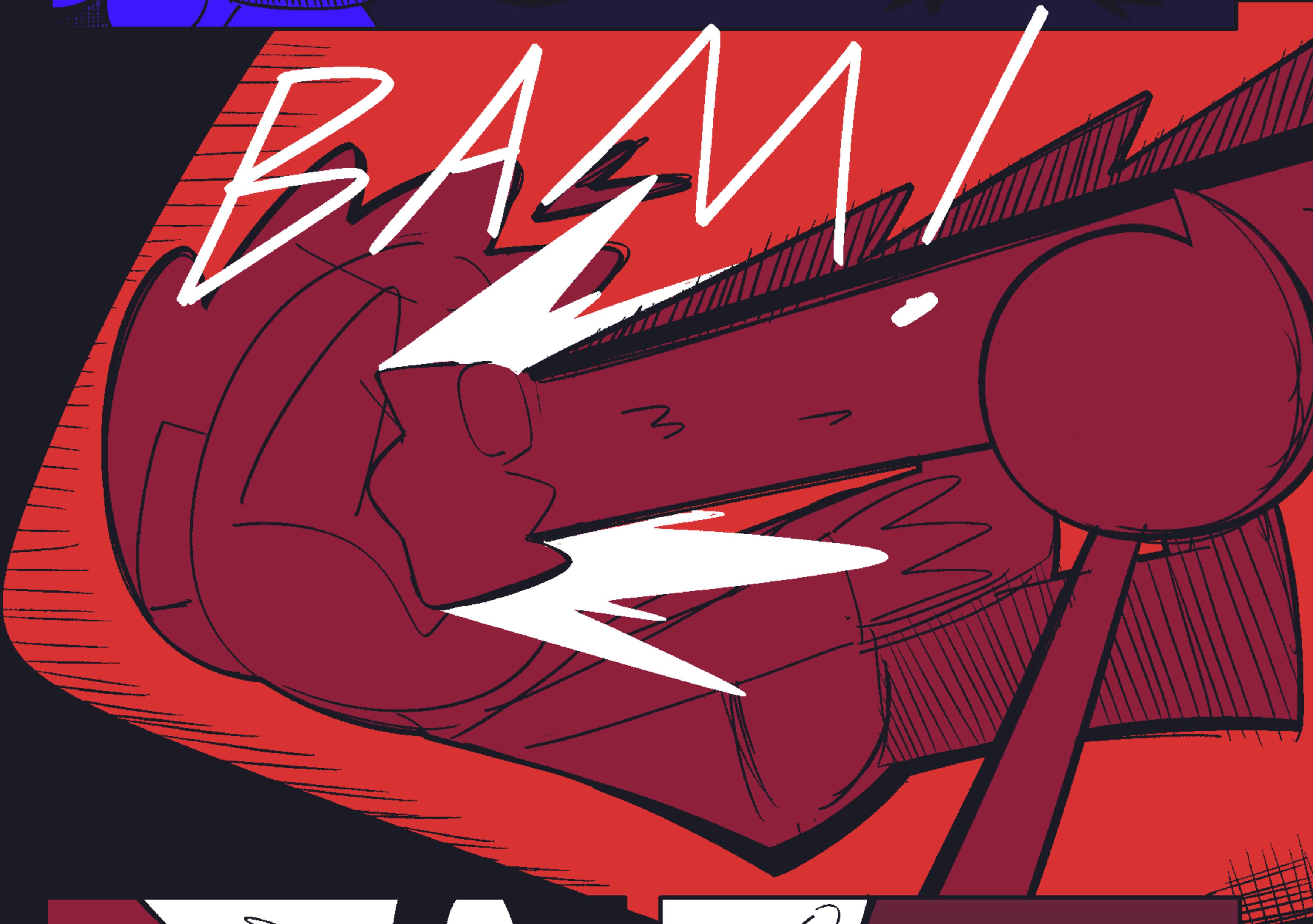
WHAT'S... WHAT'S
THE POINT IN LYING
TO MYSELF ANYMORE...

WE... WE ALL
KNOW WHAT I AM...



GOD, I...
I WAS A FOOL FOR...
FOR THINKING-

OH MY GOD
SHUT THE FU-



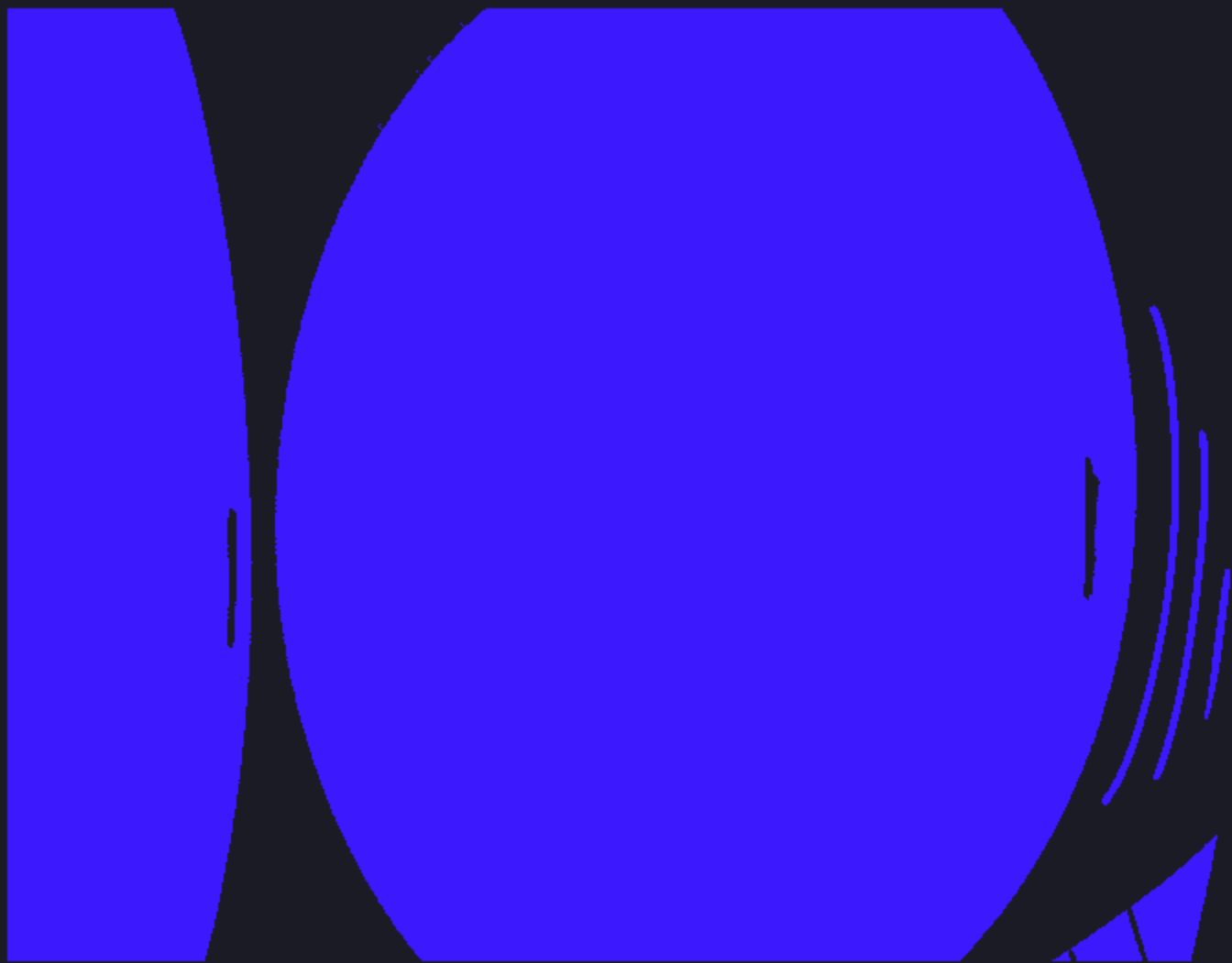
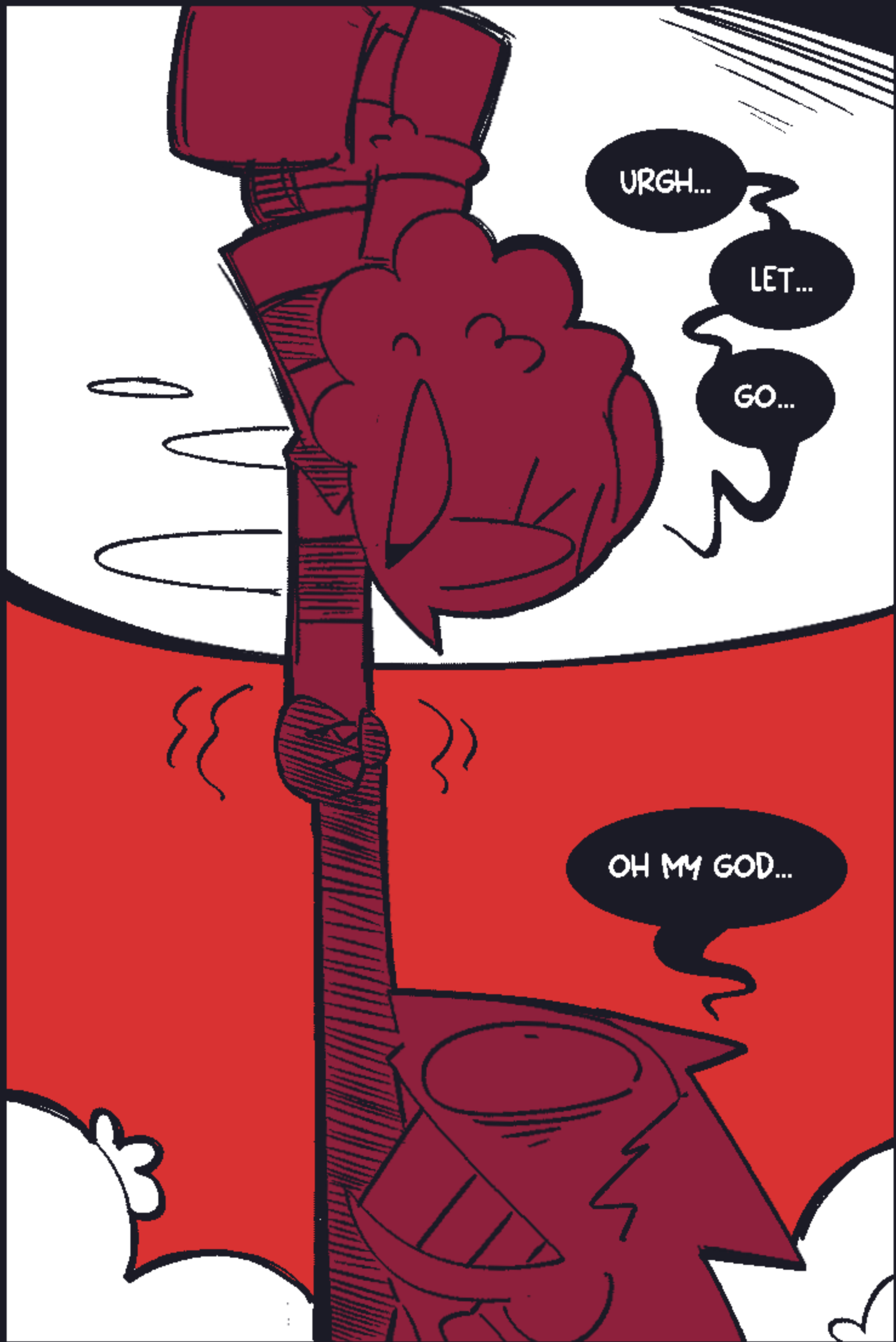
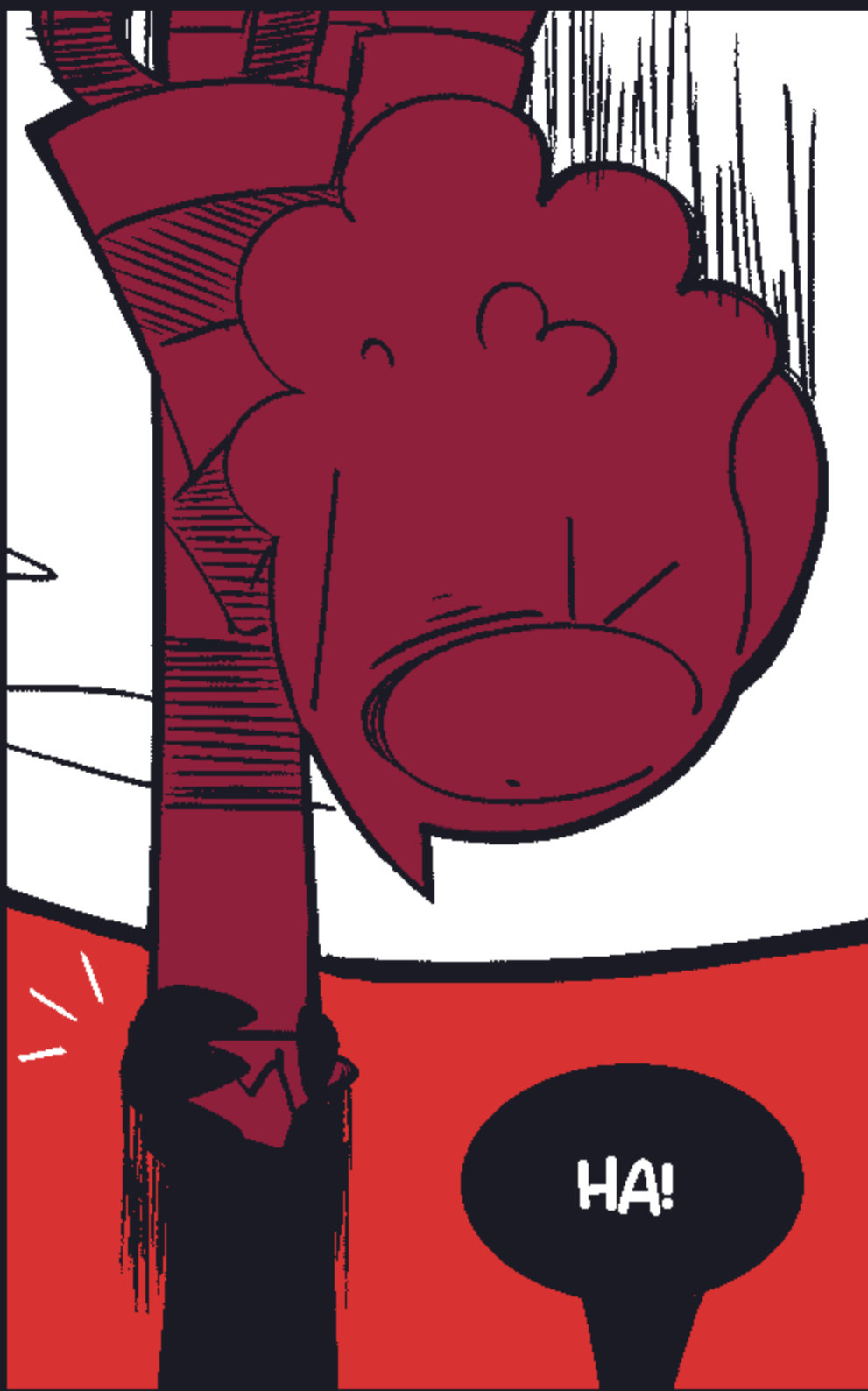
TAMMY?!

SLAM!

OH MY GOD...



D-DID I ACTUALLY
DO THAT?

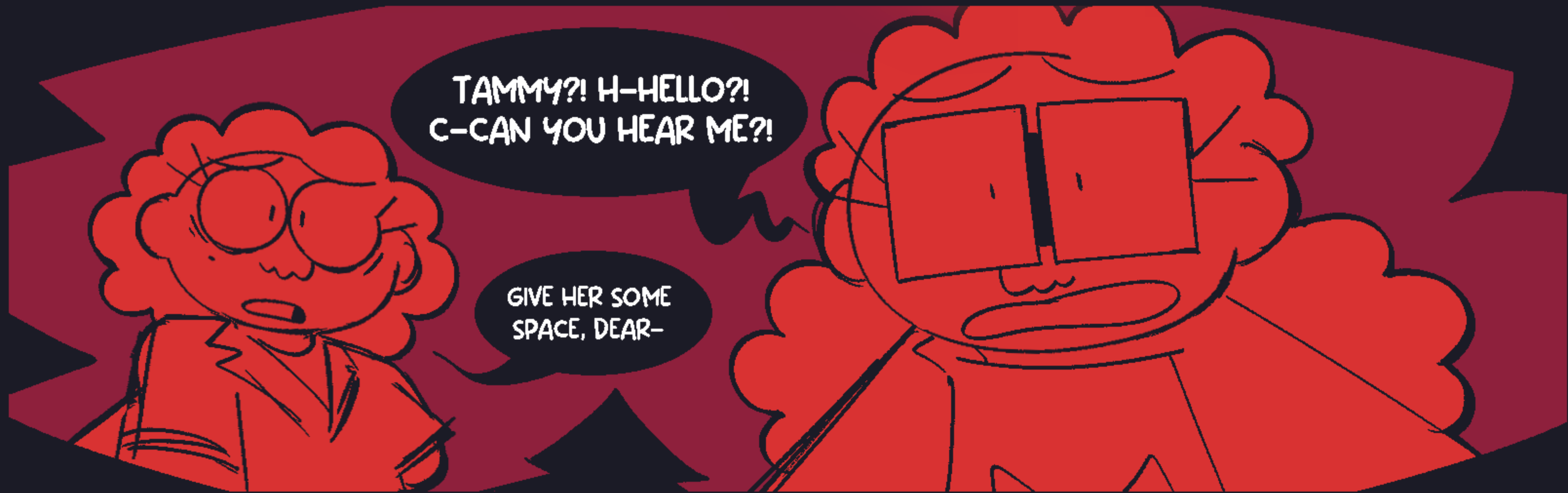




THIS... THIS IS
INCREDIBLE...

I... I CAN'T
REMEMBER THE
LAST TIME I FELT
SO ALIVE...

TAMMY?!



TAMMY?! H-HELLO?!
C-CAN YOU HEAR ME?!

GIVE HER SOME
SPACE, DEAR-



TAMMY, H-HELLO?
TH-THIS IS LILY-

OOHHHH
GGGOOOD...



A-ARE YOU ABLE TO
UNDERSTAND ME?!

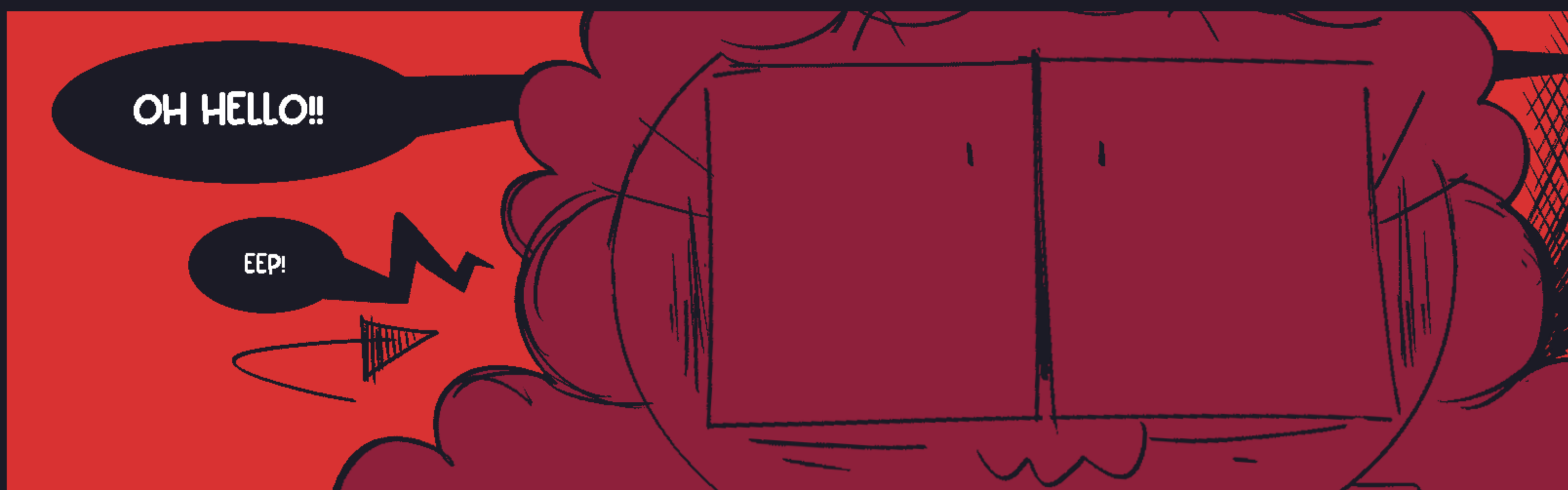
I... I DON'T
WANNA... BE A
GIRL... ANYMOORE...

TH-THAT'S FINE.
W-WE CAN WORRY
ABOUT THAT
LATER-



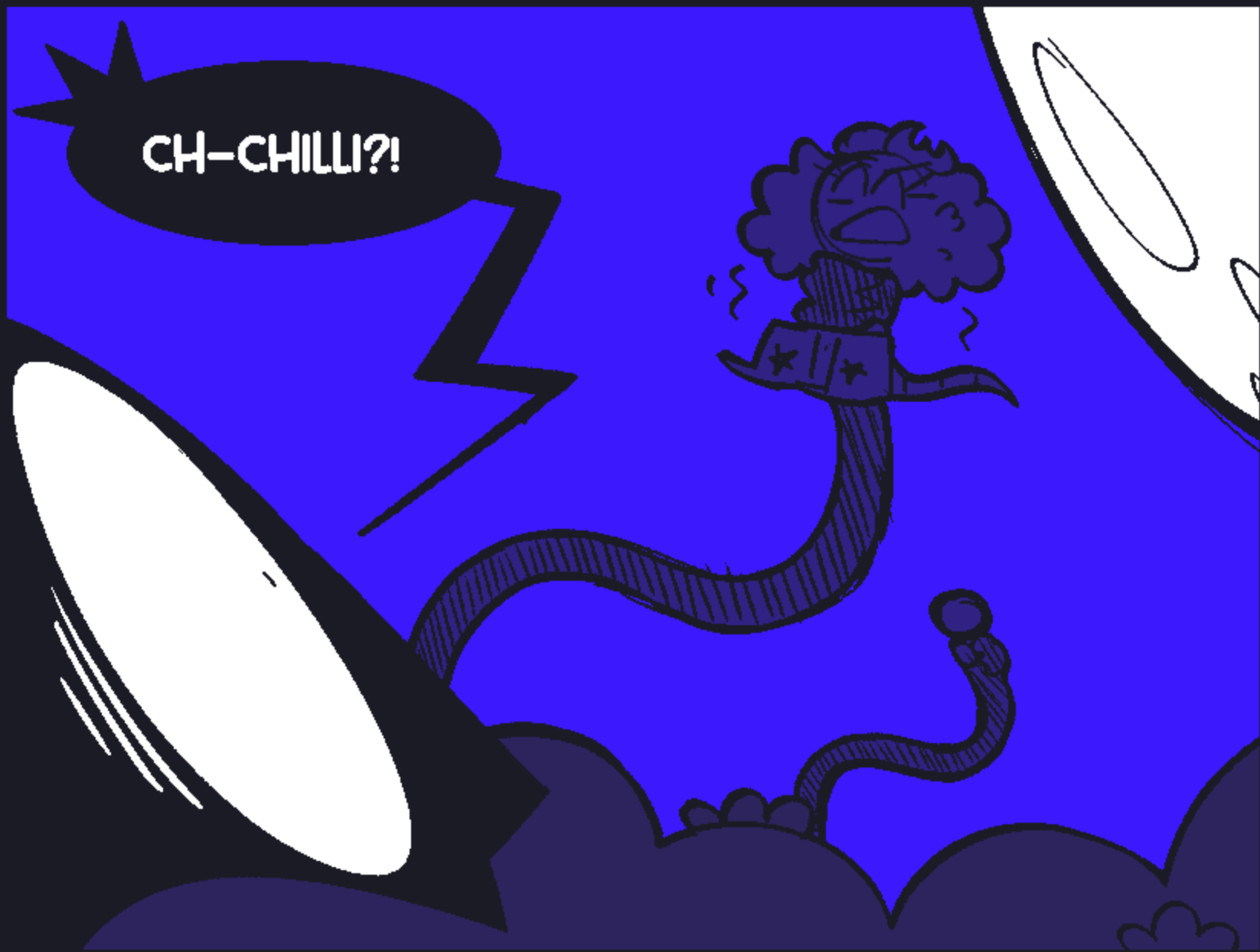
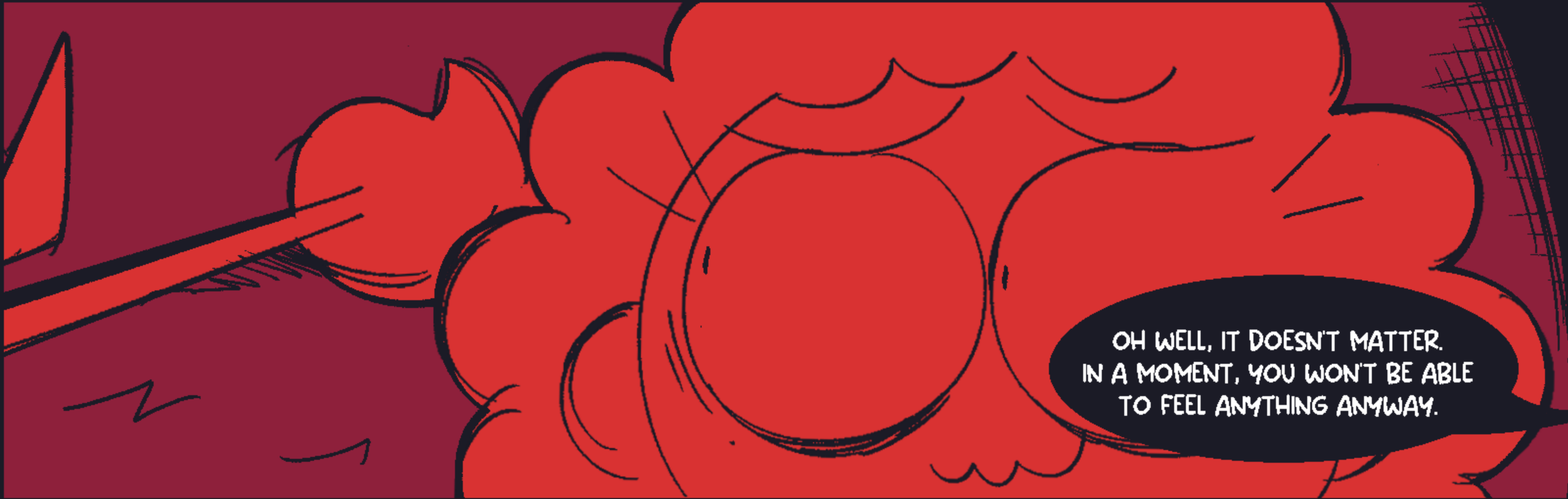
Y-YEAH, EVERYTHING
WILL BE FINE, TAMMY!

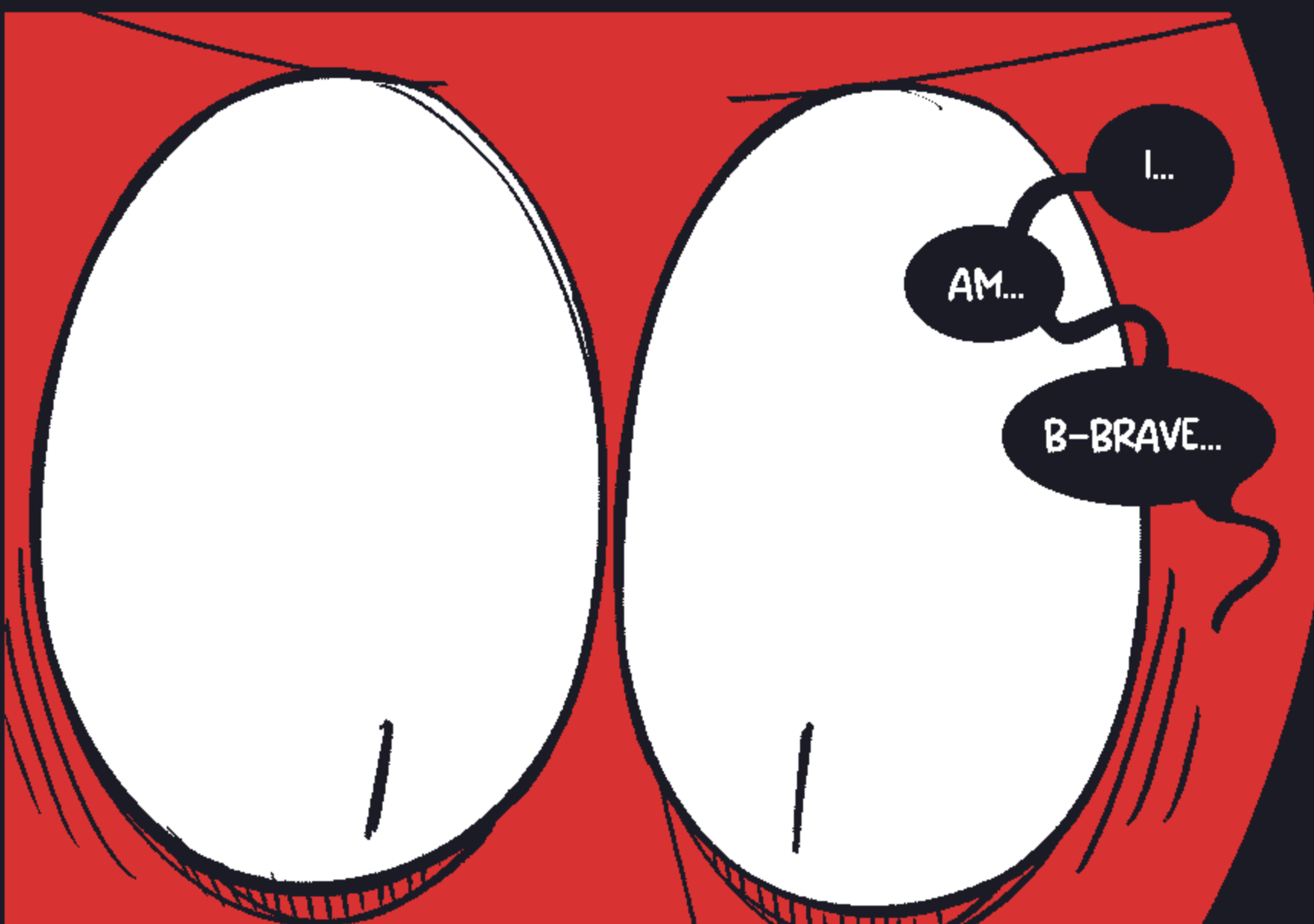
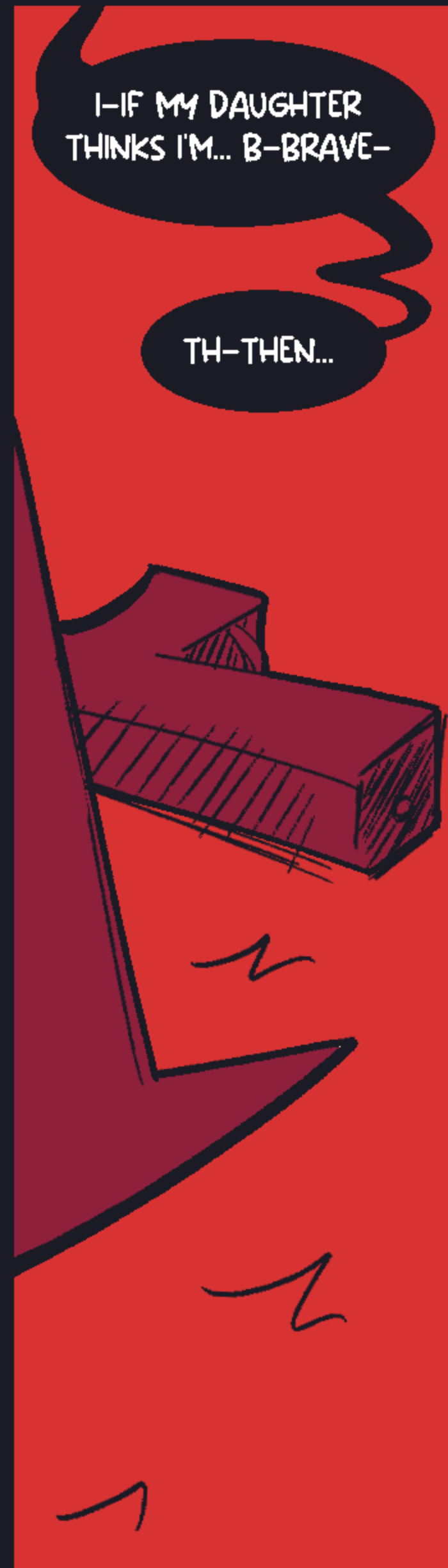
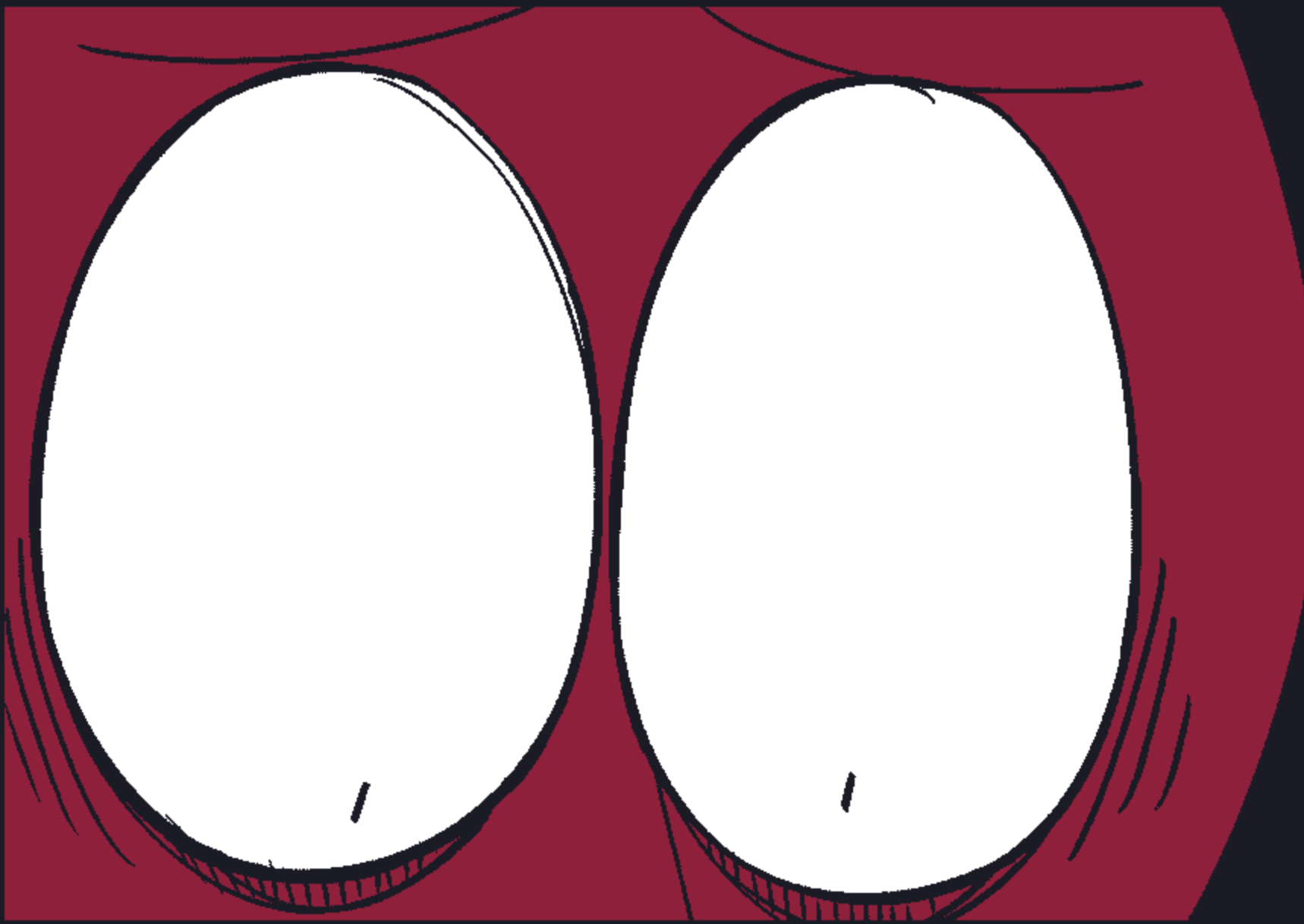
W-WE'LL GET YOU
HELP SOON! W-WE
JUST NEED TO-



OH HELLO!!

EEP!

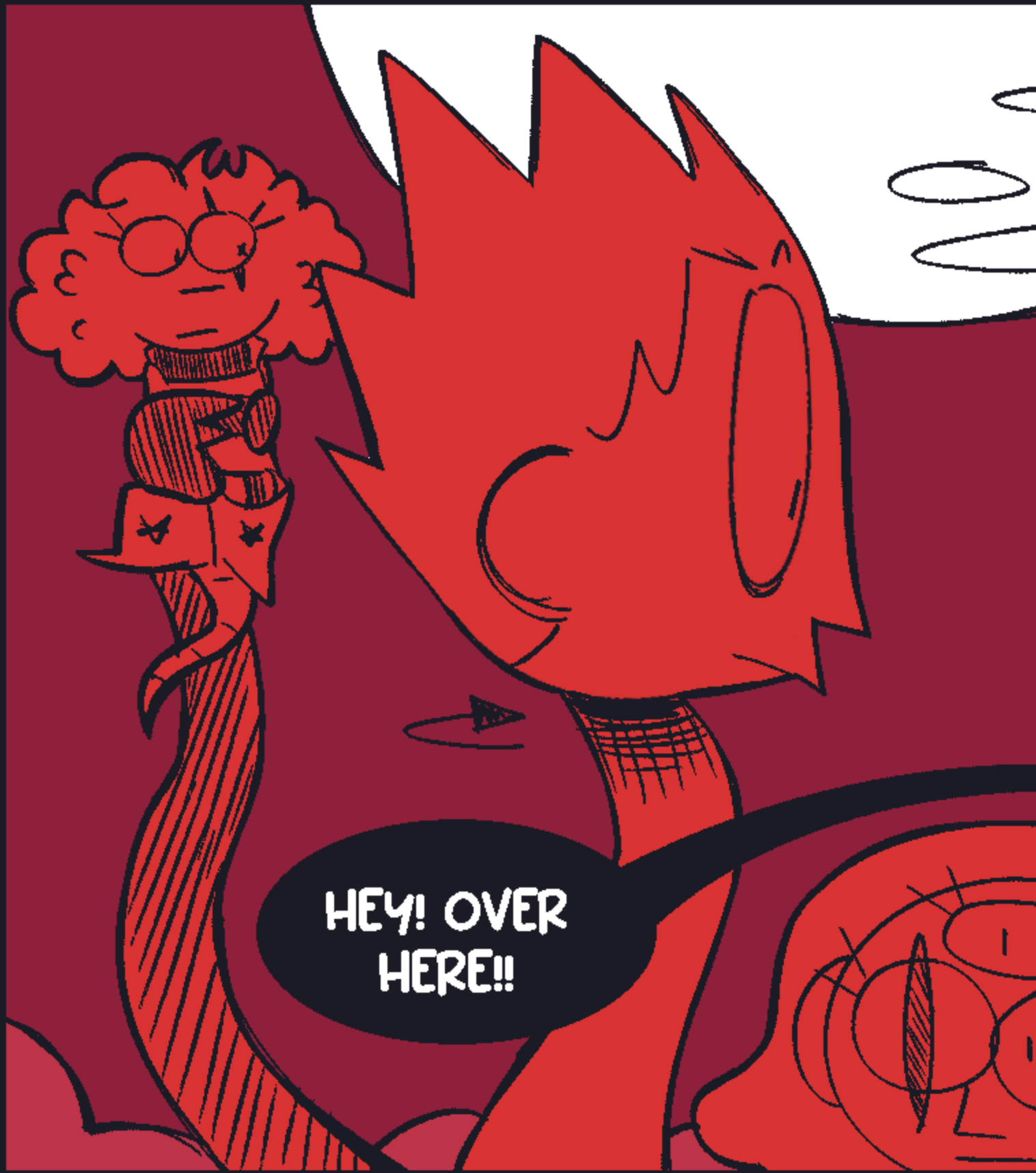






HA! YOUR WITCHCRAFT
CAN'T STOP ME!

IT'S GONNA TAKE
MORE THAN THAT TO—



HEY! OVER
HERE!!



I— I HAVE
YOUR GUN!!

I—IF YOU DON'T
RELEASE EVERYONE,
I... I'LL...



I'LL SHOOT
YOU!!



WAY TO GO,
DAD!

HAVE YOU EVER
ACTUALLY USED A
FIREARM BEFORE?

UH...
N—NO,
BUT—



EVEN IF YOU DID KNOW
HOW TO USE IT, A BULLET
ISN'T ENOUGH TO STOP-



MAYOR DILLON BONES.

OH MY GOD,
WHAT NOW-

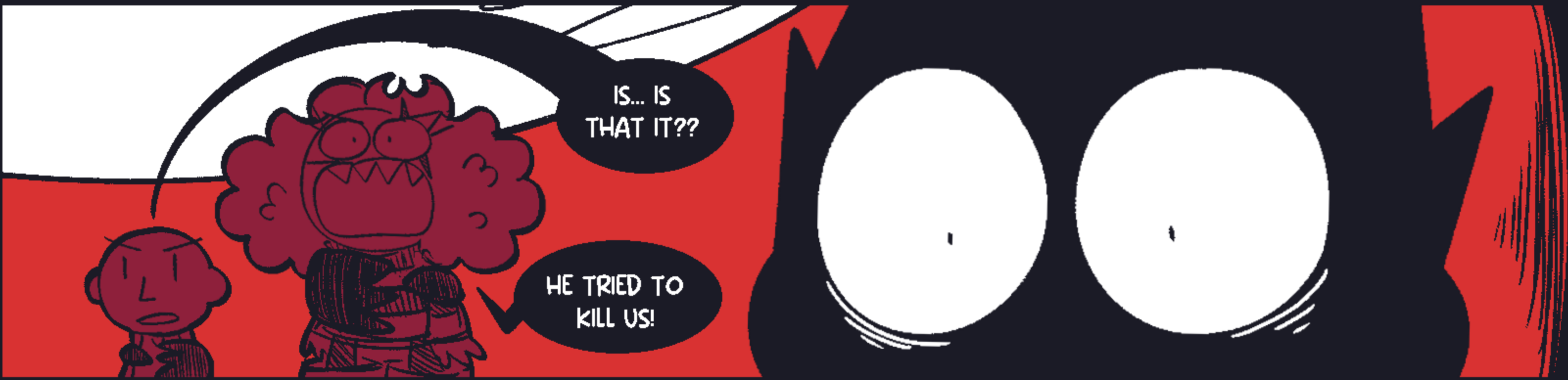


WE, THE INTERIM HEADS
OF WITCH TROOP 02001,
ARE PLACING YOU
UNDER ARREST!

UH
FOR
WHAT

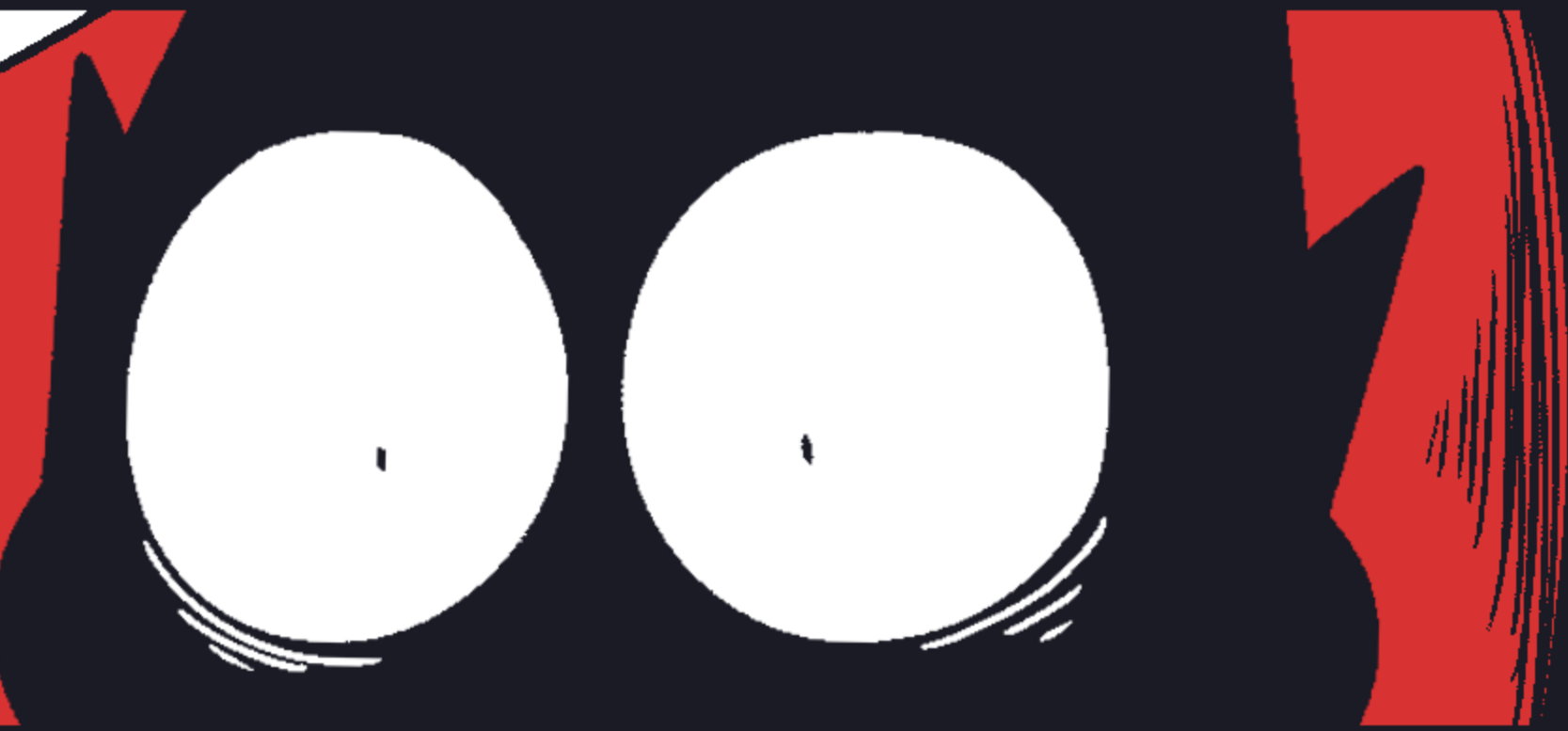


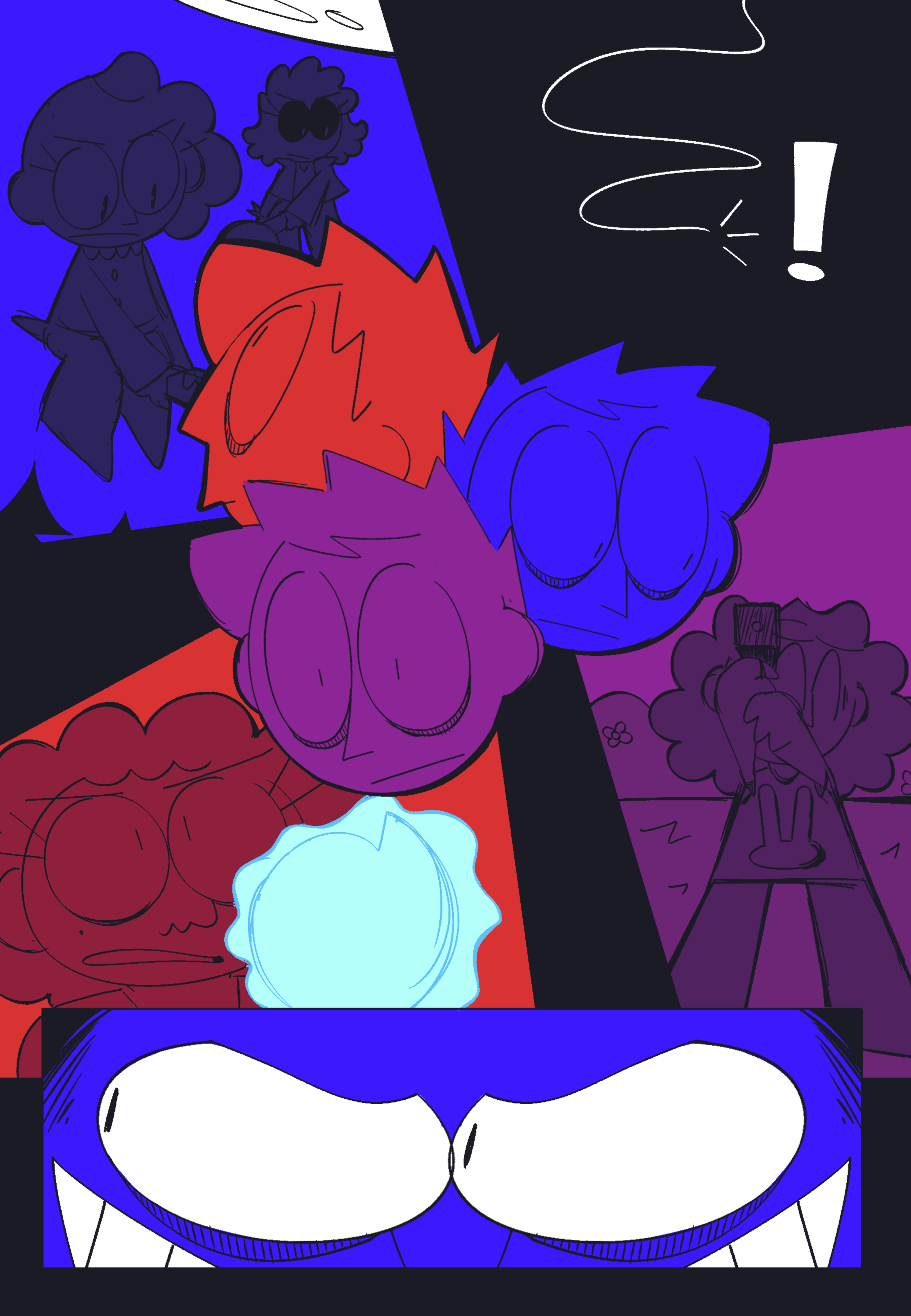
FOR USE OF WITCHCRAFT
WITHOUT BEING IN A TROOP!

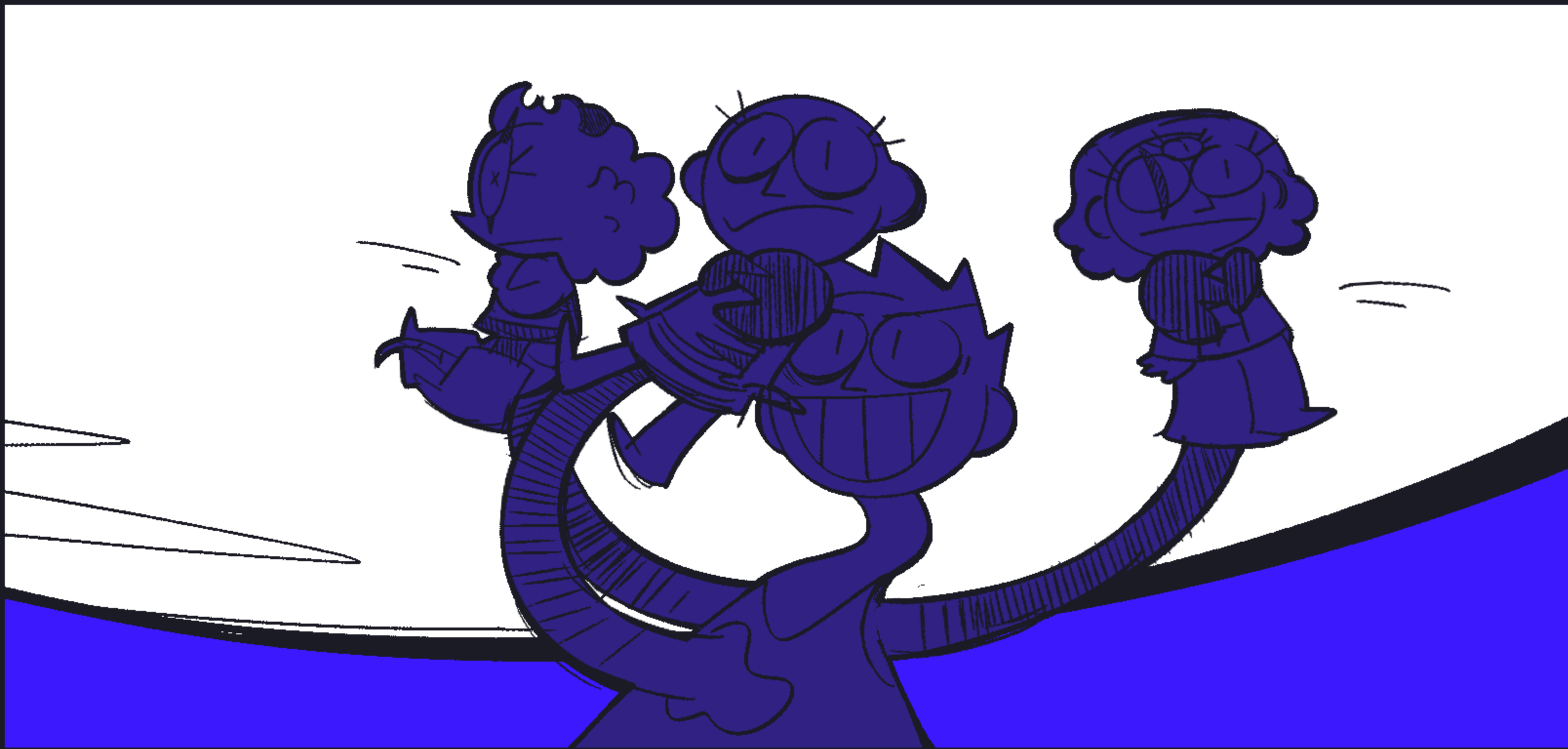


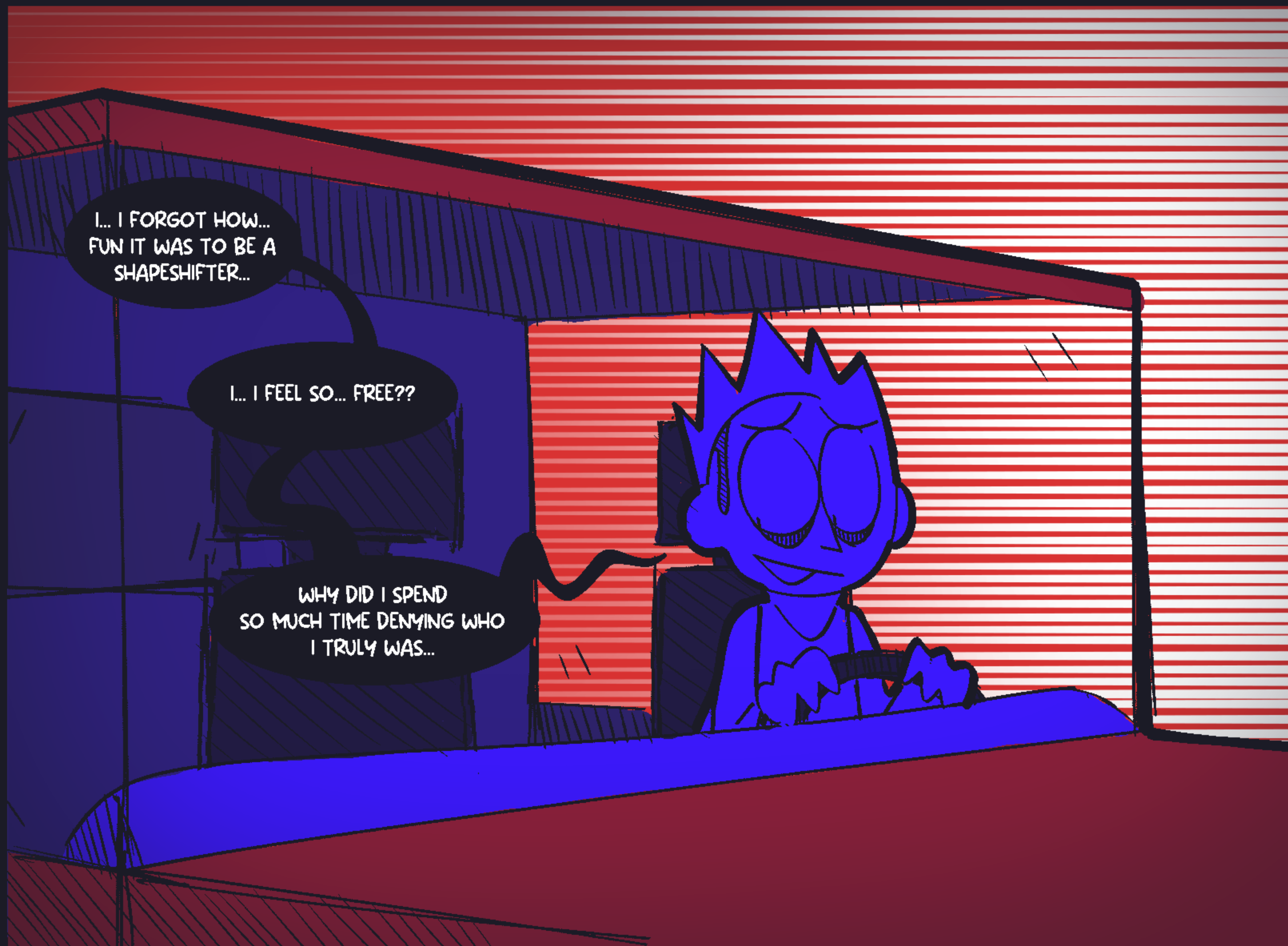
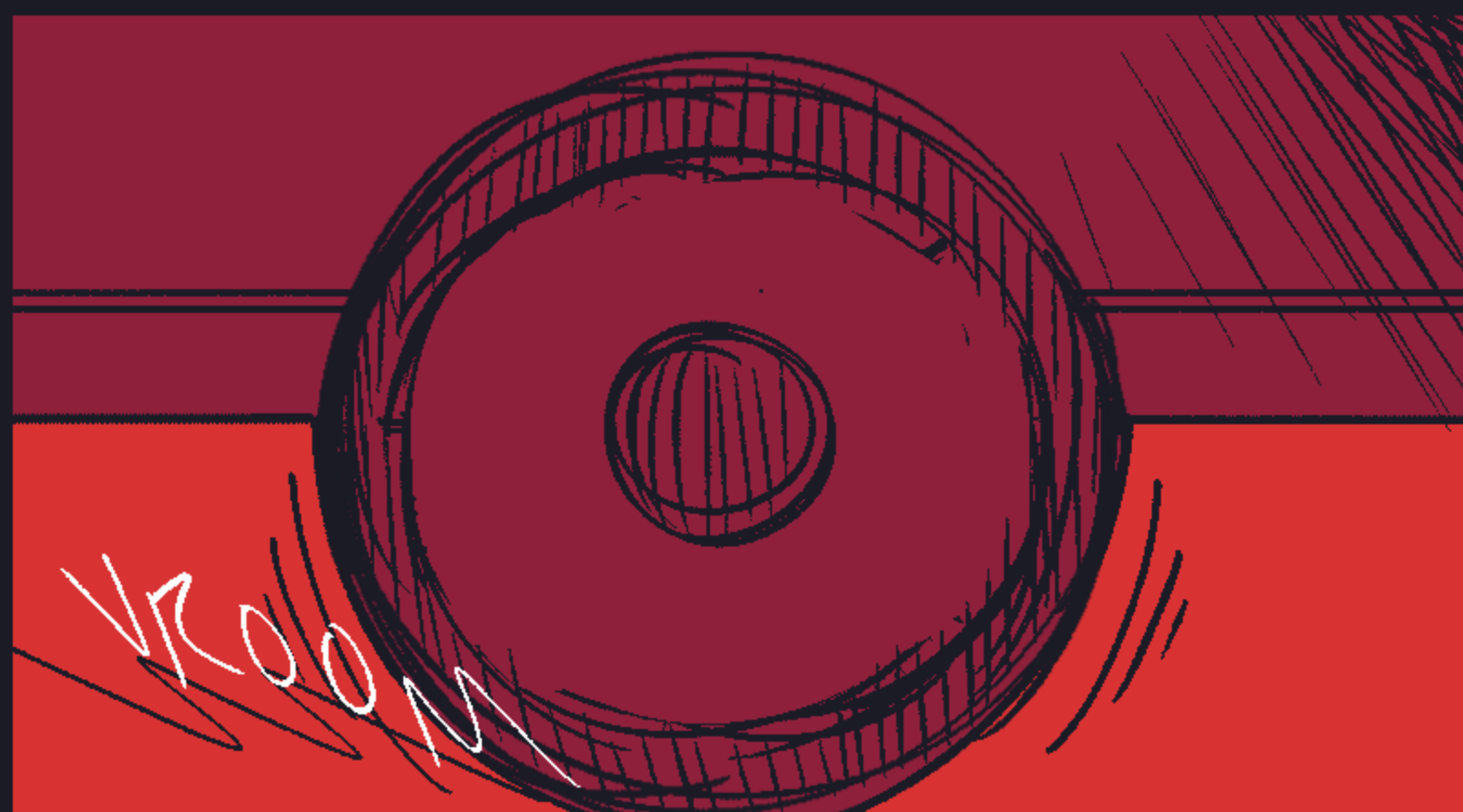
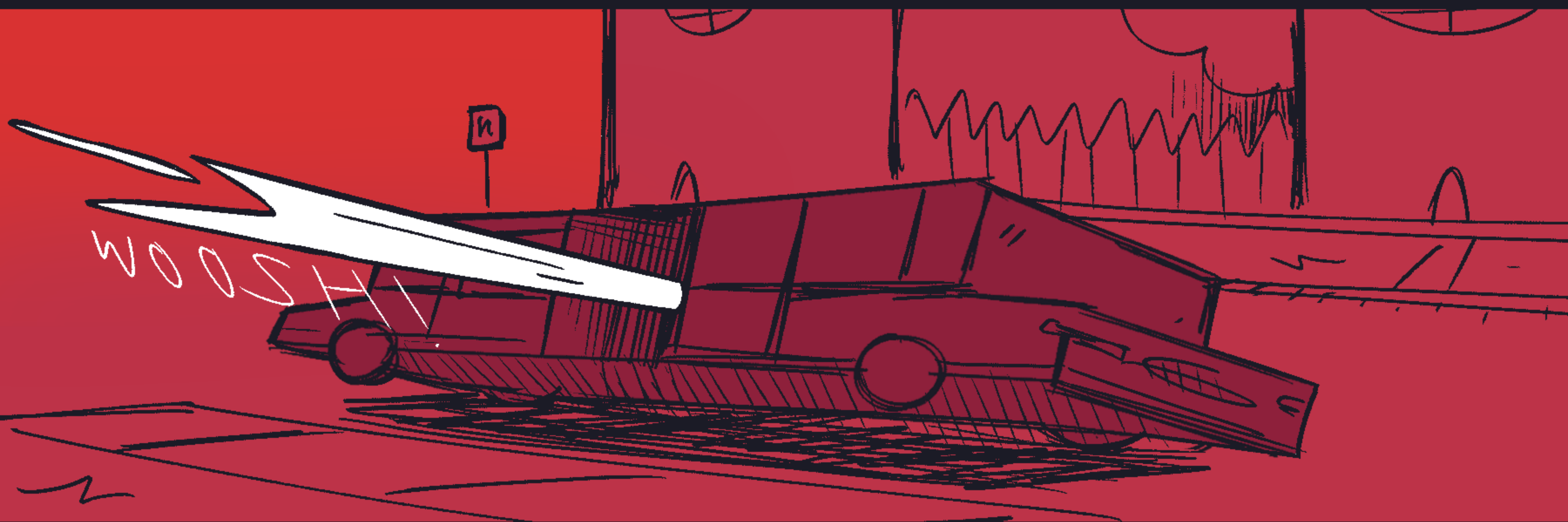
IS... IS
THAT IT??

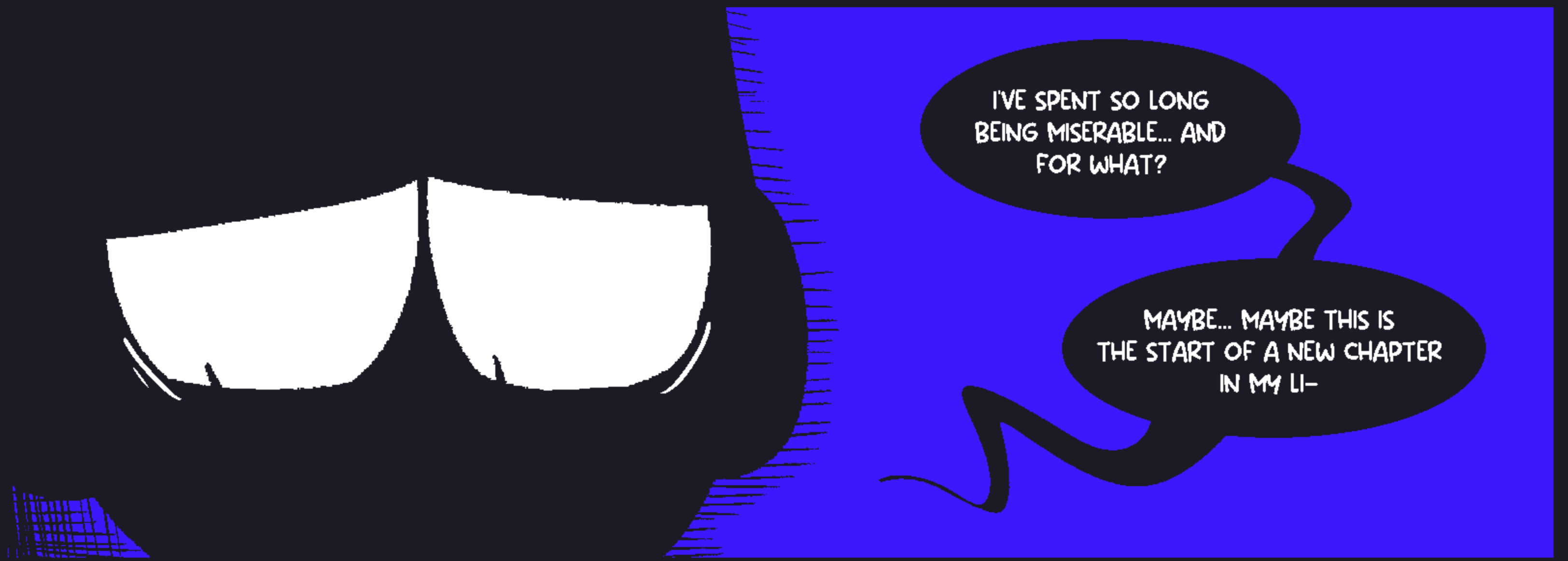
HE TRIED TO
KILL US!











I'VE SPENT SO LONG
BEING MISERABLE... AND
FOR WHAT?

MAYBE... MAYBE THIS IS
THE START OF A NEW CHAPTER
IN MY LI-



HUH?!



OH GOD, THERE'S A
BUM ON THE ROAD!!

NOW... REPEAT AFTER ME...

YOU ARE NOT A CRYPTID.

I AM NOT A CRYPTID...

AGAIN.

...I AM NOT A CRYPTID.

WHAT ARE YOU?

...A HUMAN.

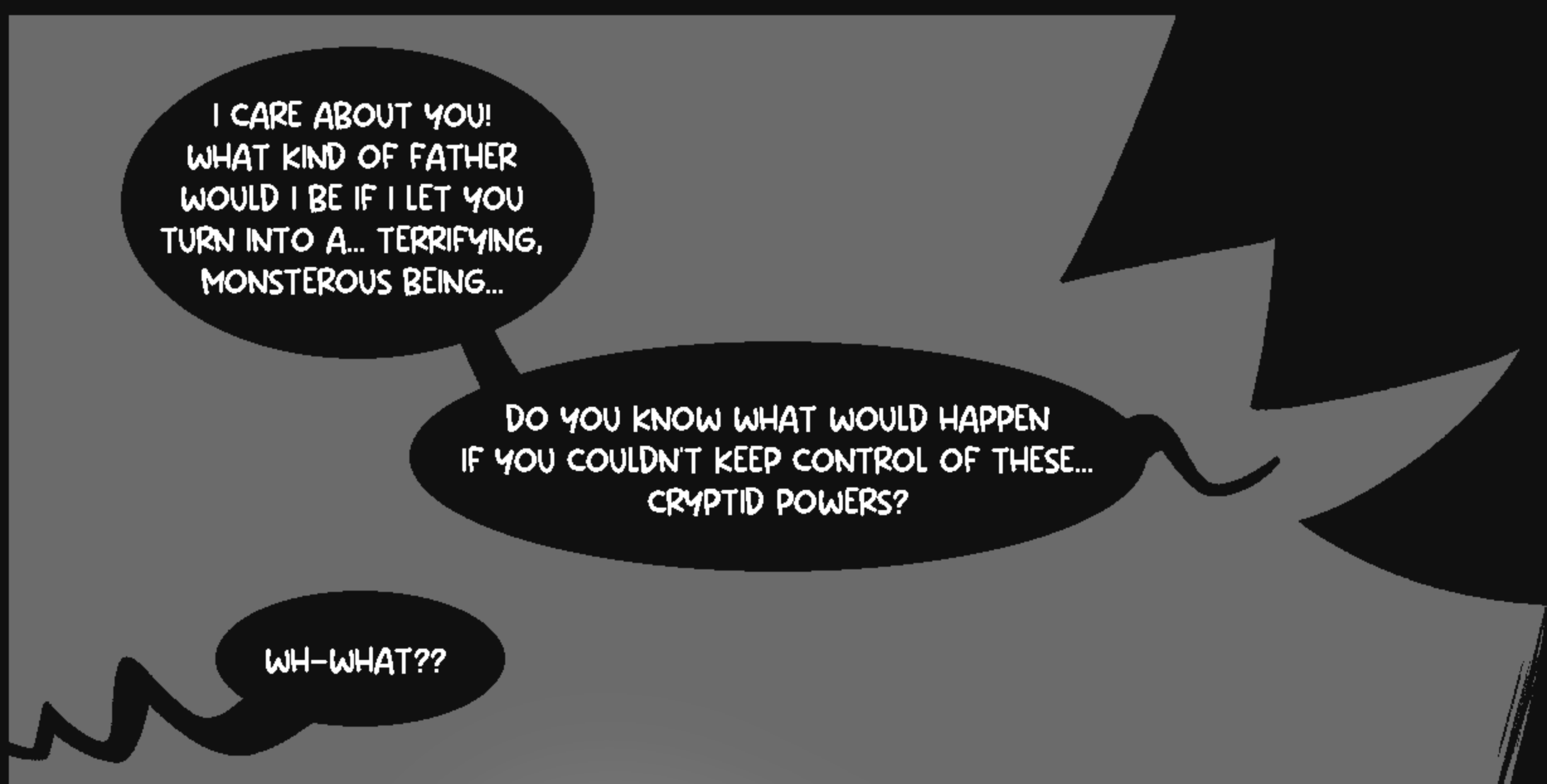
WHAT ARE YOU NOT?

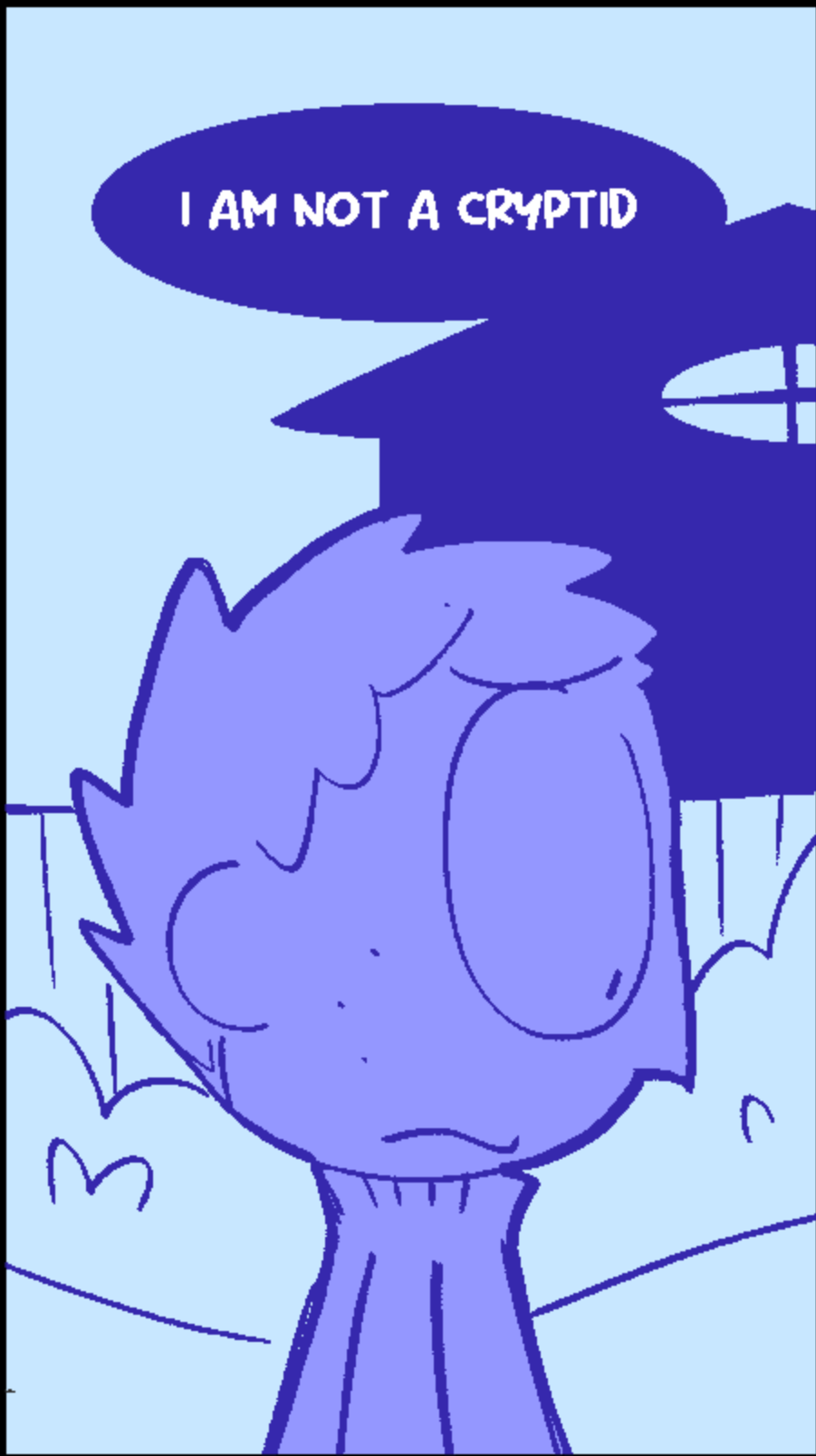
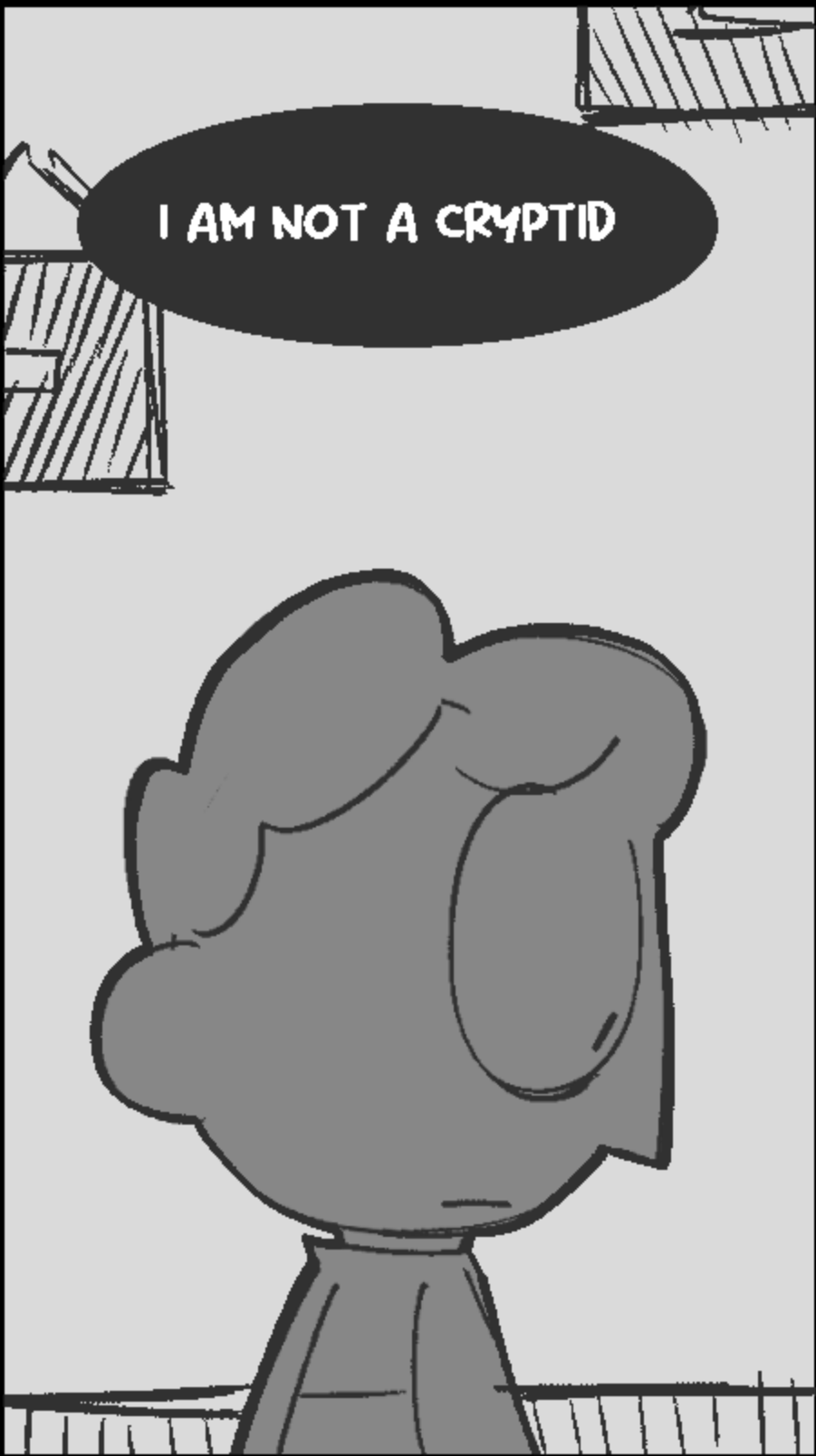
...A CRYPTID.

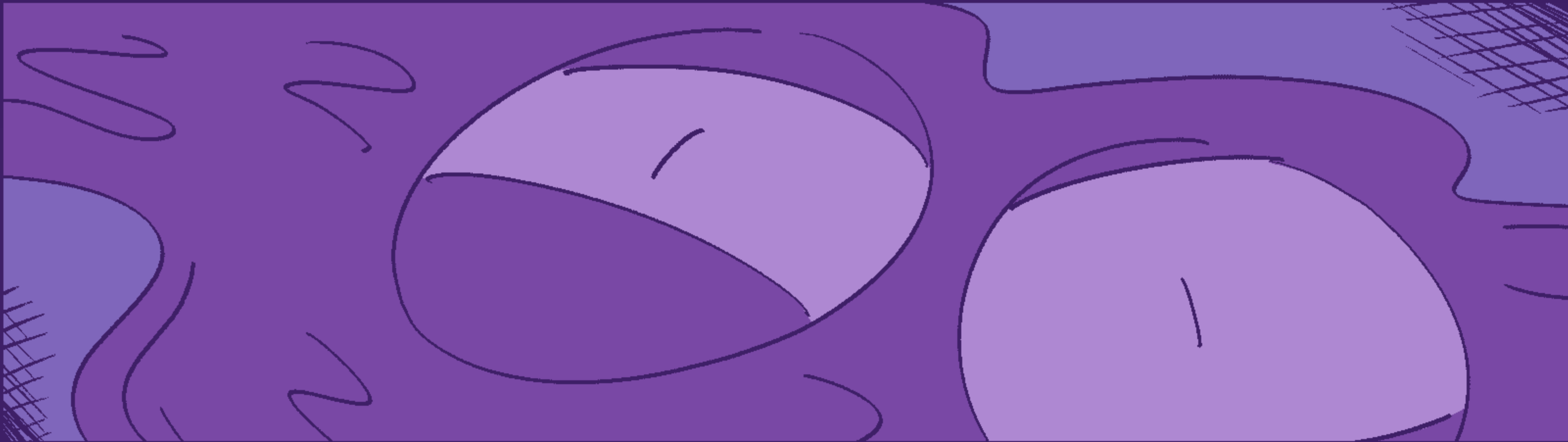
ATTABOY.

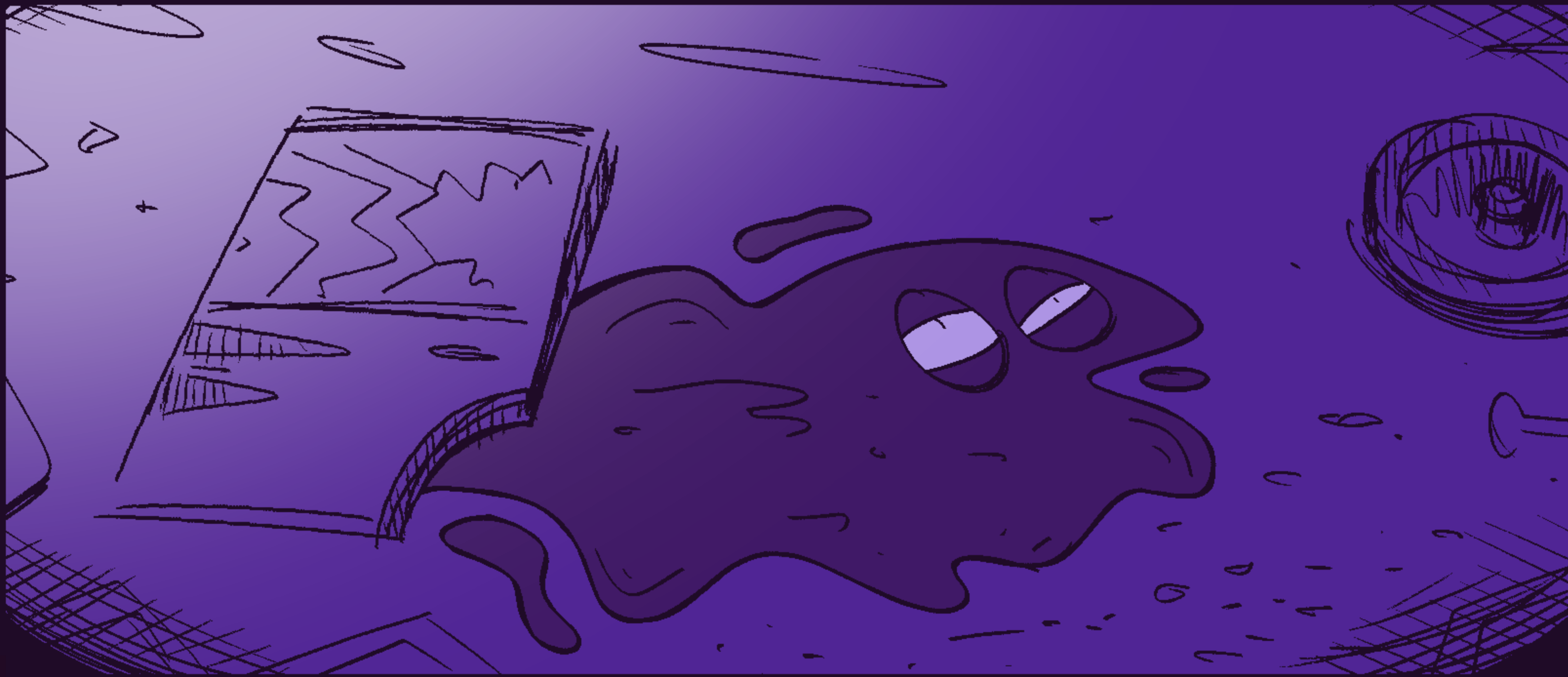
NOW REPEAT THAT MANTRA
EVERYDAY, AND EVENTUALLY,
YOU'LL GROW OUT OF THIS
"SHAPESHIFTER" PHASE.

DON'T PAY ANY MIND
TO THE DOCTORS. I KNOW
WHAT'S BEST FOR YOU,
SON.











WE, THE ENTIRETY
OF WITCH TROOP 02001,
HAVE YOU SURROUNDED!

SURRENDER NOW,
OR W-WE'LL ZAP YOU
OUT OF EXISTENCE!



...WHO AM I
KIDDING?

THERE'S NO CHANCE
FOR A "NEW CHAPTER."

I'VE ALREADY
RUINED MY LIFE.



AND THAT'S JUST
WHEN I WAS 'HUMAN.'

I'VE HURT PEOPLE.
I'VE RUINED LIVES.
I'VE BEEN NOTHING BUT
A BURDEN TO THE
WORLD.

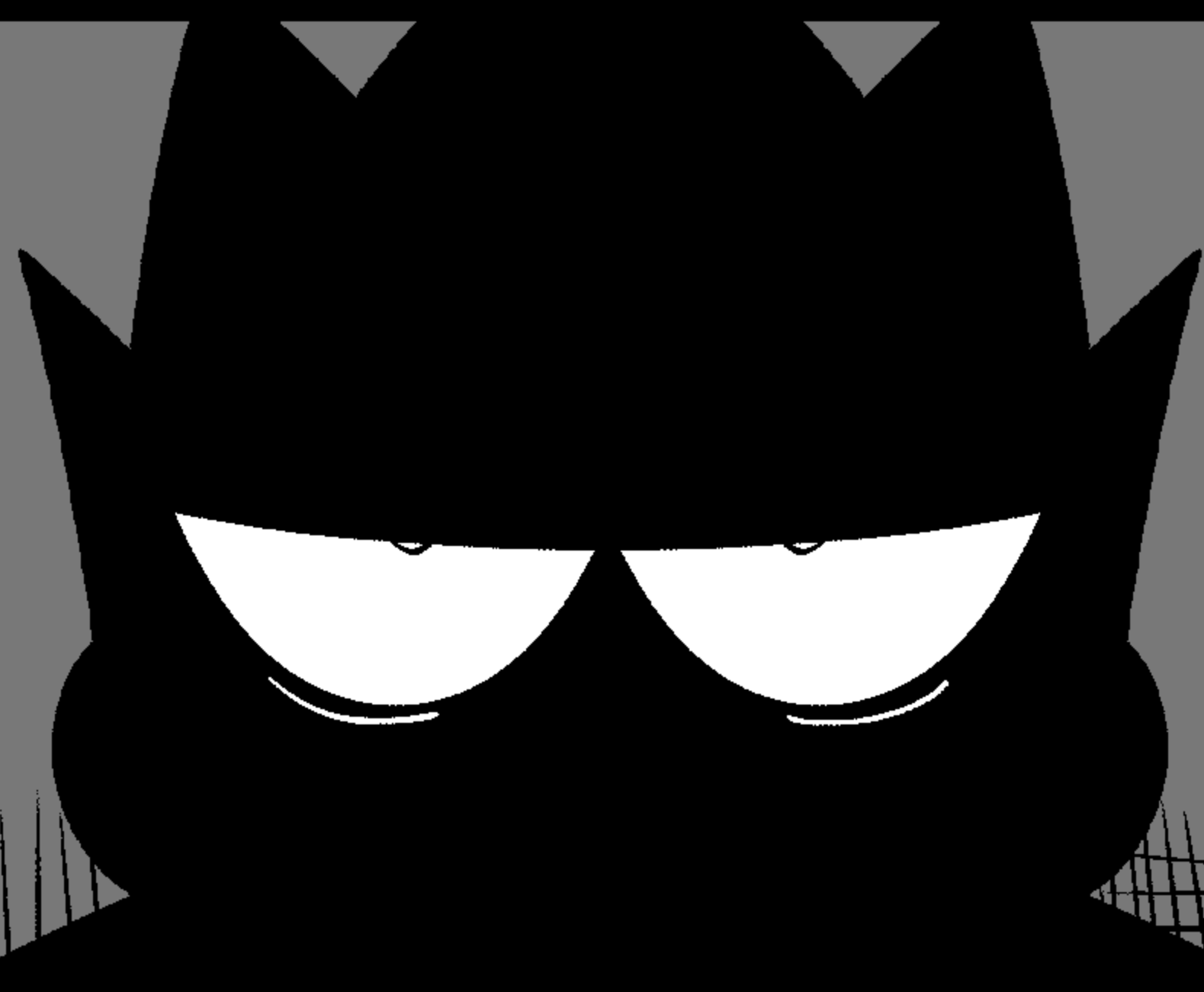
MAYBE... IT'S MY
DESTINY TO BECOME A
"TERRIFYING, MONSTEROUS
BEING."



WELL.

IF I'M TO BECOME THIS
"MONSTEROUS BEING" ANYWAY...

WHY WAIT? MIGHT AS WELL
GET IT OVER WITH.





A STATEMENT FROM SALLOONY CO.

CHILLI THE VAMPIRE OPOSSUM
ISSUE 26 HAS CRASHED UNEXPECTEDLY.

OOPS

NEXT TIME:

CHILLI

THE VAMPIRE OPOSSUM

SALONY CO.



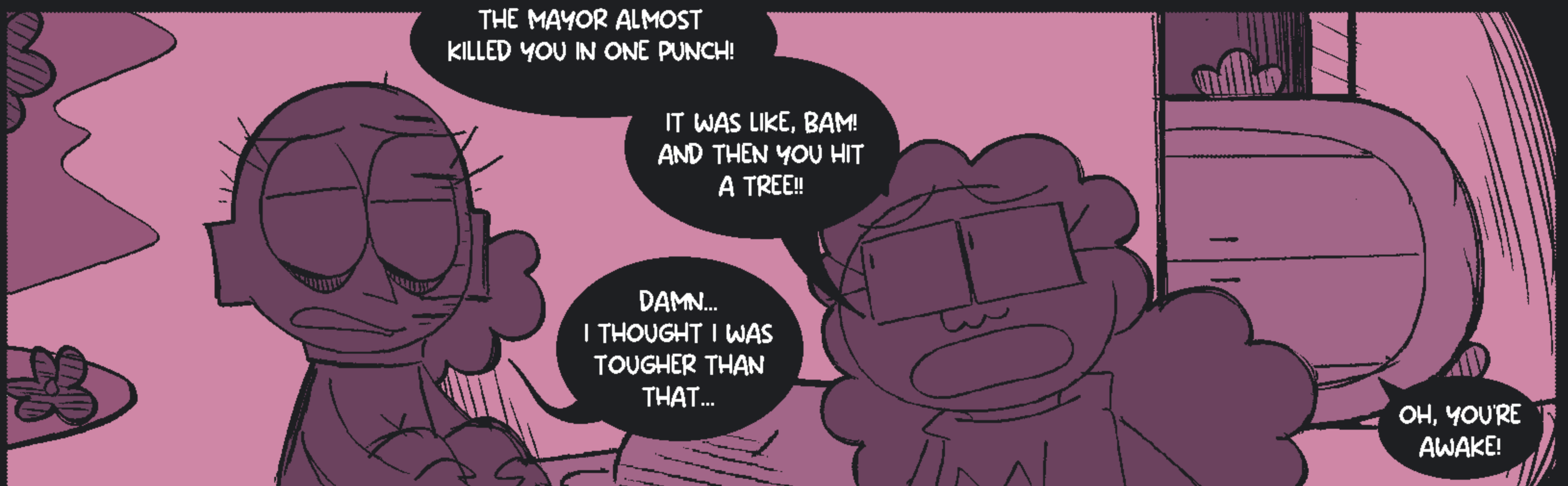
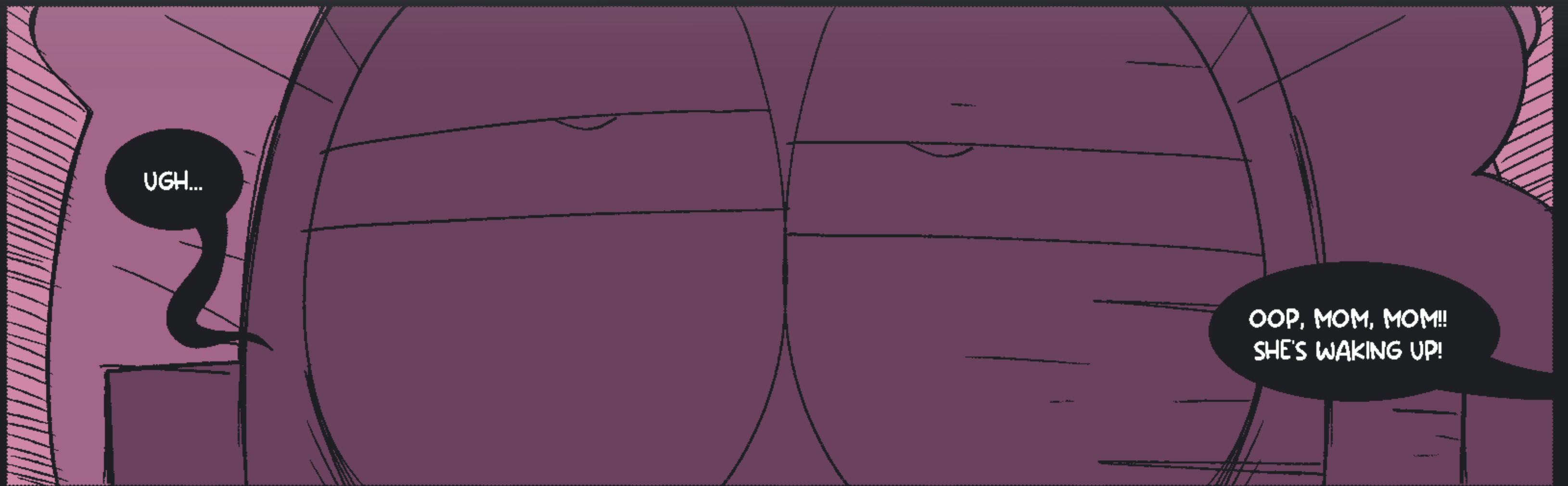
#27



"RED MEAT", PART THREE

TW//

**ABUSE
ALCOHOL
AMPUTATION
BLOOD
BREAKDOWN
BRIGHT COLORS
BUILDING DESTRUCTION
CORRUPTION
KNIVES
PANIC ATTACK
PTSD
TRAUMA**



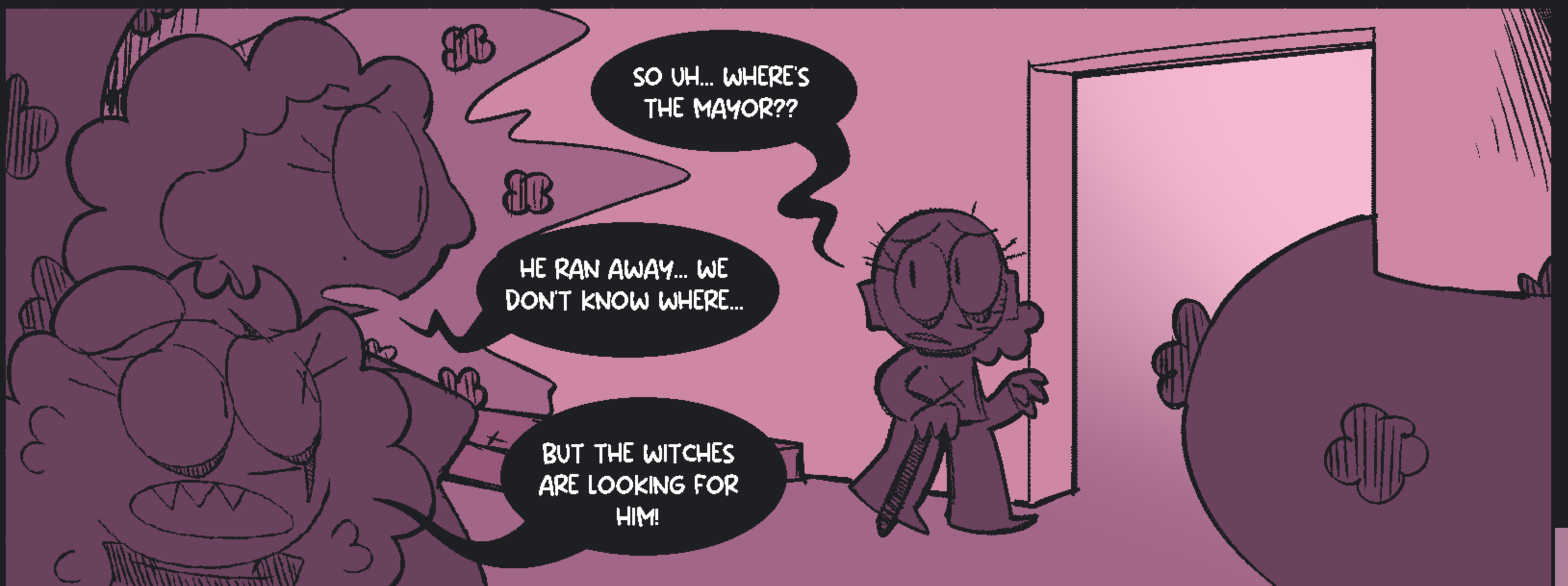


I MADE YOU SOME
CARROT SOUP!

I DIDN'T HAVE
A LOT OF CARROTS
LYING AROUND, SO I
HOPE WHAT'S HERE
IS FINE!



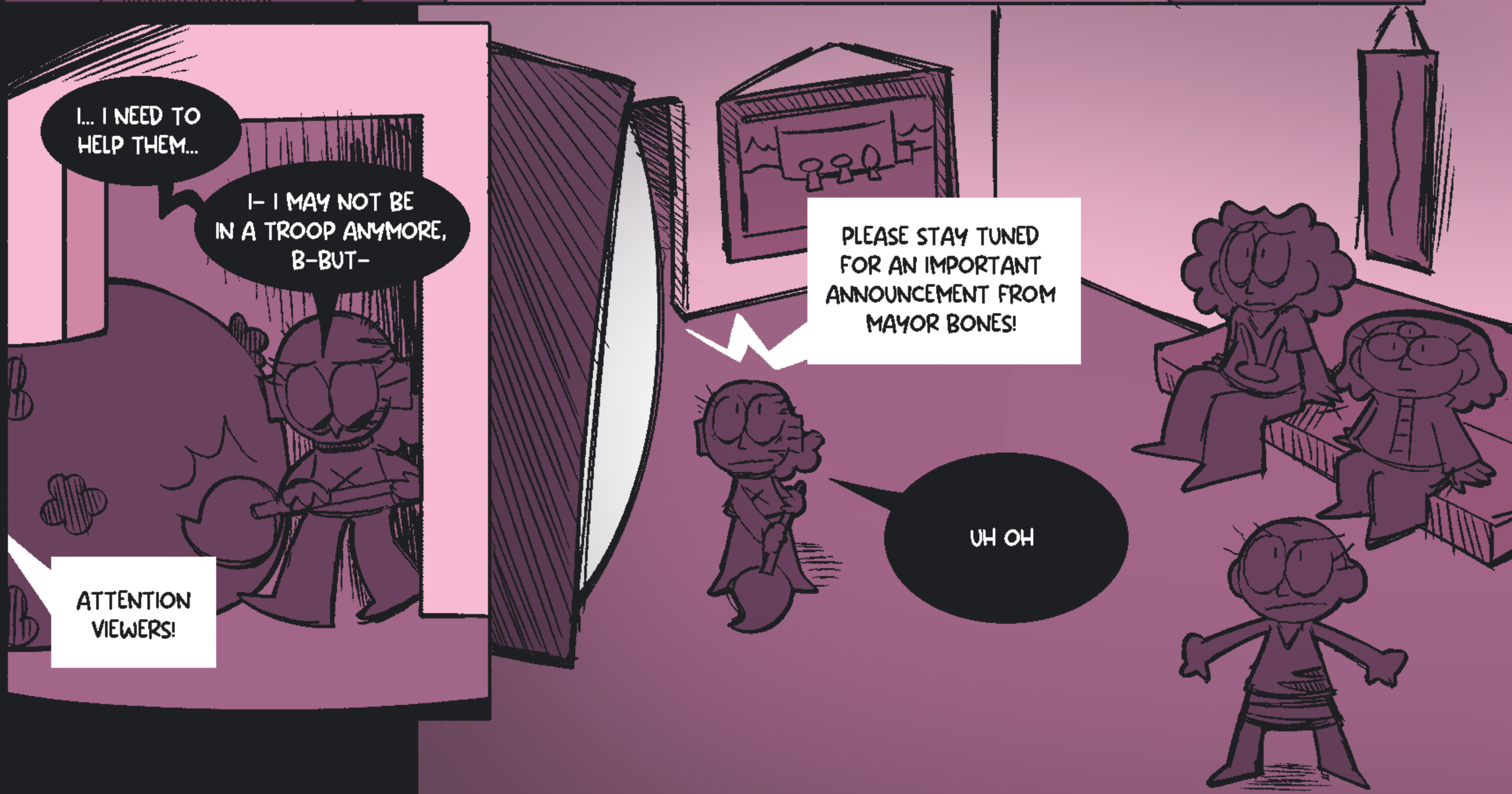
THANKS, BUT...
I'M NOT HUNGRY...



SO UH... WHERE'S
THE MAYOR??

HE RAN AWAY... WE
DON'T KNOW WHERE...

BUT THE WITCHES
ARE LOOKING FOR
HIM!



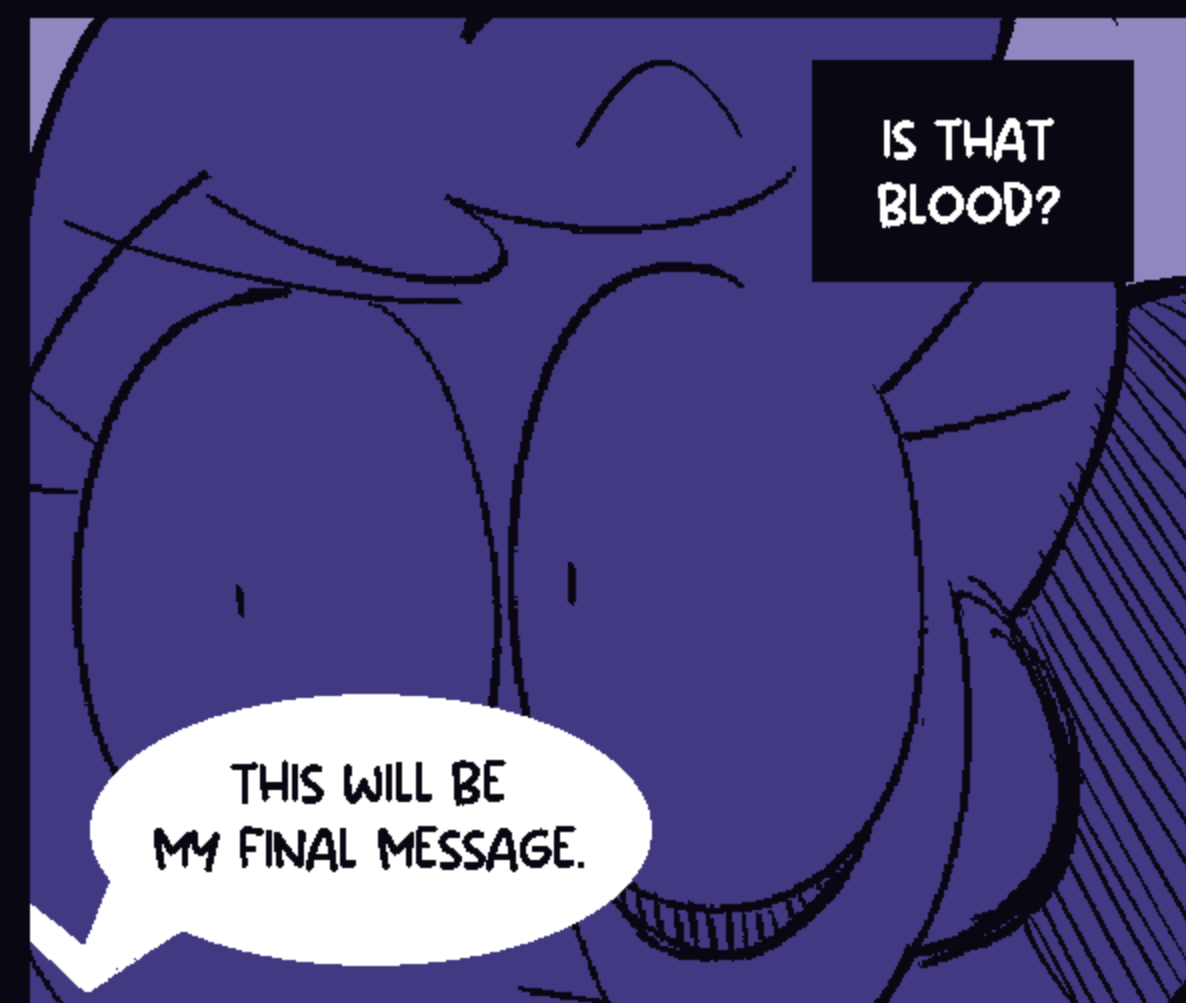
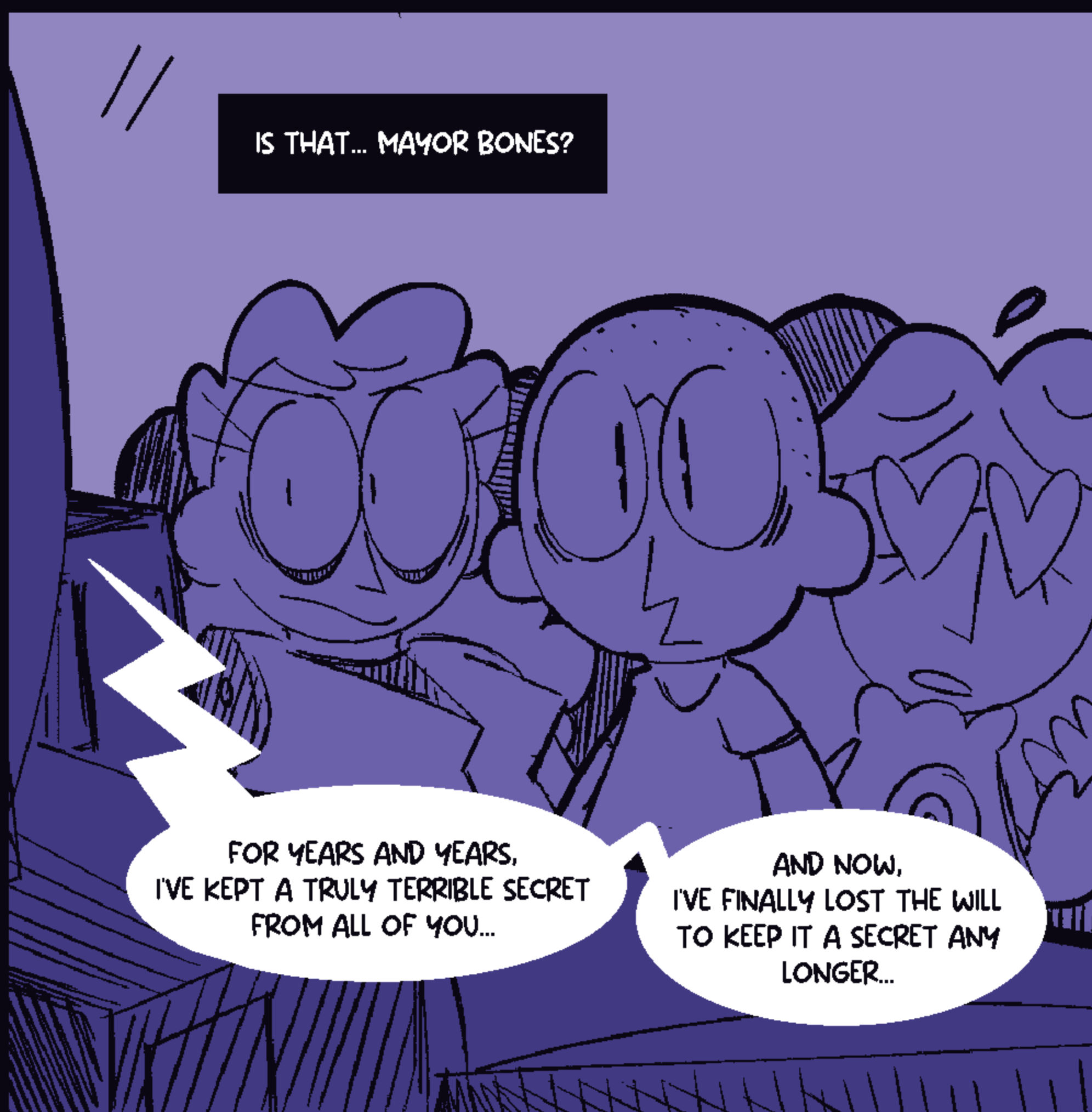
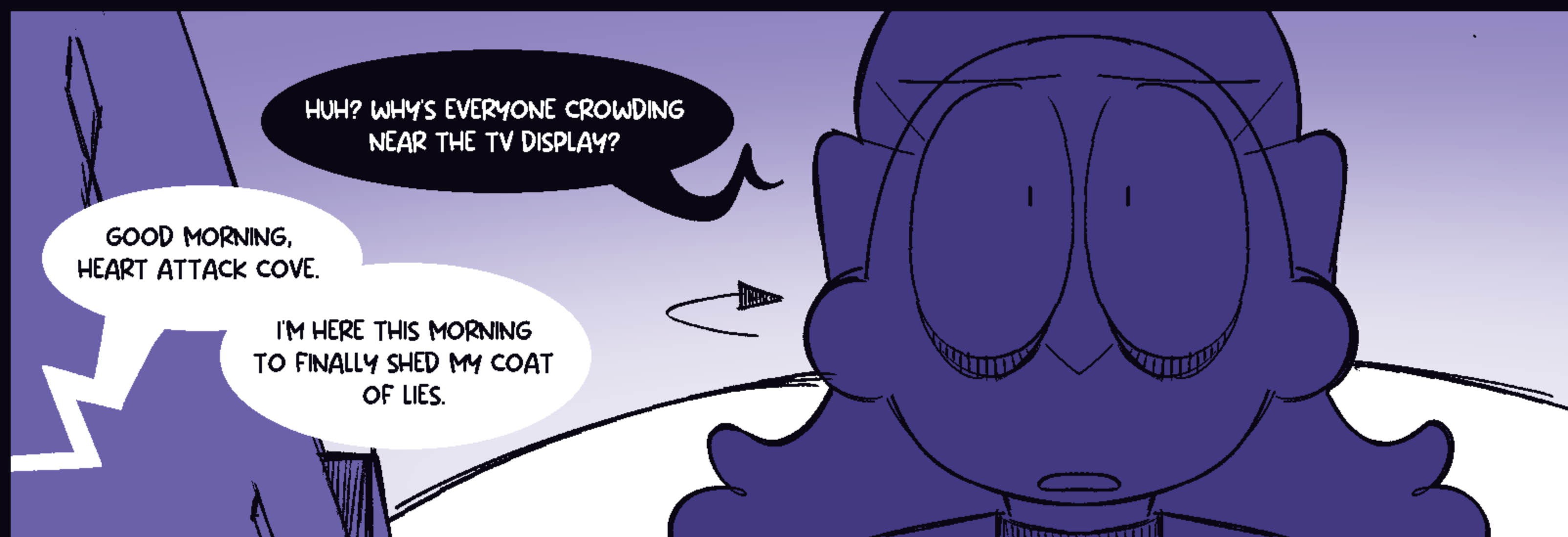
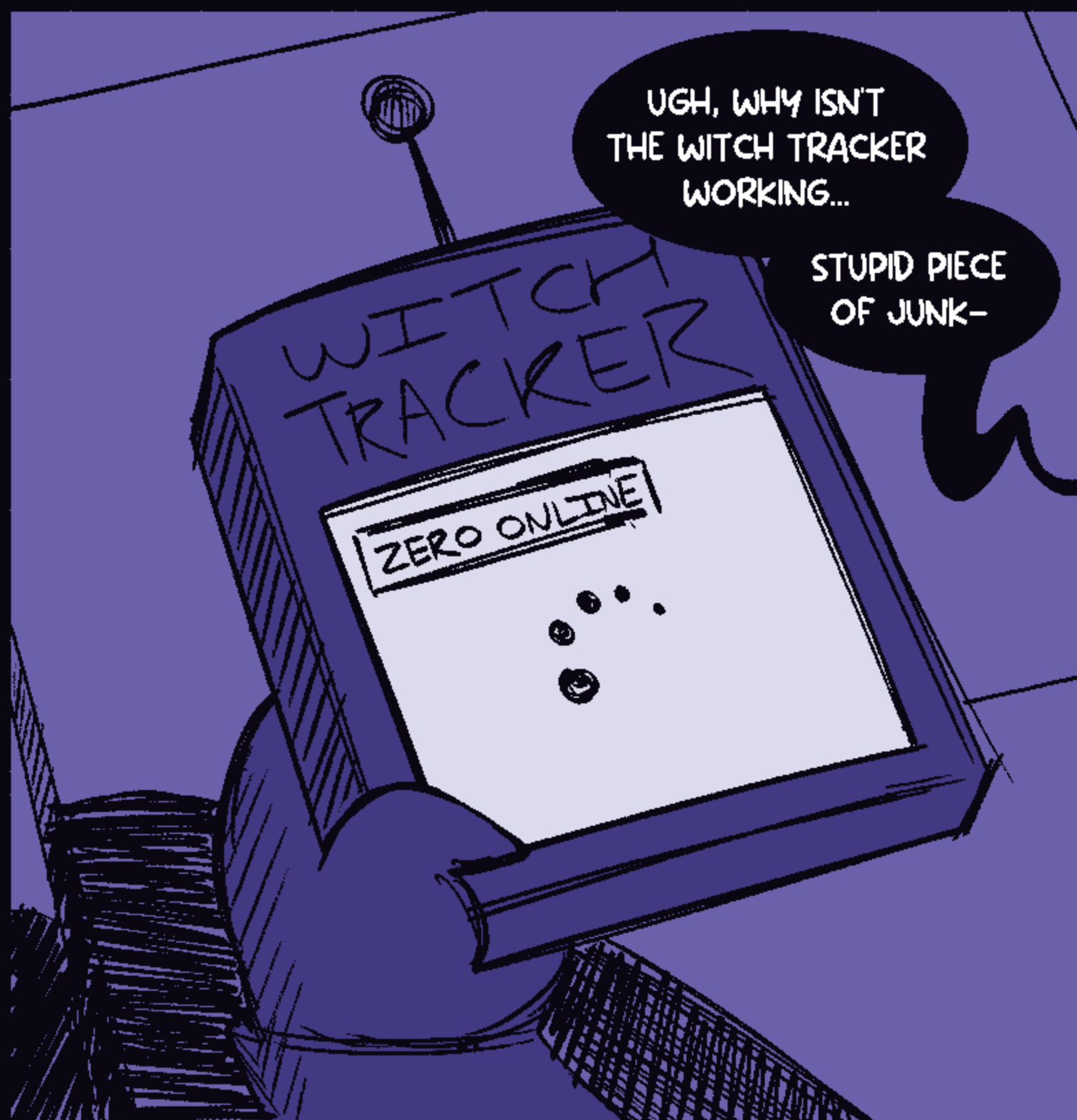
I... I NEED TO
HELP THEM...

I- I MAY NOT BE
IN A TROOP ANMMORE,
B-BUT-

ATTENTION
VIEWERS!

PLEASE STAY TUNED
FOR AN IMPORTANT
ANNOUNCEMENT FROM
MAYOR BONES!

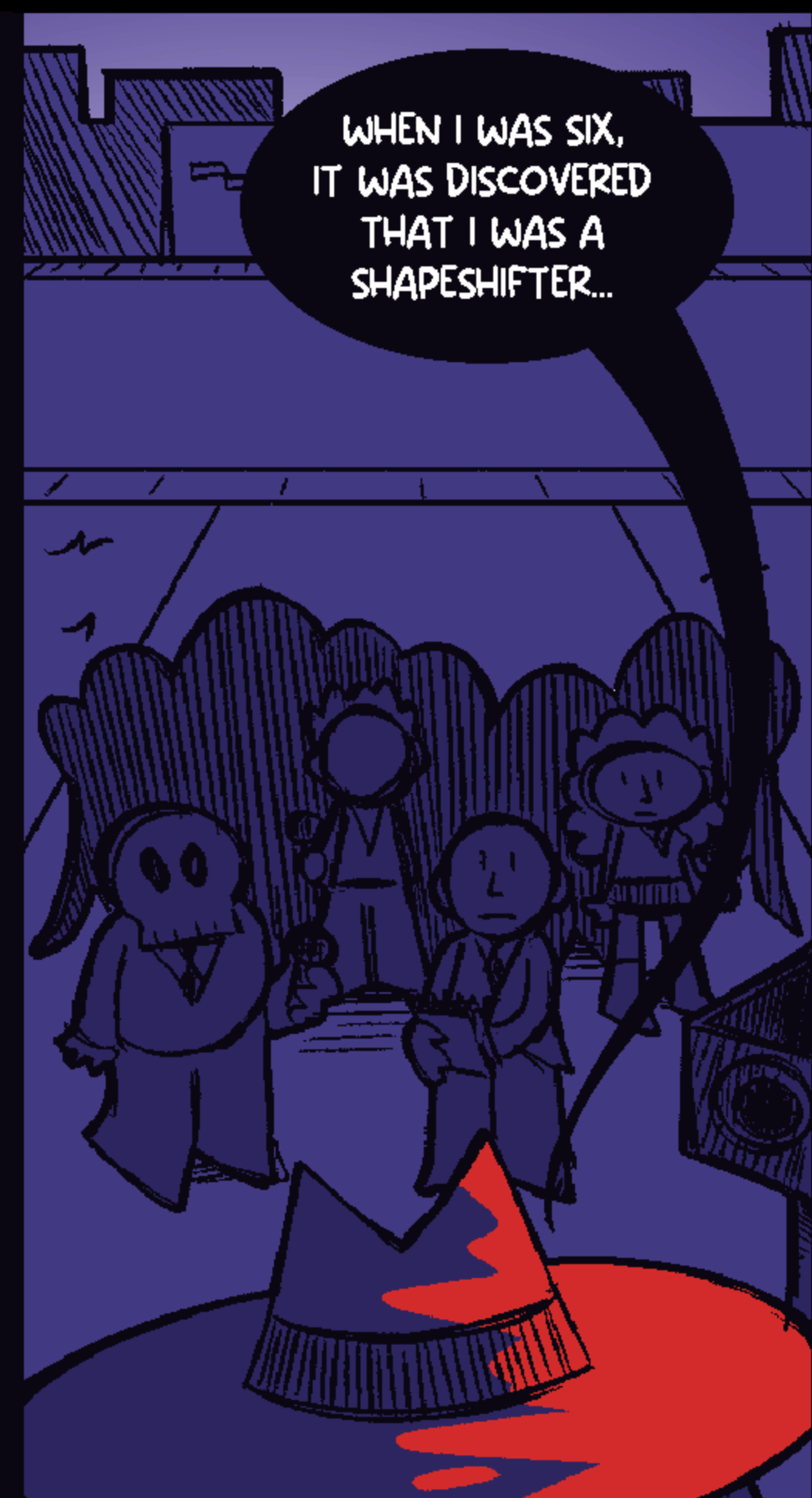
UH OH





AND PLEASE,
DON'T MIND THE
BLOOD...

IT AIN'T
MINE.



WHEN I WAS SIX,
IT WAS DISCOVERED
THAT I WAS A
SHAPESHIFTER...



I WAS TOLD THAT IF I WERE
TO EMBRACE MY CRYPTID POWERS,
I'D END UP DESTROYING
THE WORLD.

SO I PRETENDED TO BE HUMAN,
IN A DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO
FOOL EVERYONE, INCLUDING
MYSELF.

BUT THE ACT'S FALLING APART.
I CAN'T DENY WHO I AM
ANYMORE...

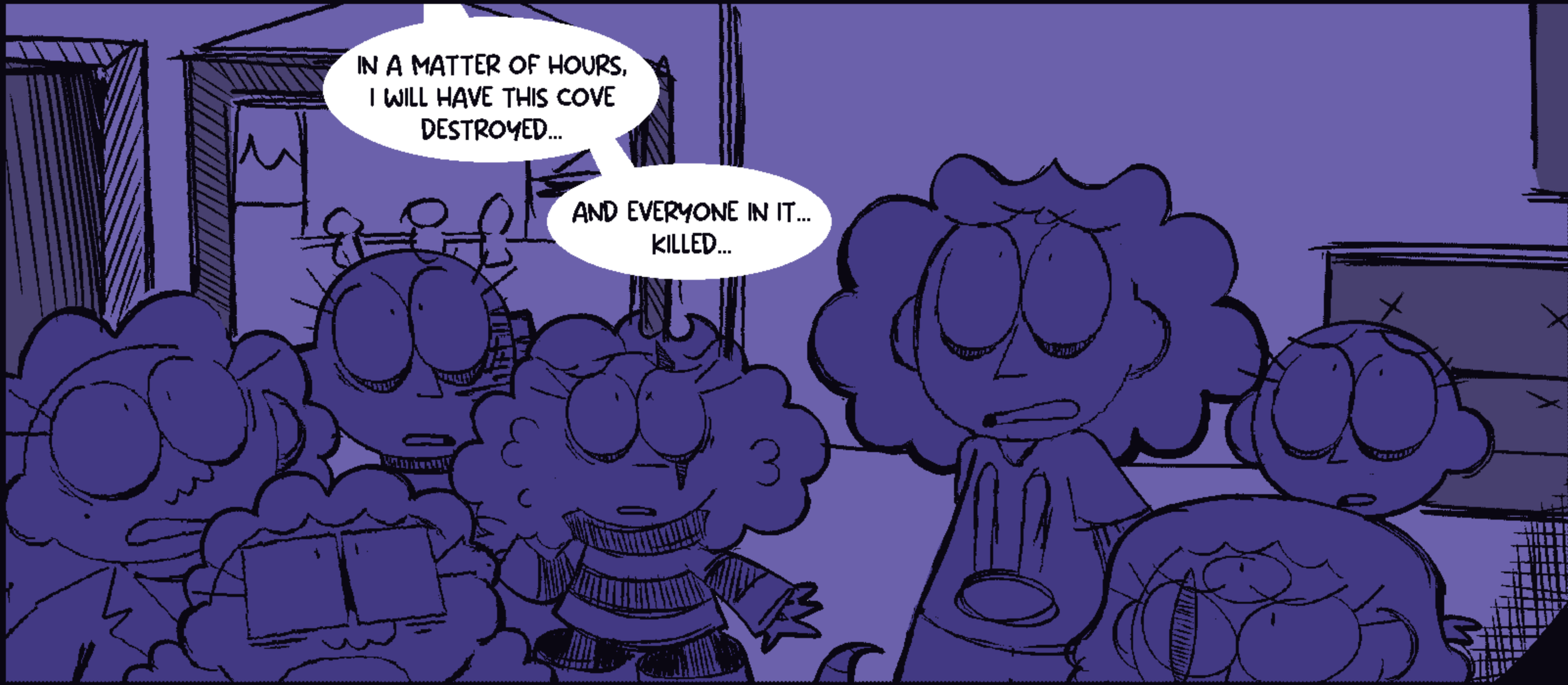


AND I CAN'T DENY
WHAT I'M INEVITABLY
GOING TO DO...



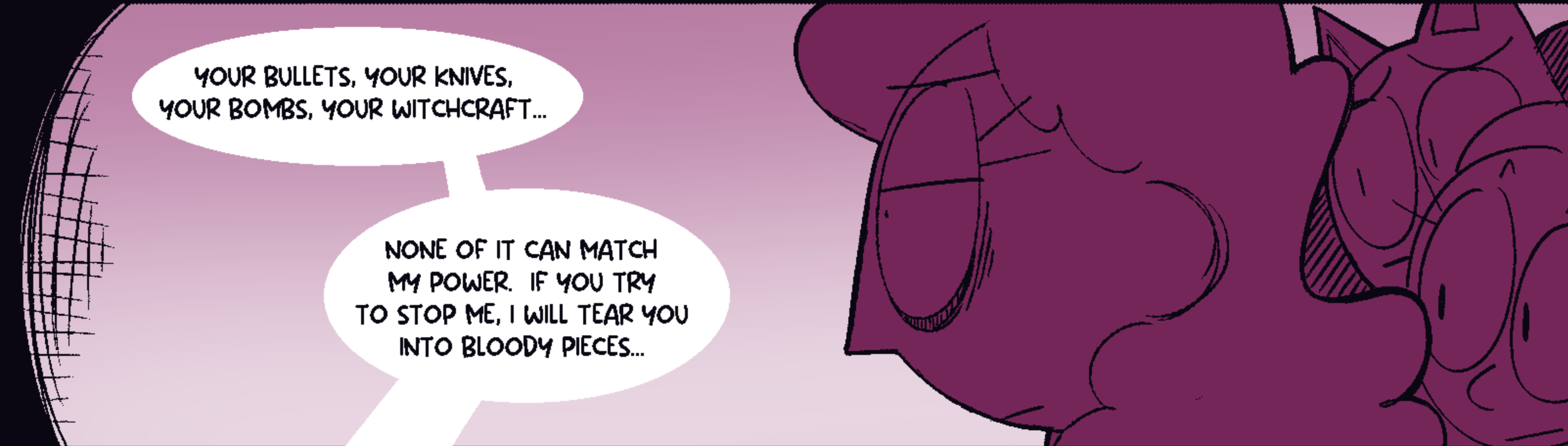
SO WHY KEEP EVERYONE
WAITING, HUH?

MIGHT AS WELL
GET IT OVER WITH.



IN A MATTER OF HOURS,
I WILL HAVE THIS COVE
DESTROYED...

AND EVERYONE IN IT...
KILLED...



YOUR BULLETS, YOUR KNIVES,
YOUR BOMBS, YOUR WITCHCRAFT...

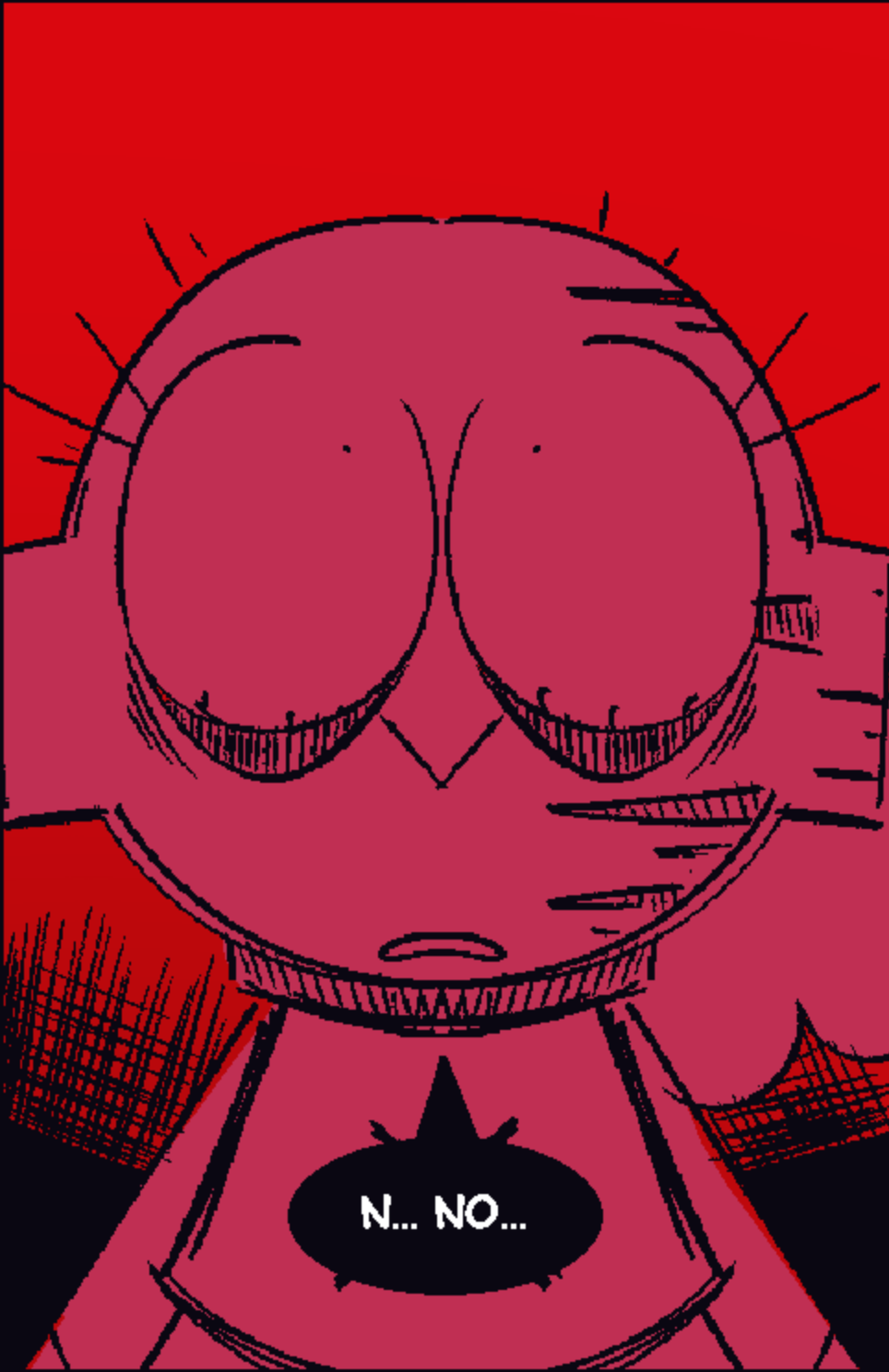
NONE OF IT CAN MATCH
MY POWER. IF YOU TRY
TO STOP ME, I WILL TEAR YOU
INTO BLOODY PIECES...



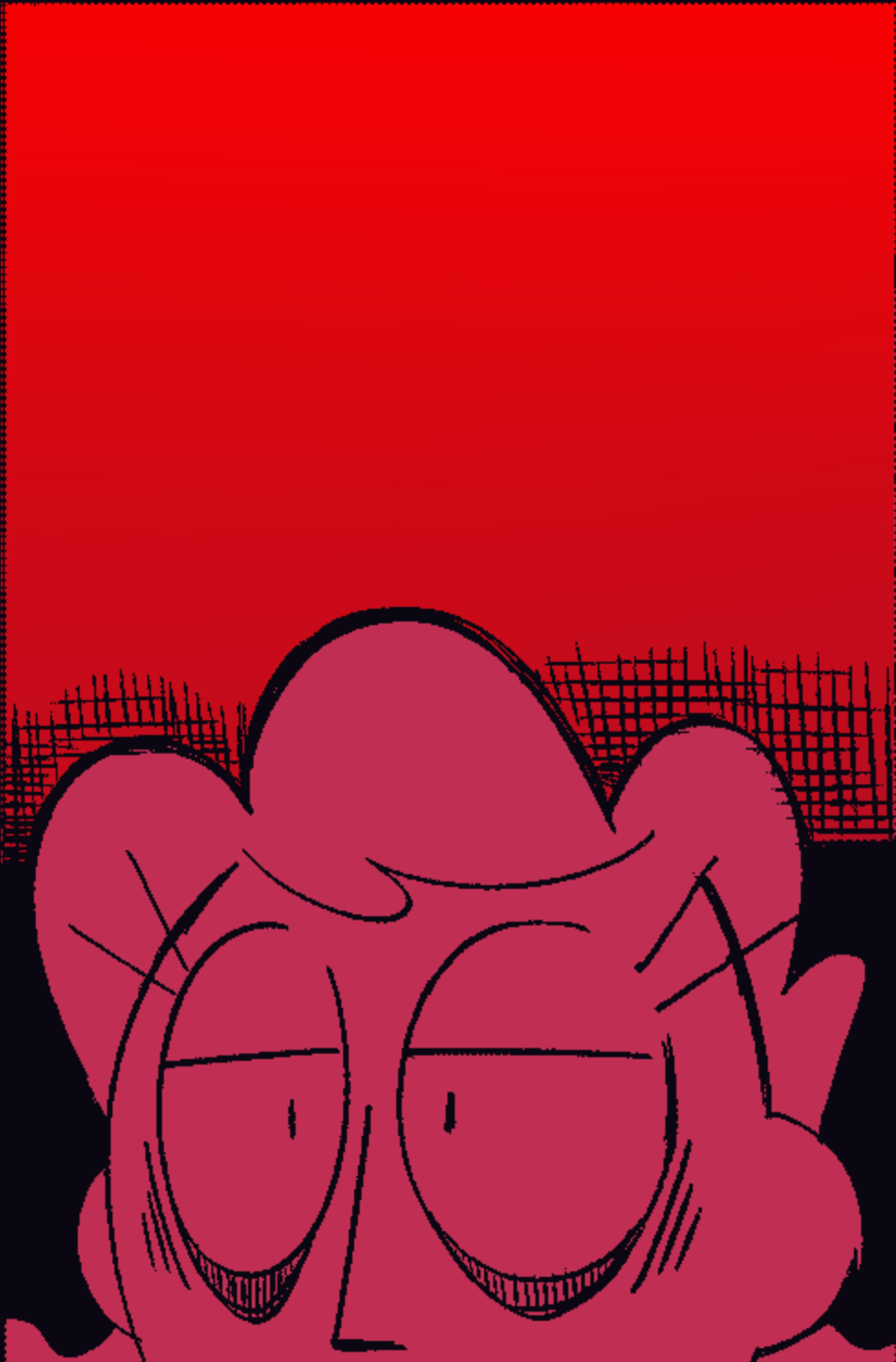
JUST LIKE I DID TO
THE COVE'S WITCHS!

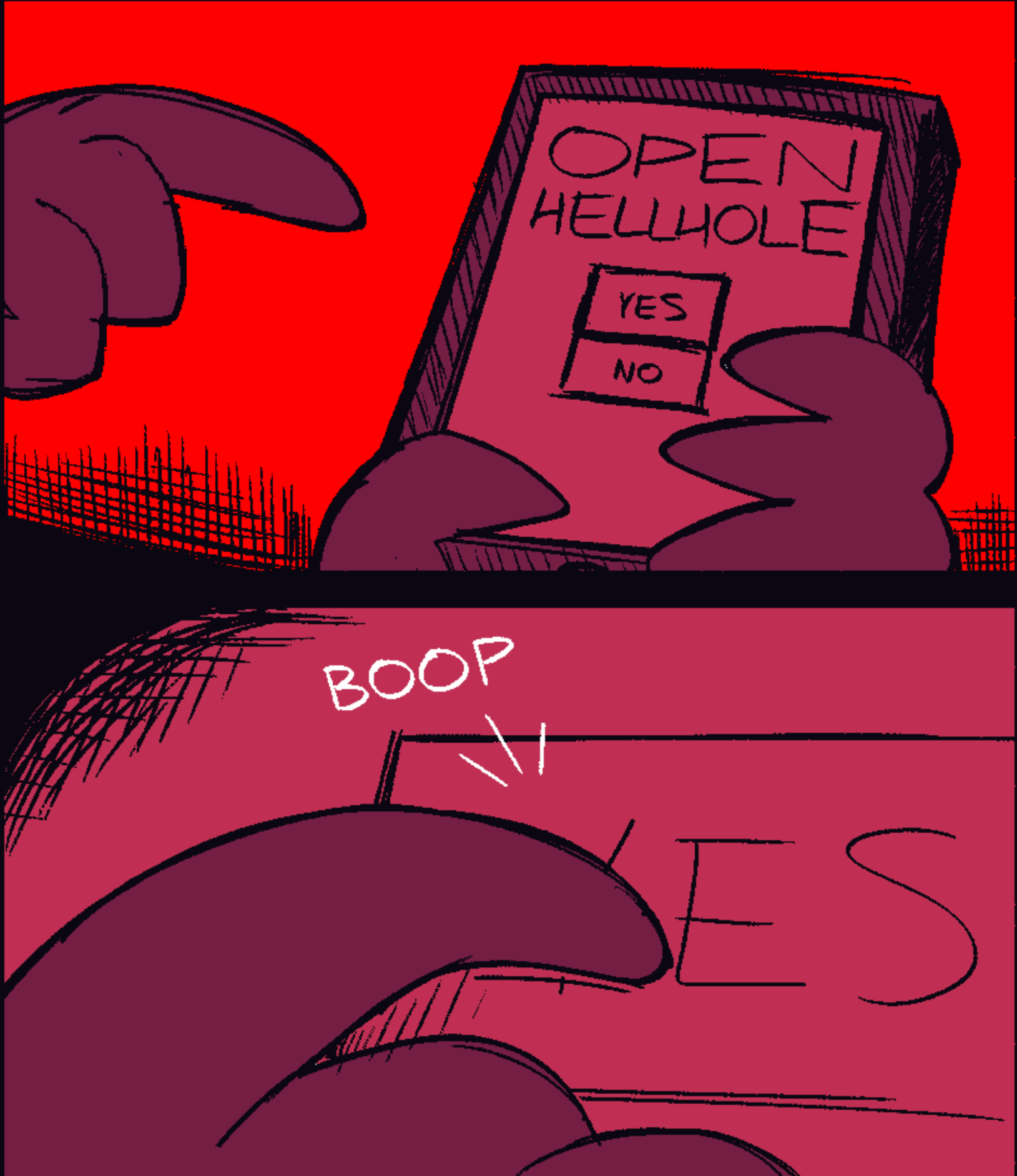
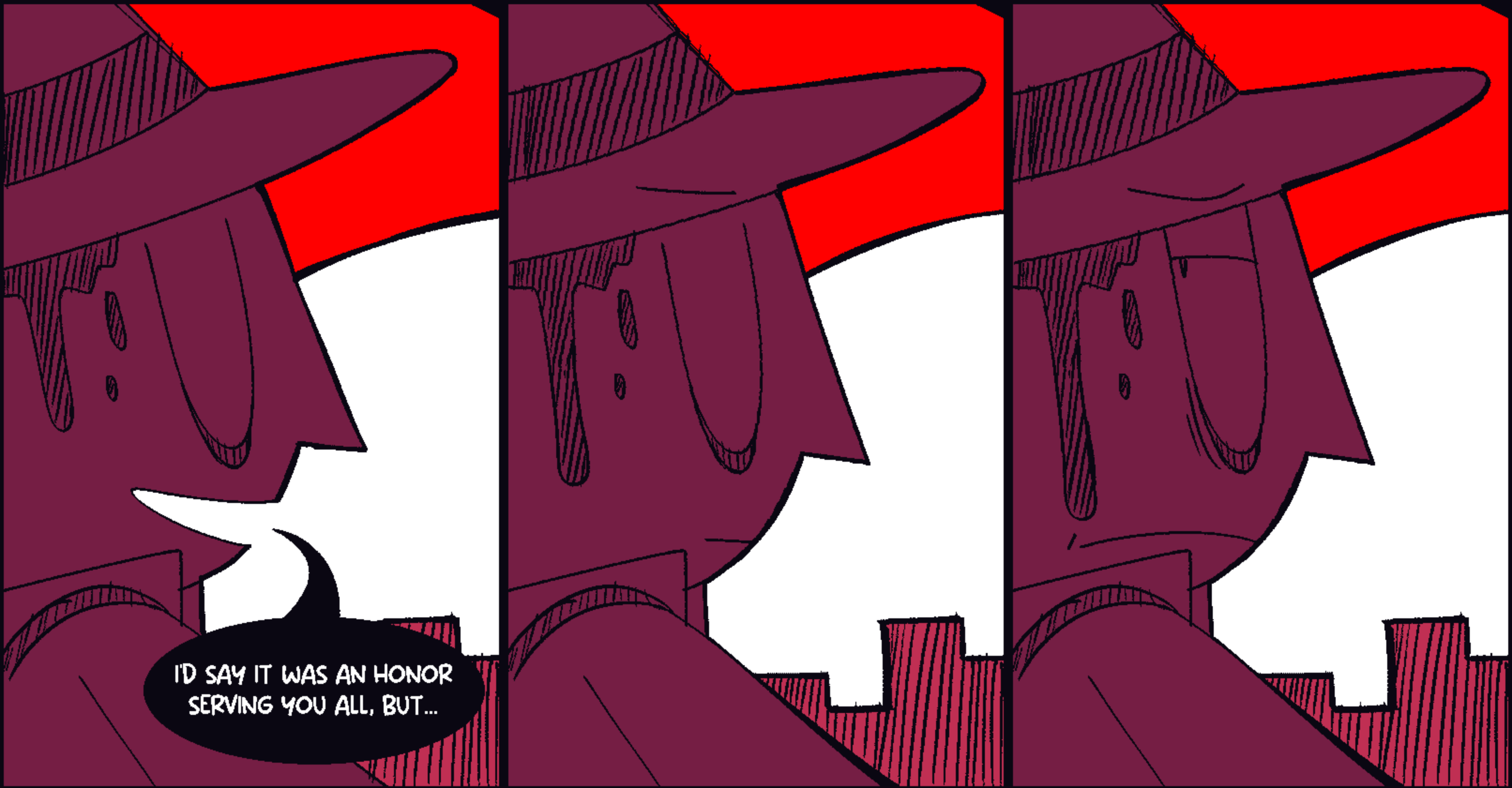


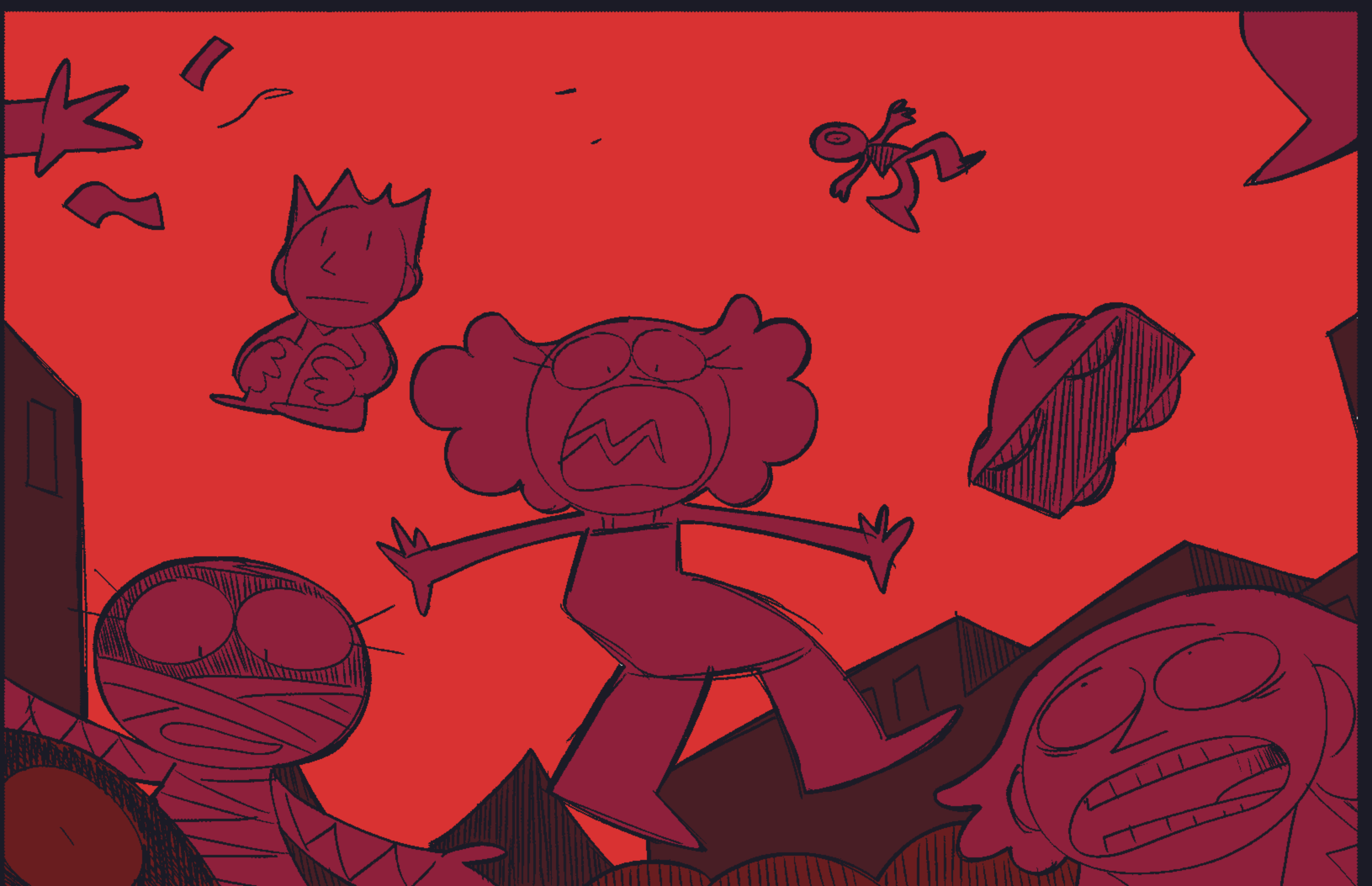
OH GOD...

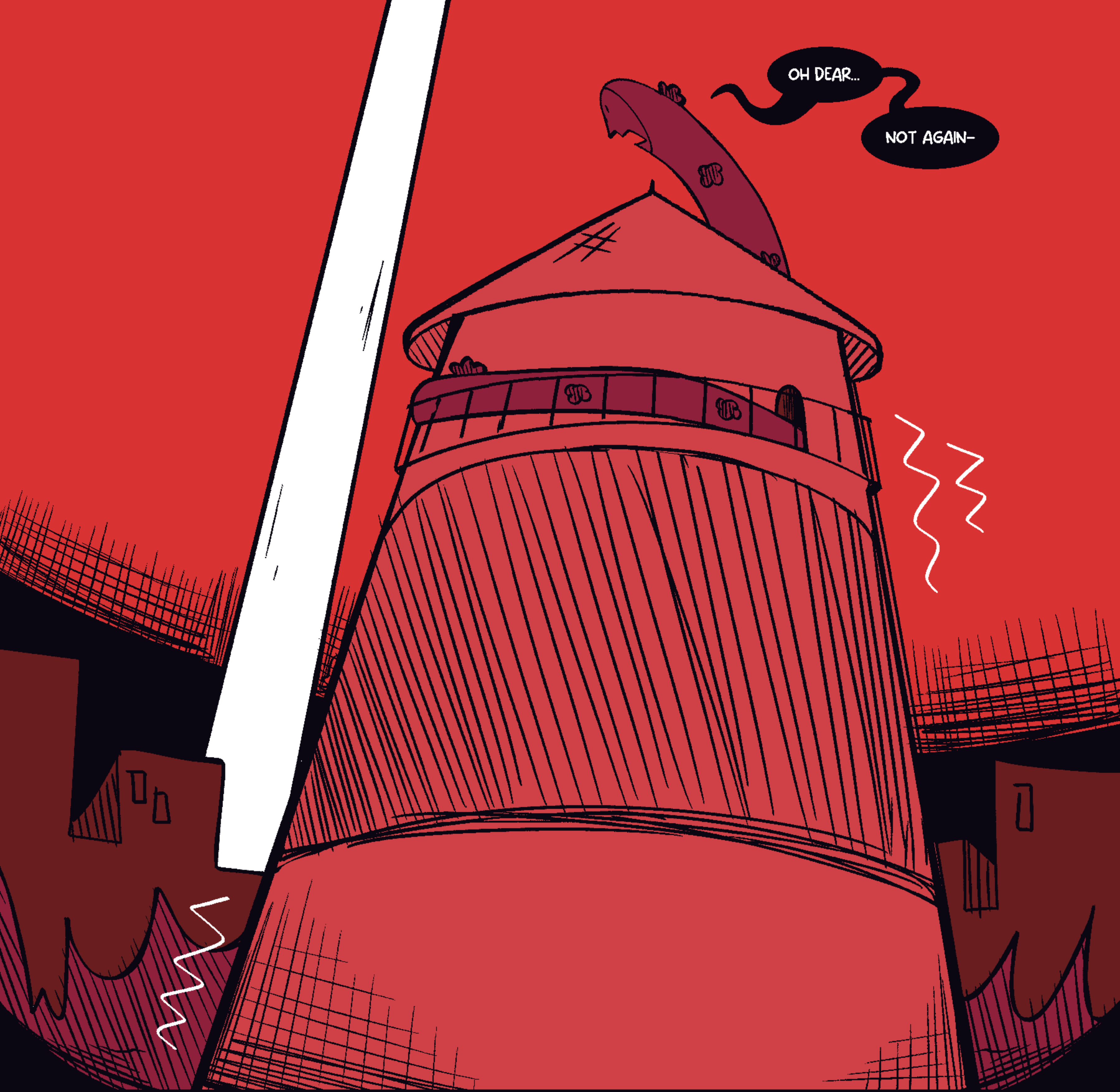


N... NO...









SHAKING



Q-QUICK, EVERYONE,
G-GRAB ON TO SOMETHING
HEAVY!

breathe.

BREATHE.

BREATHE.

BREATHE

BREATHE

BREATHE

BREATHE

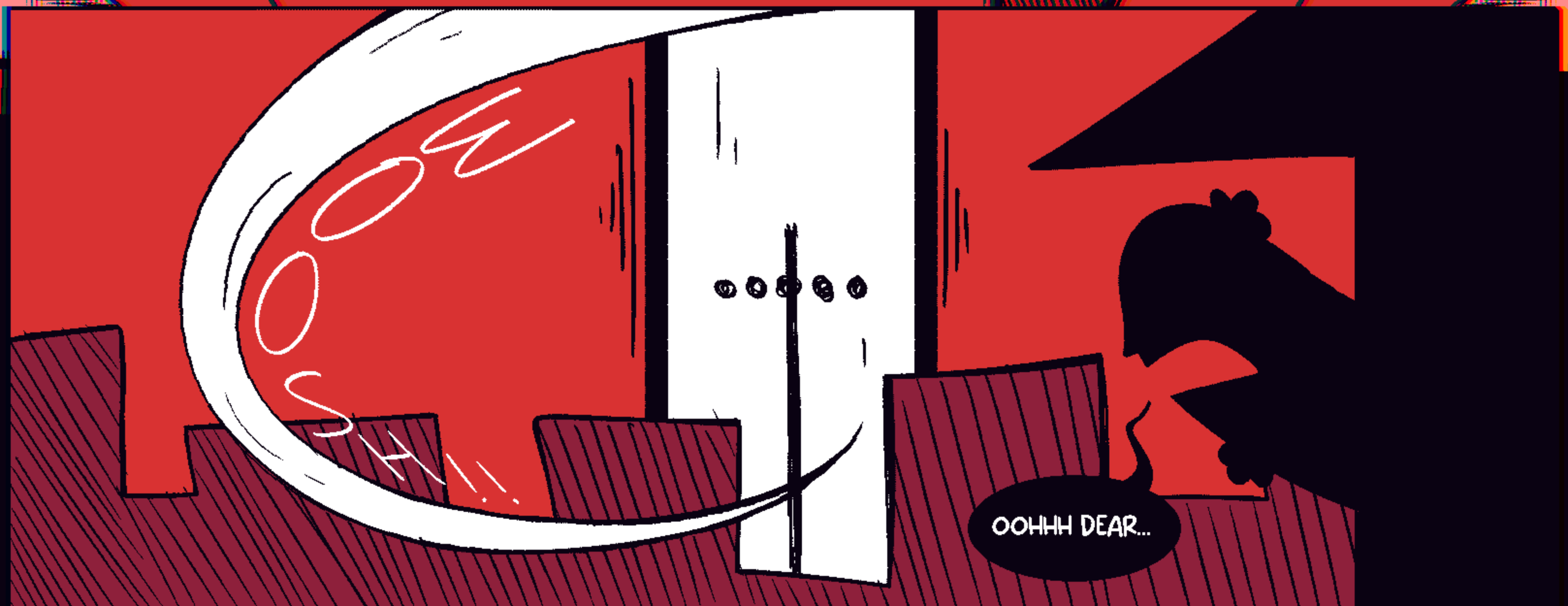
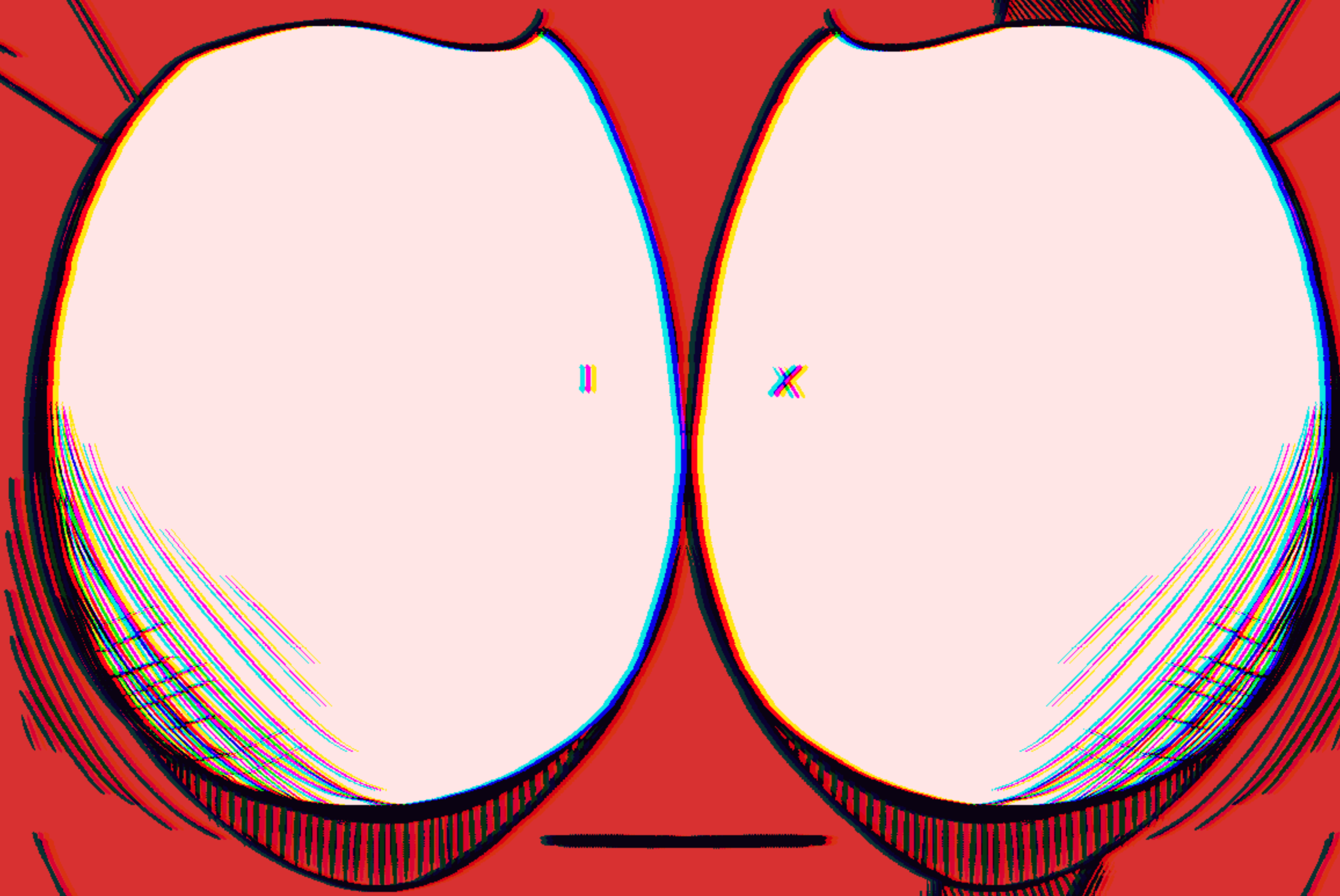
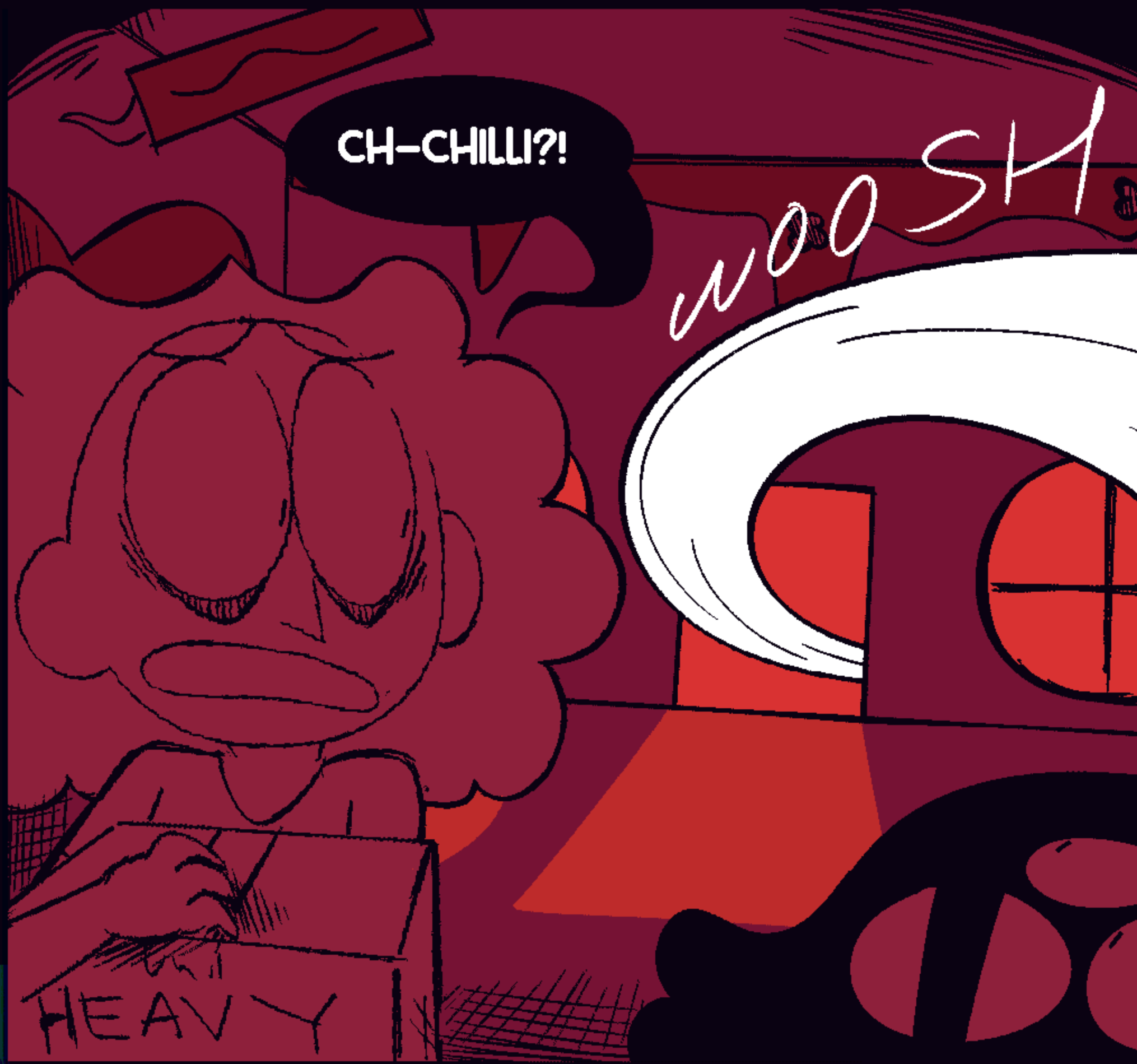
BREATHE

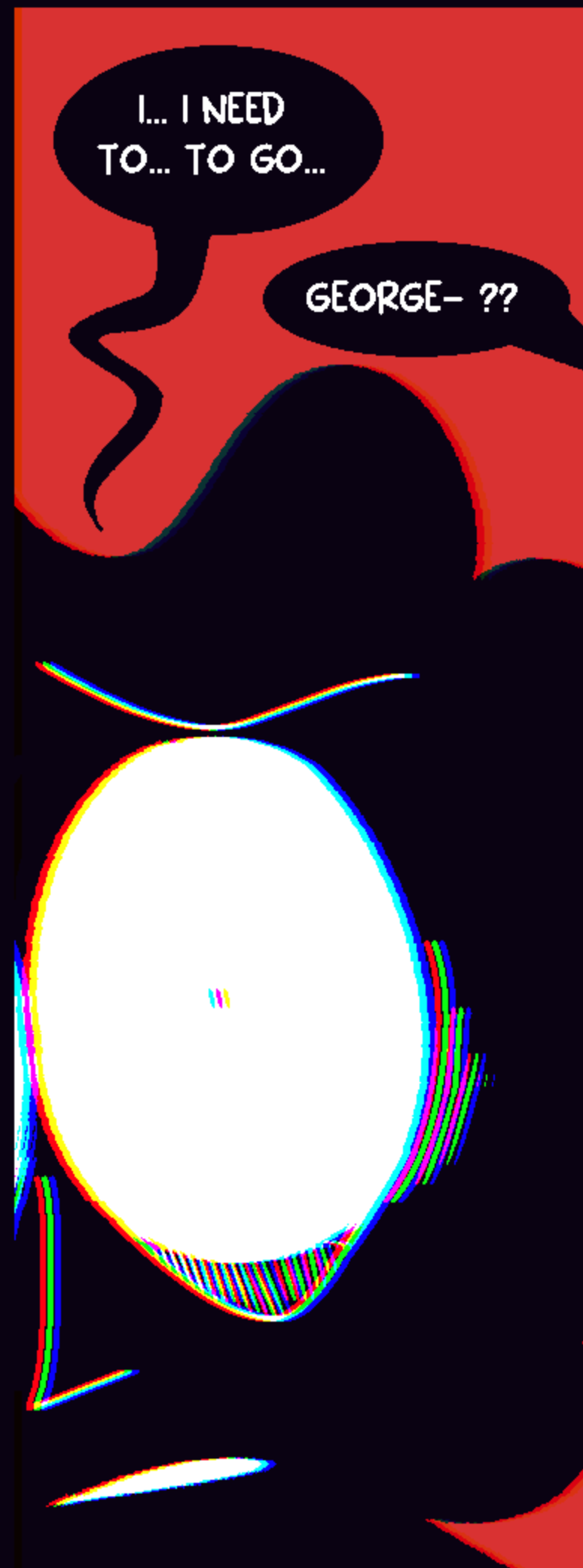
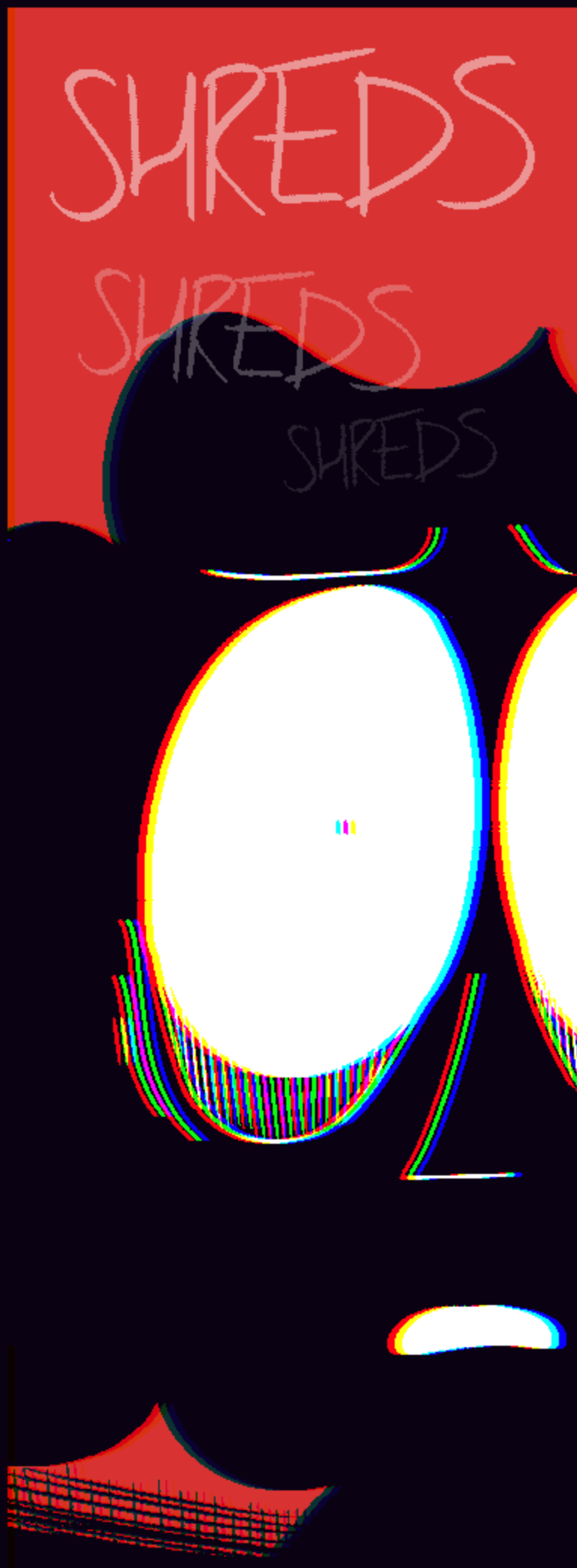
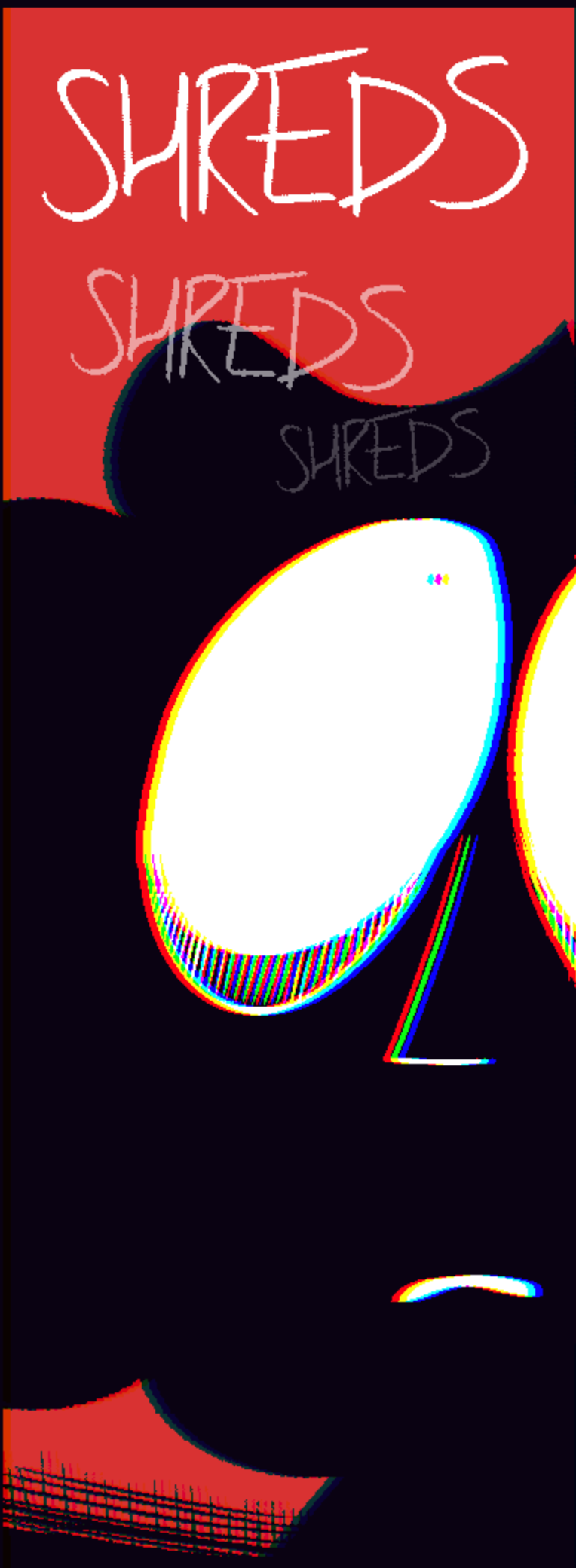
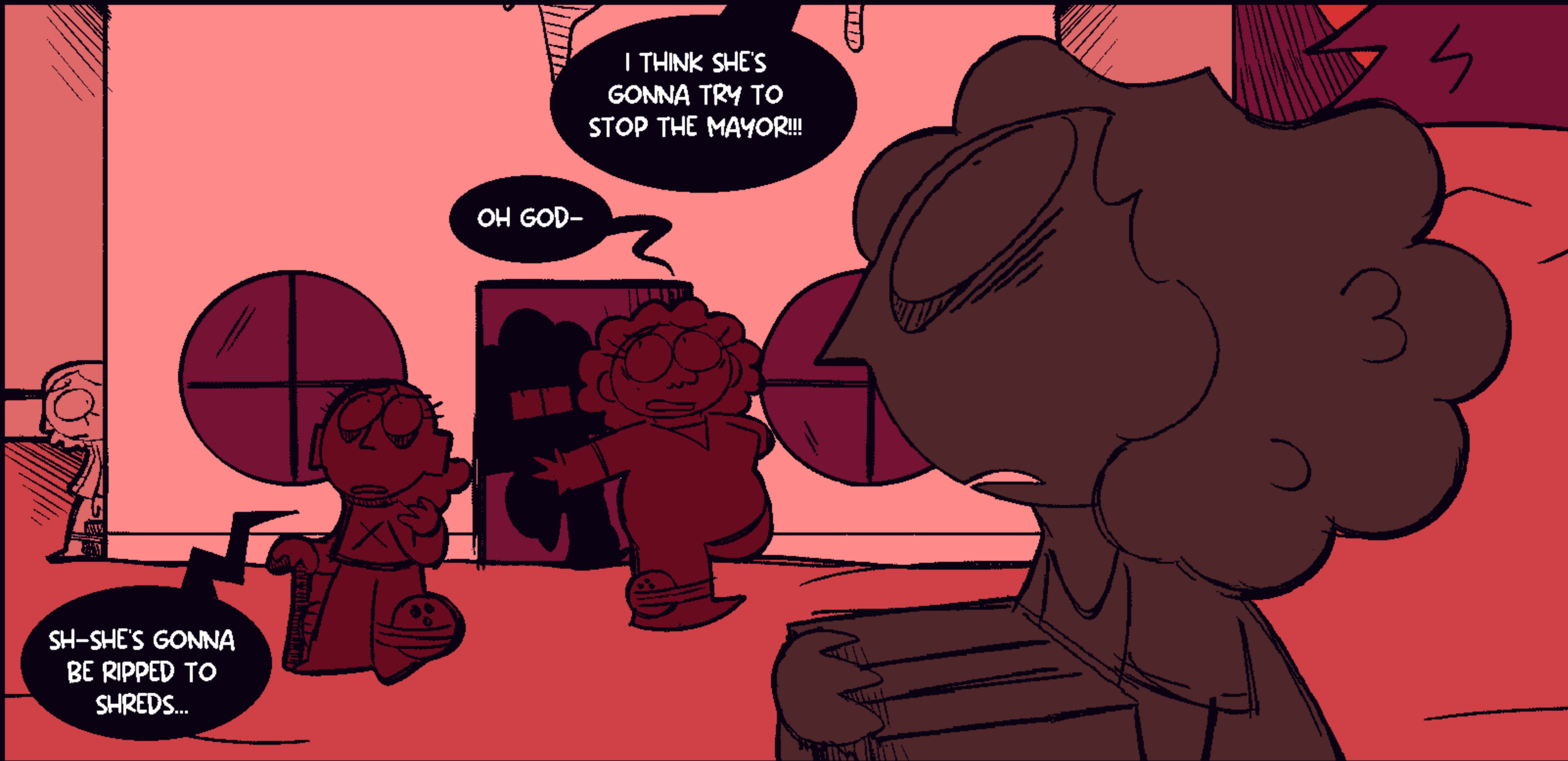
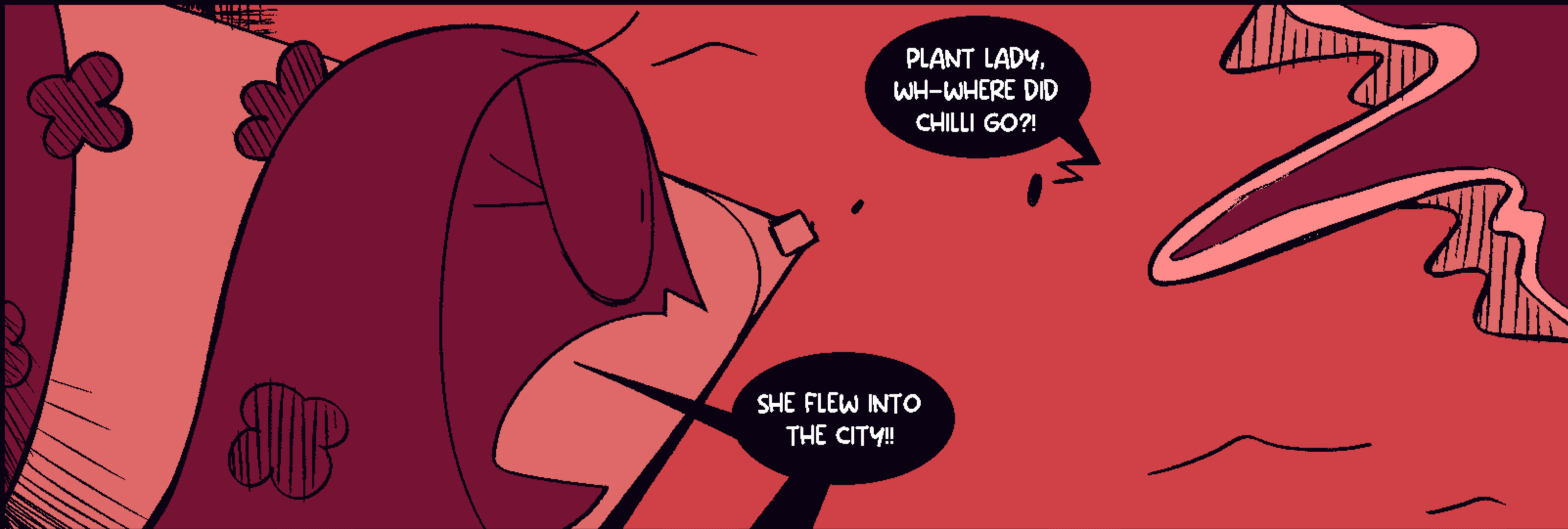
OH GOD

OH GOD

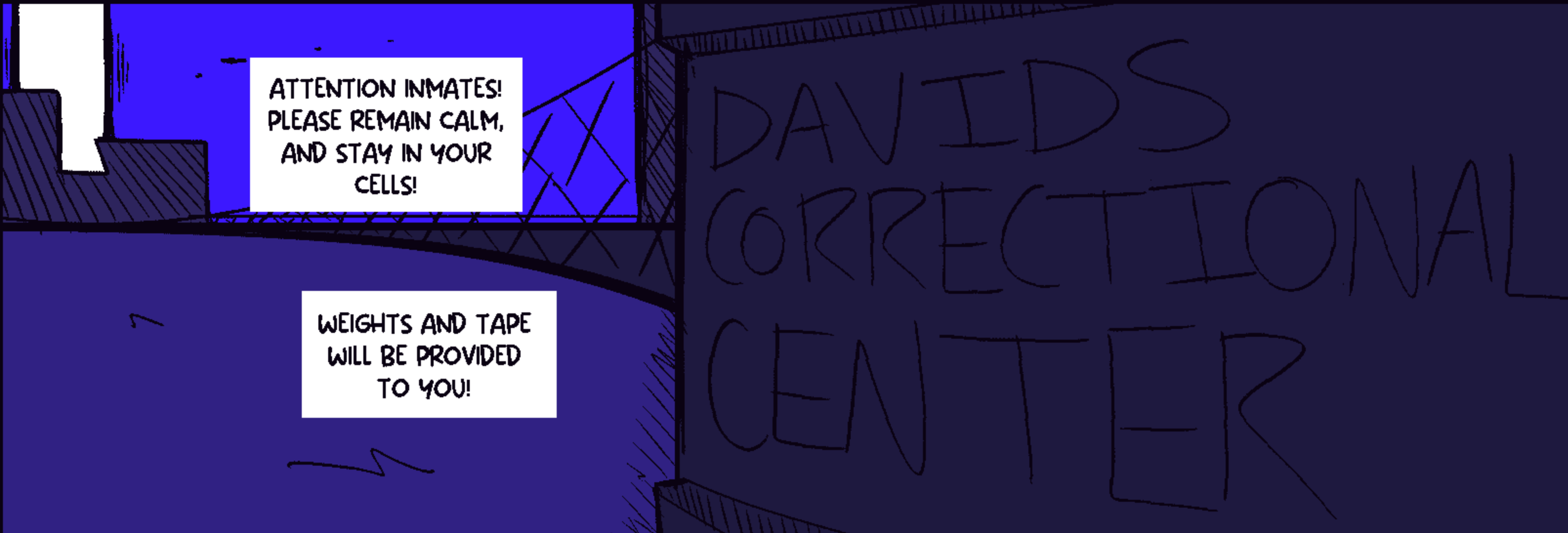
OH GOD

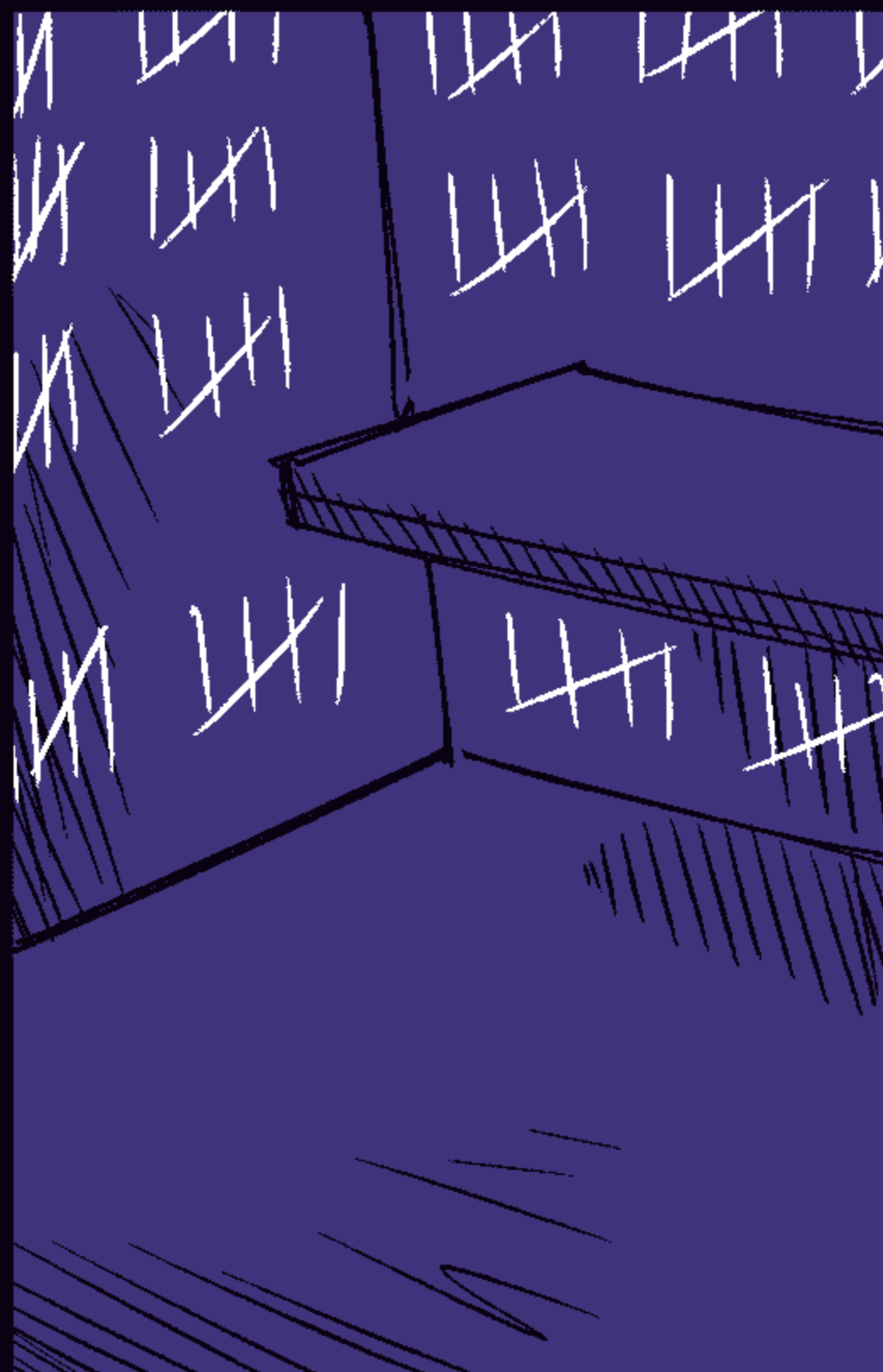
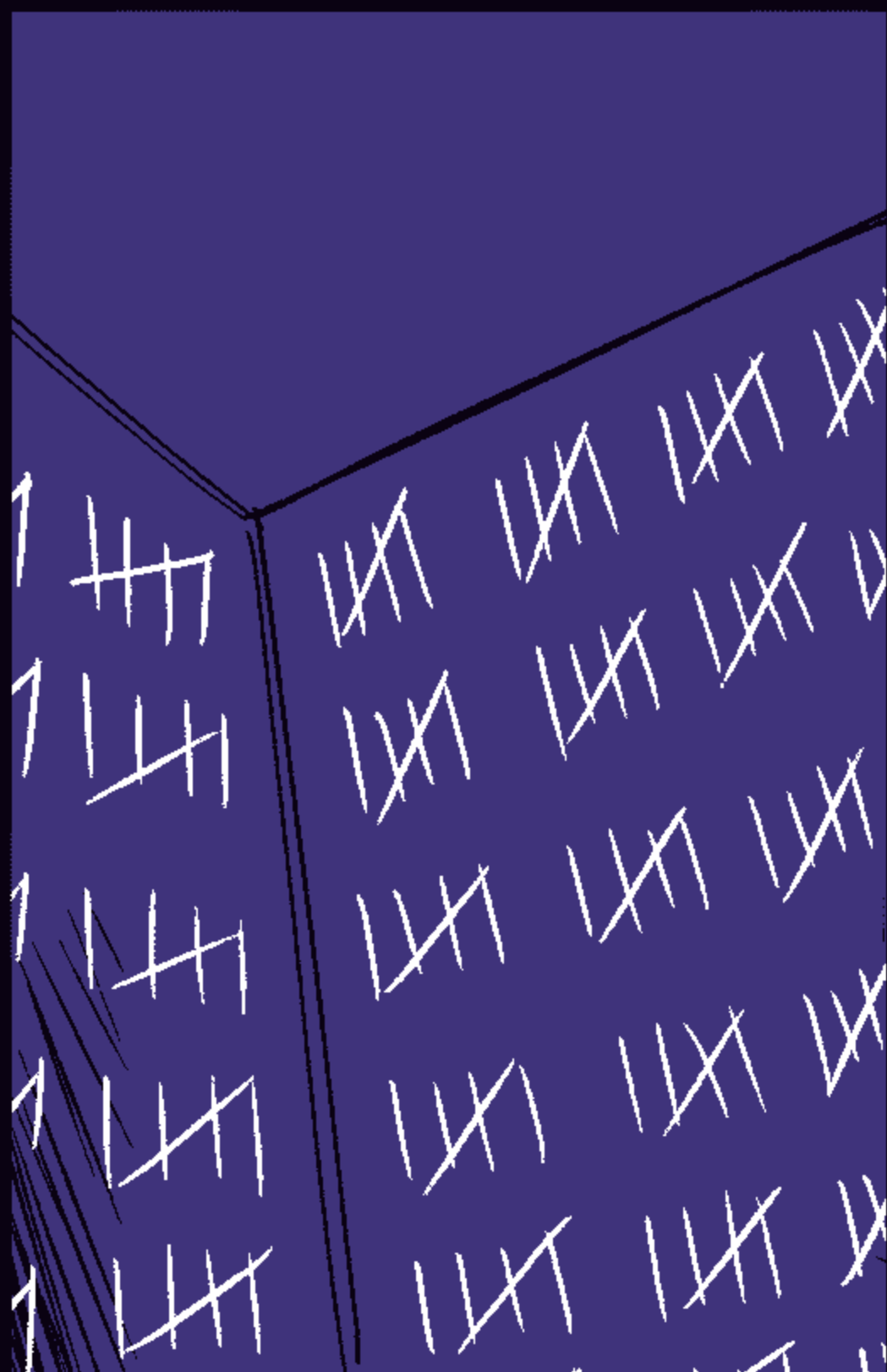
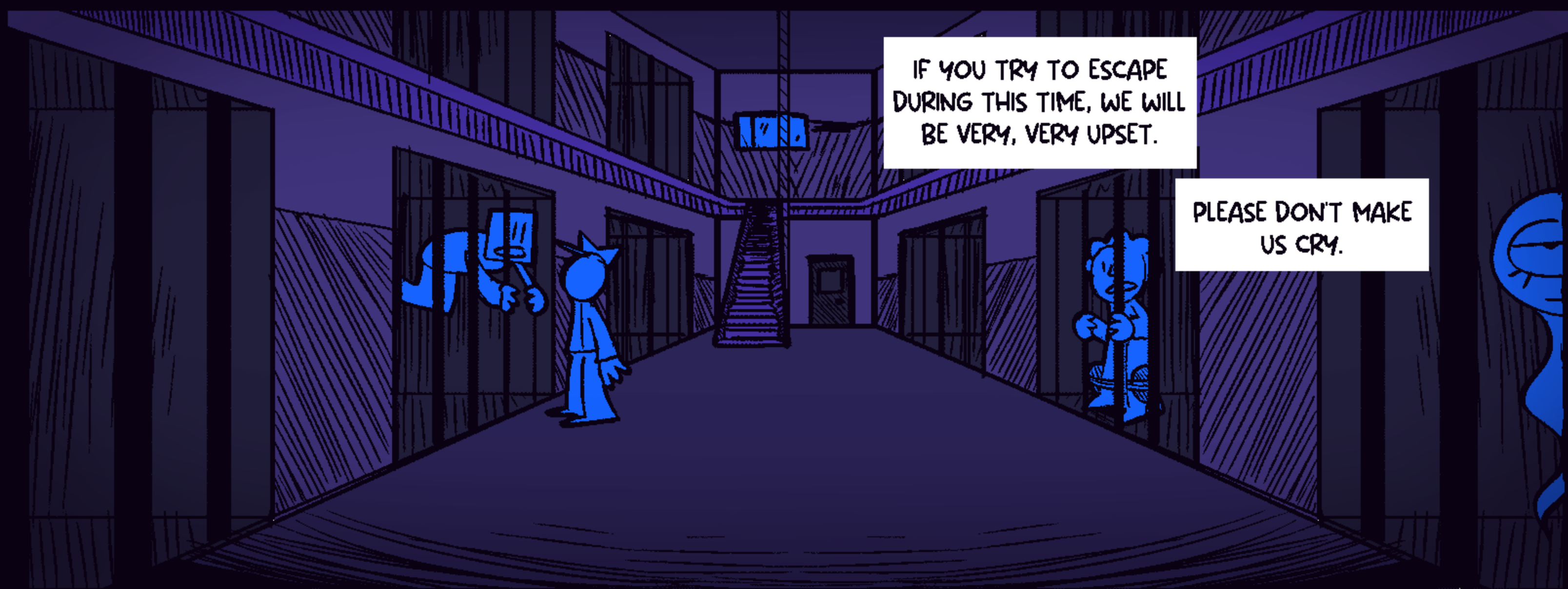
THEY'RE... DEAD...
TH-THEY'RE ALL DEAD...
THEY'RE... DEAD...
TH-THEY'RE ALL DEAD...
THEY'RE... DEAD...
TH-THEY'RE ALL DEAD...









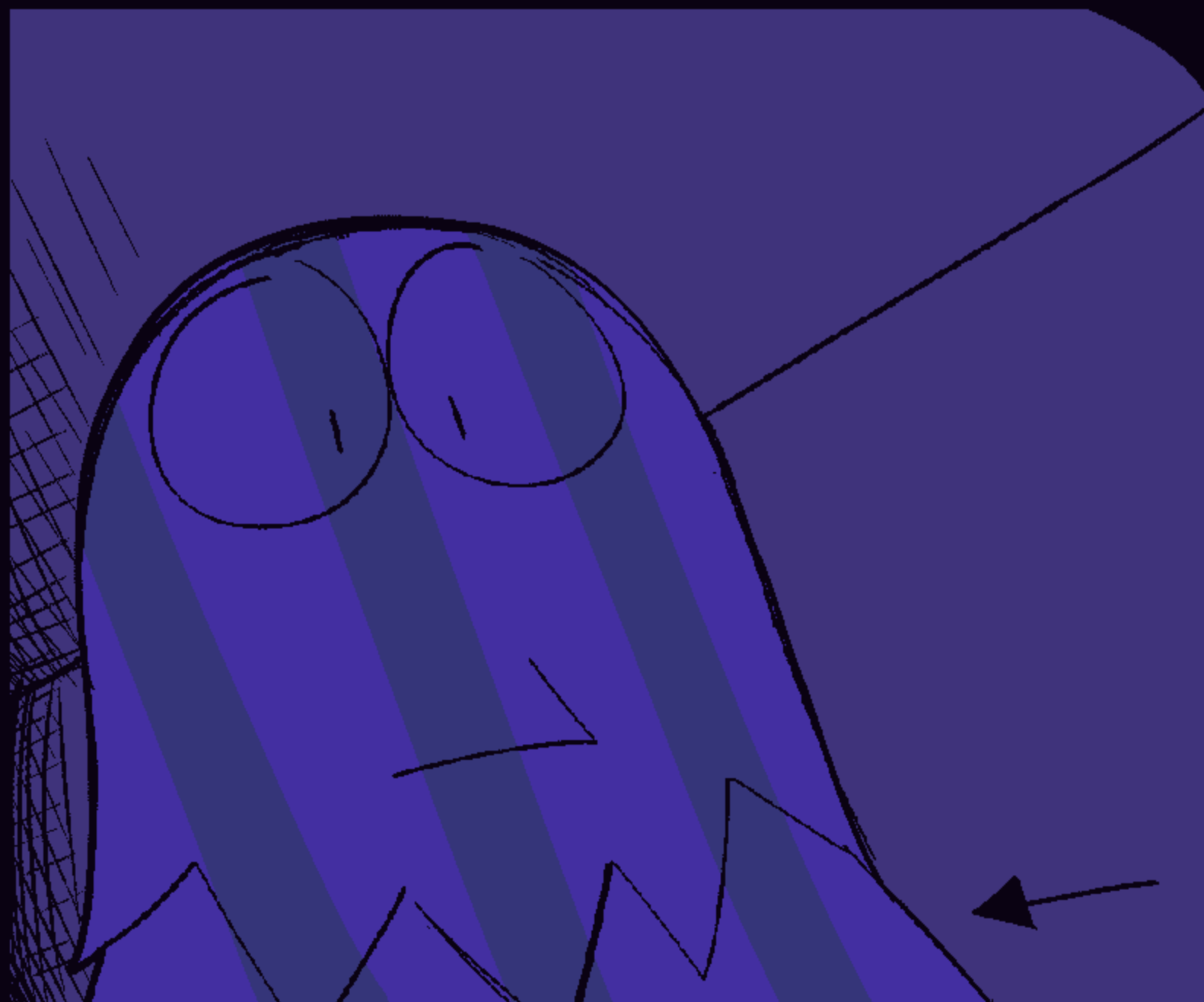




HMM... I'M AFRAID
YOU DONT LOOK FAMILIAR
TO ME!

COULD YOU PERHAPS
JOG MY MEMORY?

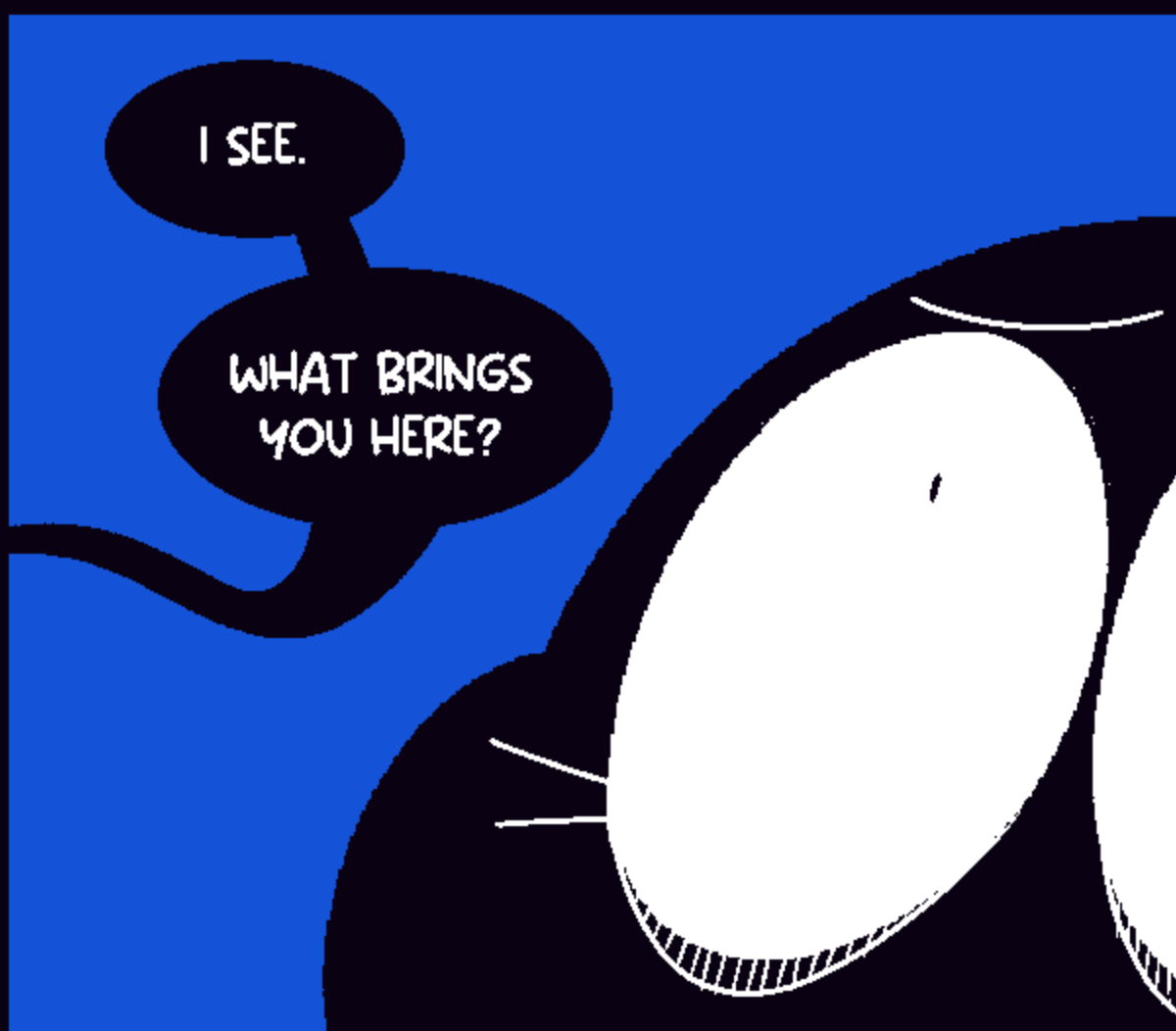
I'M... THE REASON
YOU'RE IN JAIL...



OH. THAT'S RIGHT.

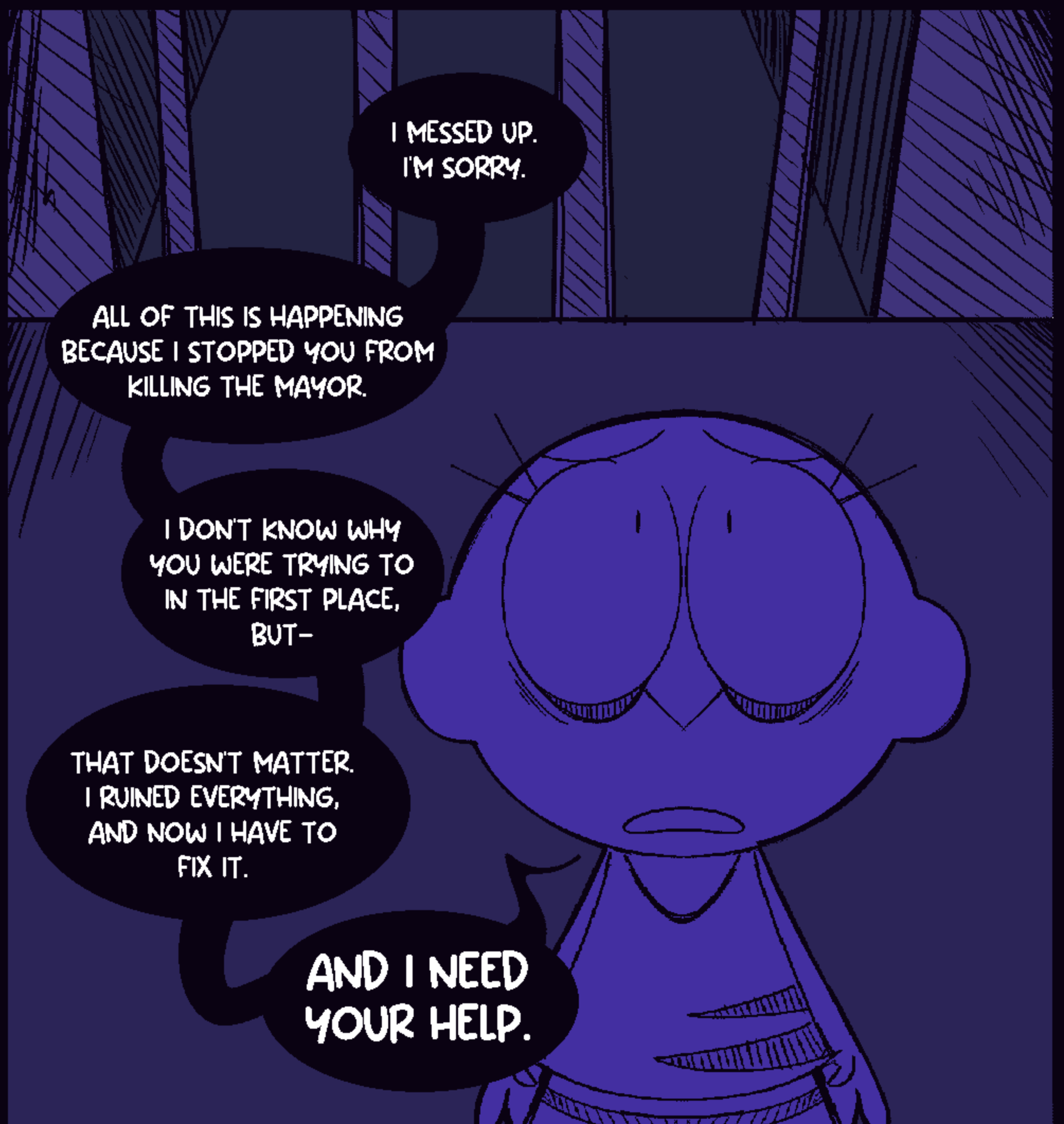
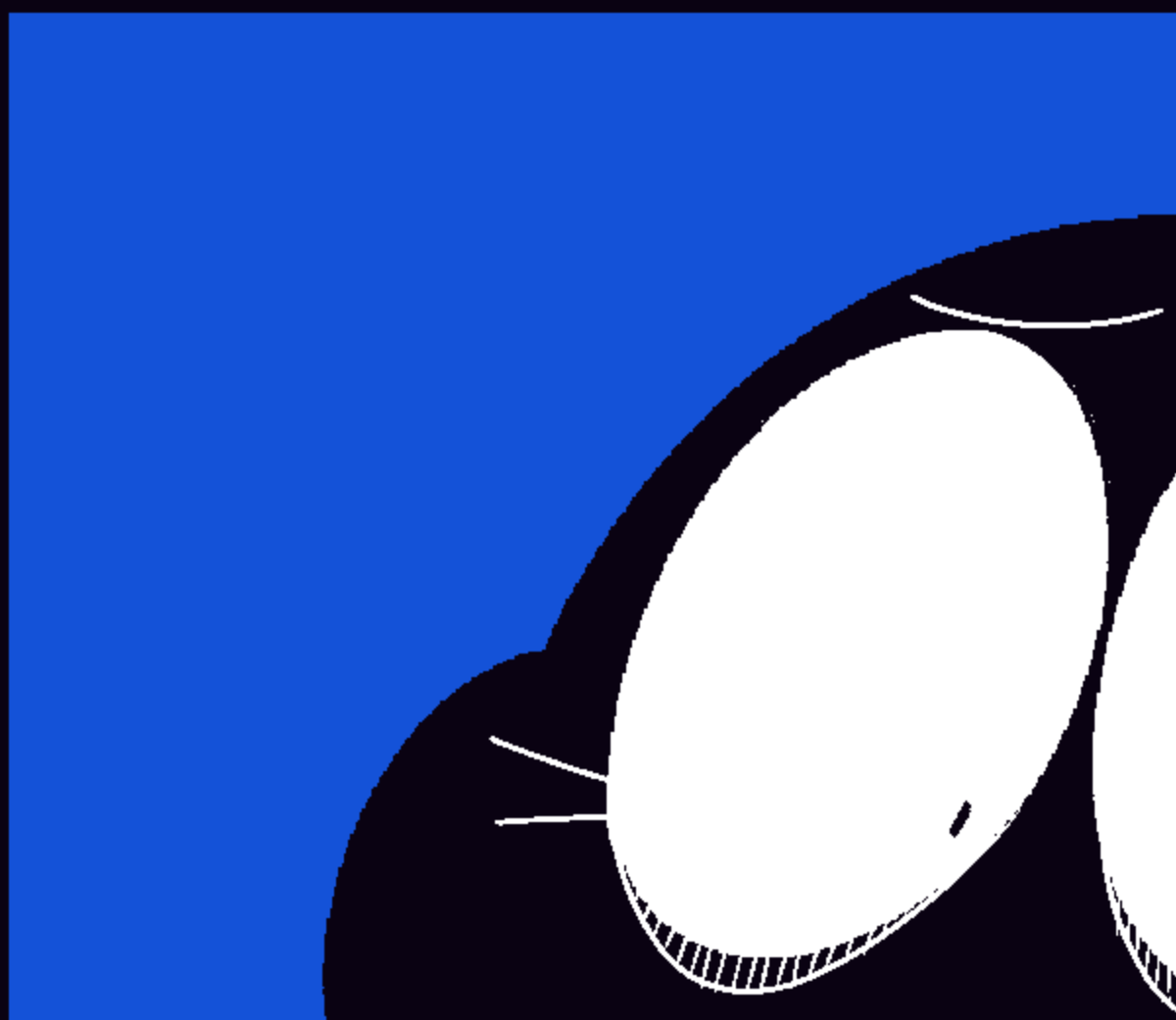
"CHILLI THE
VAMPIRE OPOSSUM,"
IF I RECALL.

WELL, I'M NOT
ANYMORE, BUT...
THAT'S A LONG
STORY.



I SEE.

WHAT BRINGS
YOU HERE?



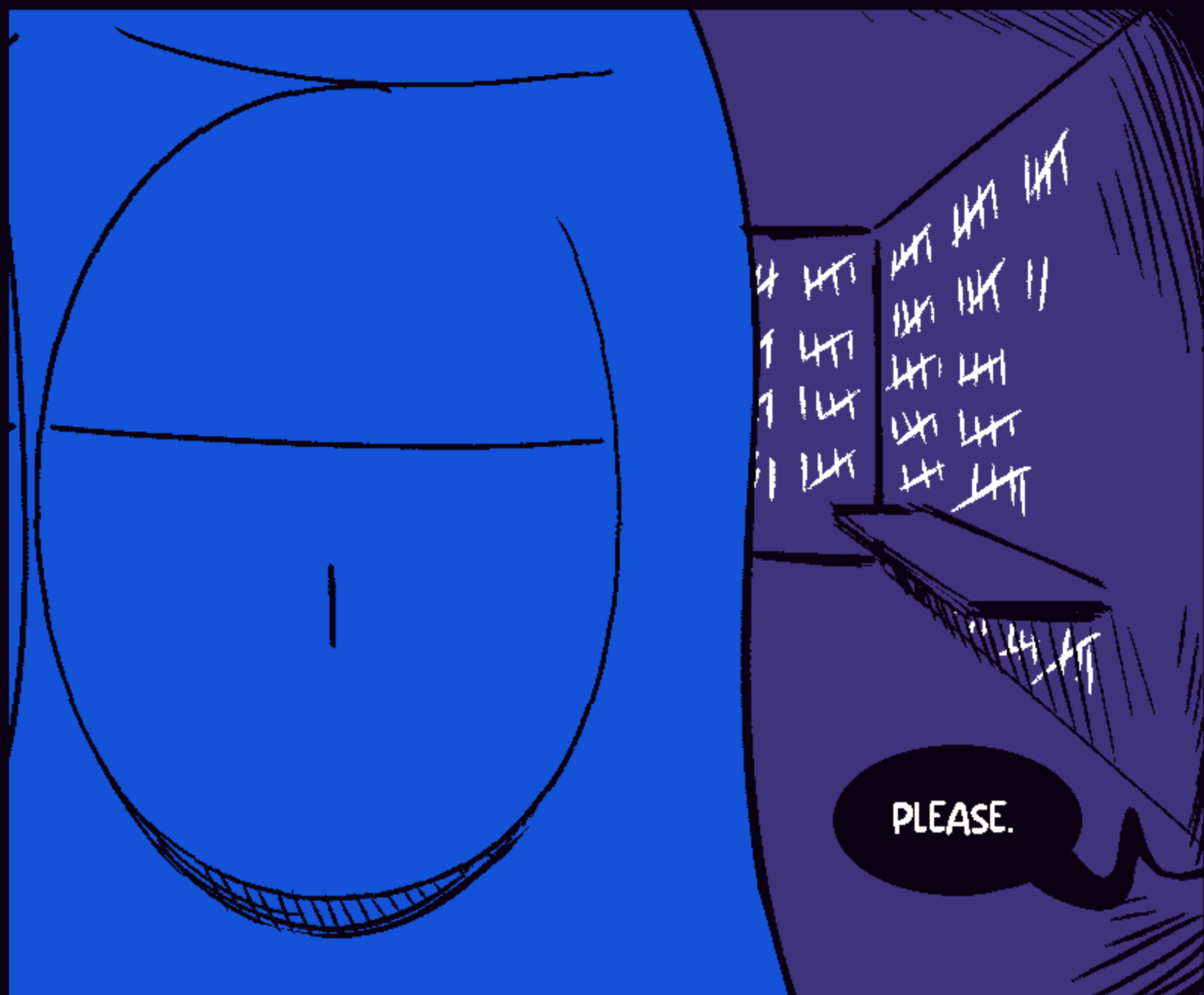
I MESSED UP.
I'M SORRY.

ALL OF THIS IS HAPPENING
BECAUSE I STOPPED YOU FROM
KILLING THE MAYOR.

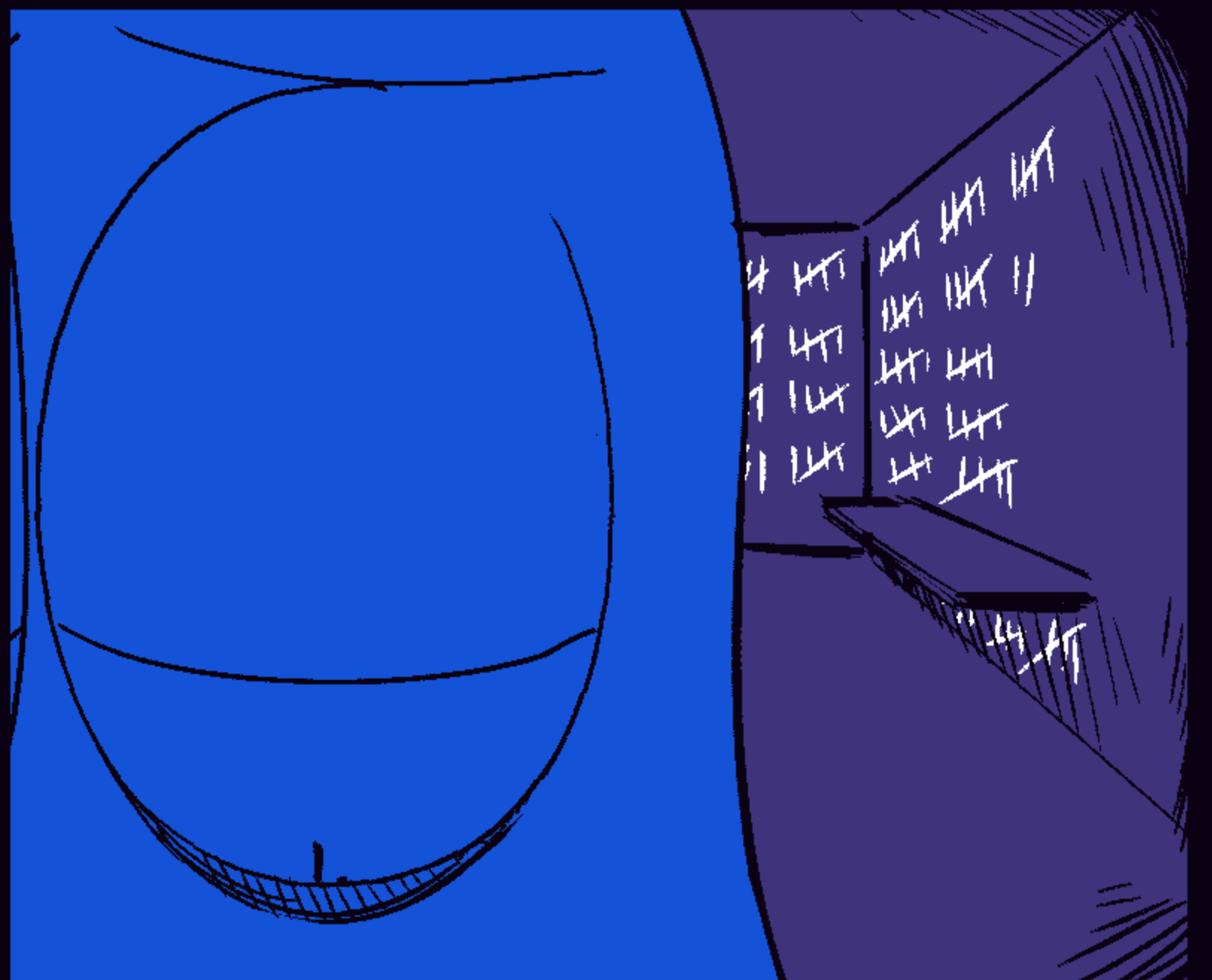
I DONT KNOW WHY
YOU WERE TRYING TO
IN THE FIRST PLACE,
BUT-

THAT DOESNT MATTER.
I RUINED EVERYTHING,
AND NOW I HAVE TO
FIX IT.

AND I NEED
YOUR HELP.



PLEASE.

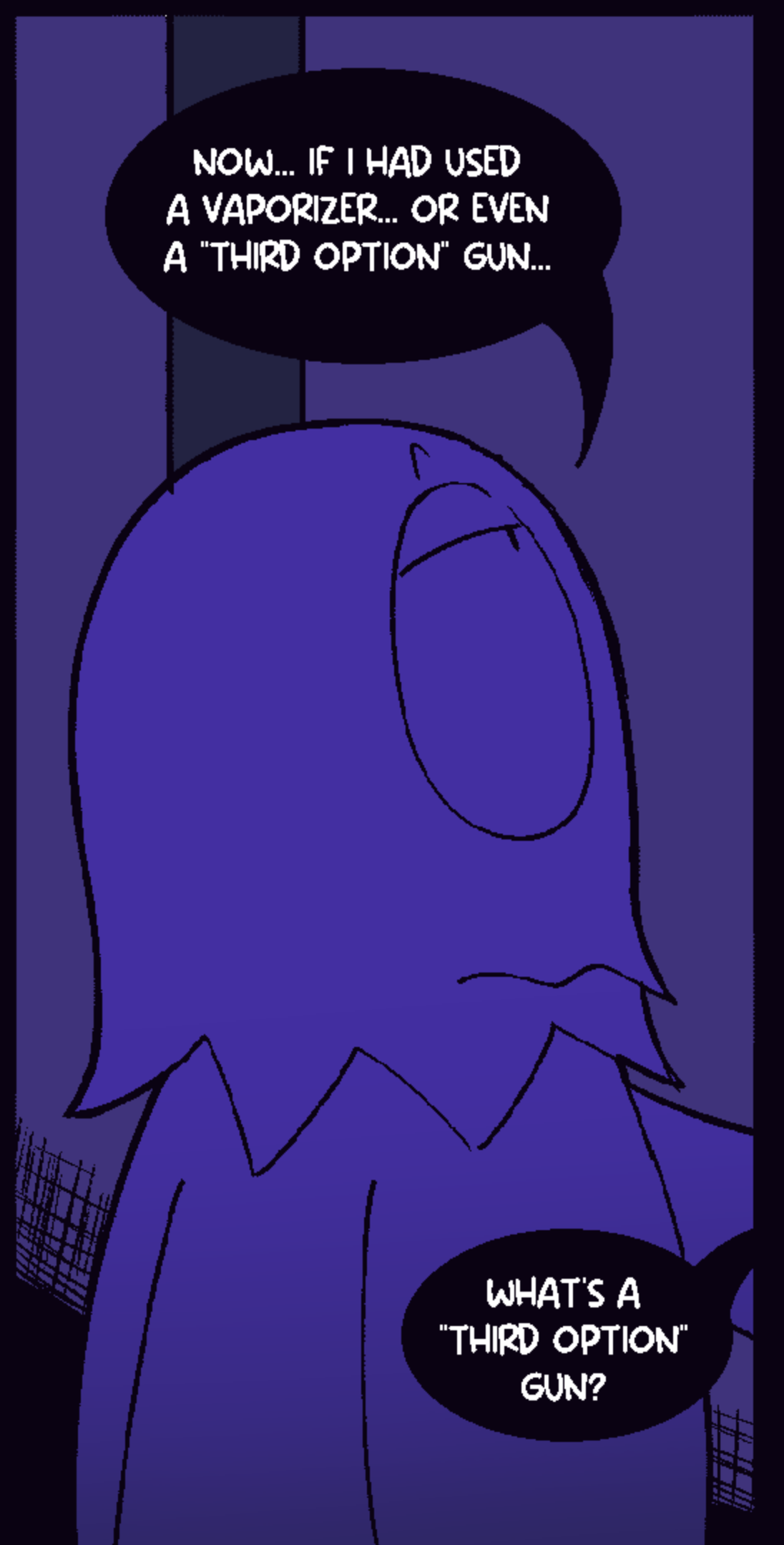


OH... THIS ISN'T
YOUR FAULT, DEAR.

MY PLAN WAS
FAULTY, ANYWAY.



HE'S A SHAPESHIFTER.
A REGULAR GUN AND BULLETS
WOULDN'T HAVE WORKED
ON HIM.



NOW... IF I HAD USED
A VAPORIZER... OR EVEN
A "THIRD OPTION" GUN...

WHAT'S A
"THIRD OPTION"
GUN?



WELL, I SUPPOSE
IT'S MORE OF A TRANSPORTER
THAN A GUN.

IF YOU GET ZAPPED BY ONE,
YOU GET SENT TO THE THIRD OPTION,
AND AS SUCH, YOU IMMEDIATELY
CEASE TO EXIST.

SO, BASICALLY
JUST A MORE COMPLICATED
VAPORIZER?



WELL IF YOU'RE SHOT
BY A... "VAPORIZER", YOU
STILL GET SENT TO THE
WAITING ROOM.

BUT THE
"THIRD OPTION" GUN
IS PERMANENT.

AND ONLY APPROVED
HELL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS
ARE ALLOWED TO CARRY
THEM.

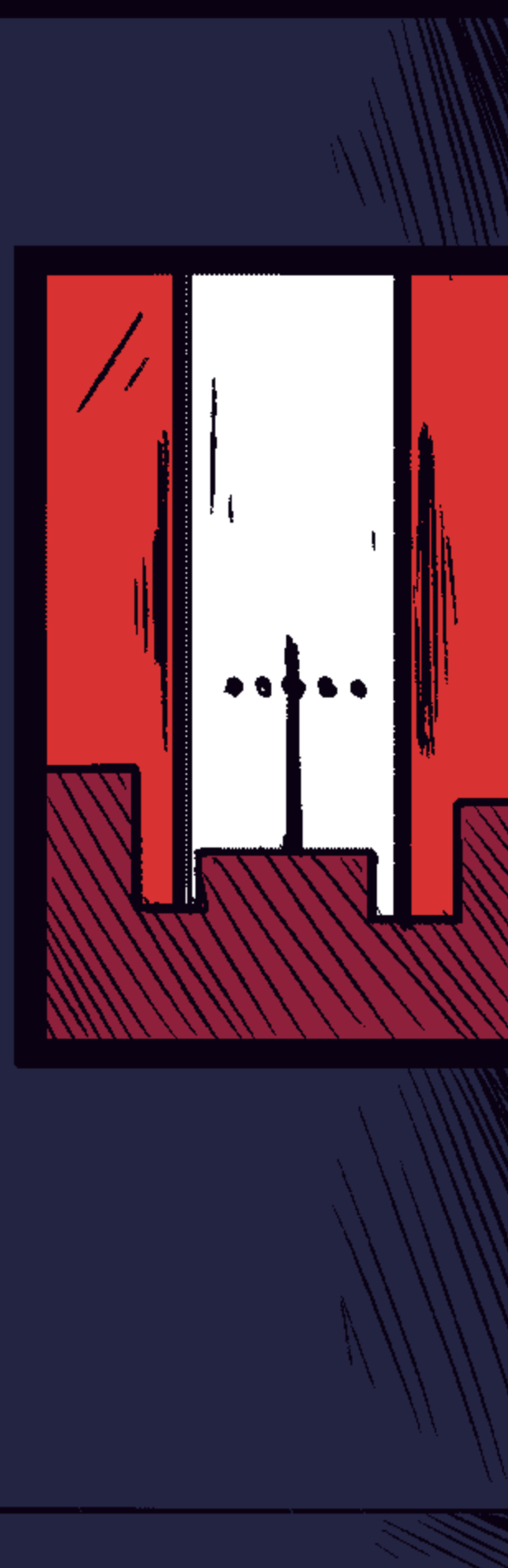


BUT... I HAVE...
WAYS... TO ACQUIRE
ONE.

THOUGH WE'LL HAVE
TO BE QUICK!

SO YOU'LL
HELP US?!

IF IT MEANS FINALLY
RIDDING THE WORLD OF
DILLON BONES FOR GOOD,
I'LL DO ANYTHING!





HM.

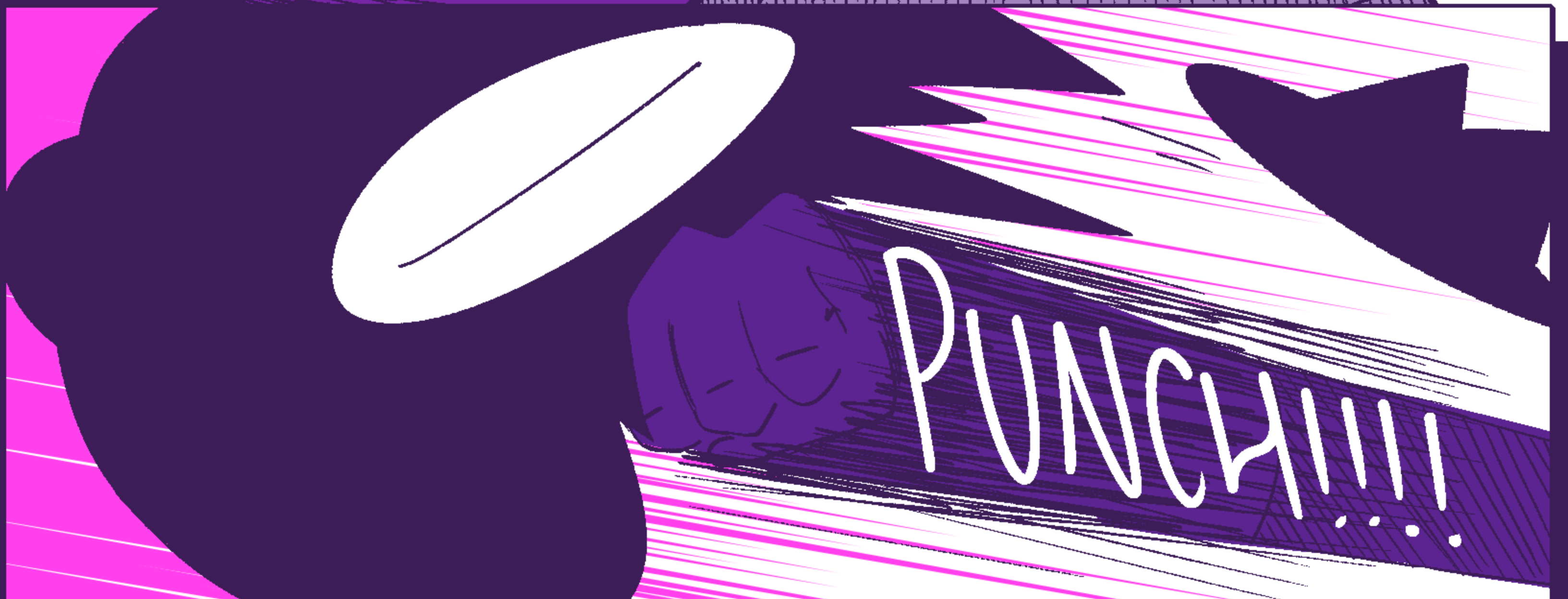
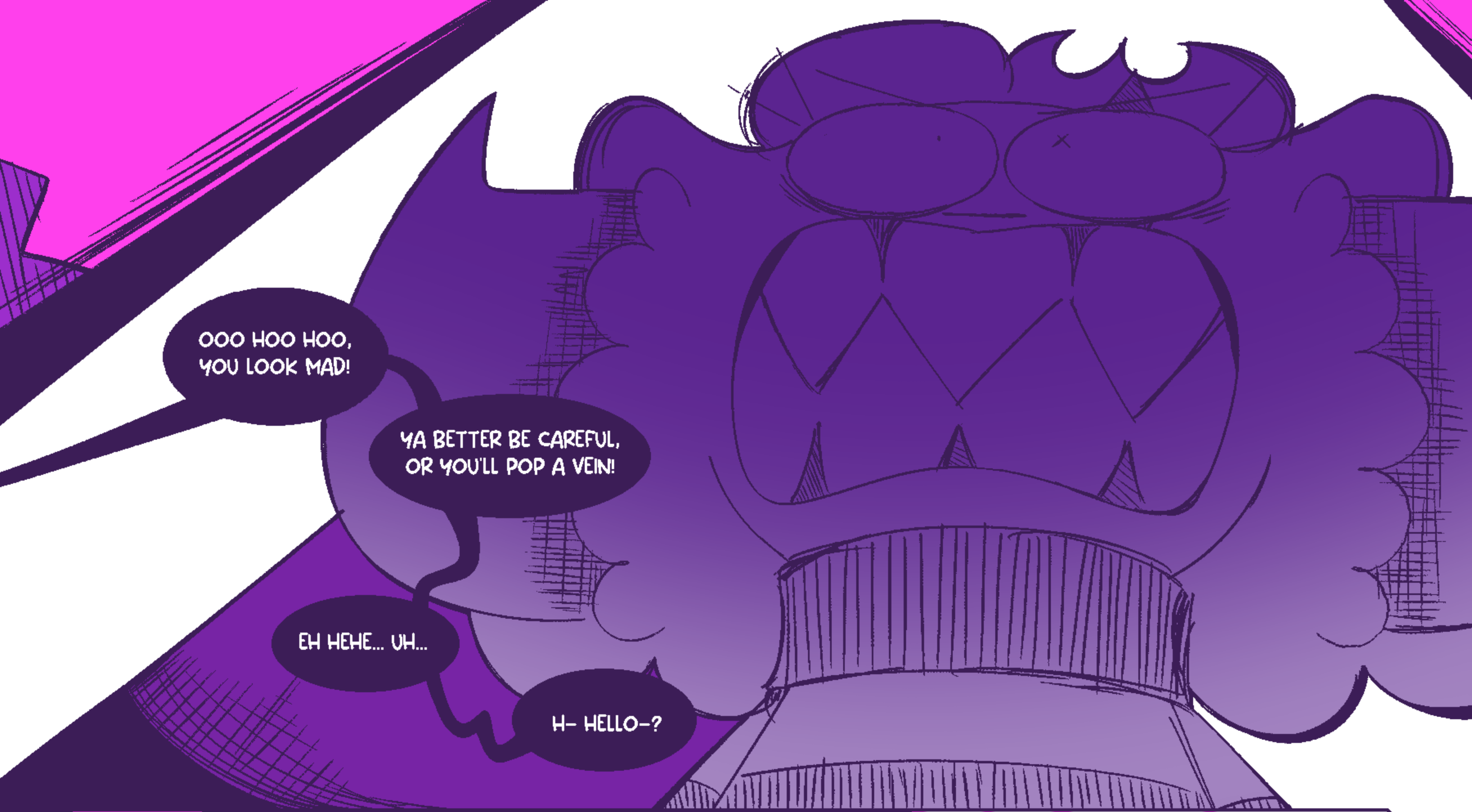
I THINK THAT BEER MIGHT'VE BEEN EXPIRED.

OH WELL.



CHILLI!
HOW KIND OF YOU
TO DROP BY!

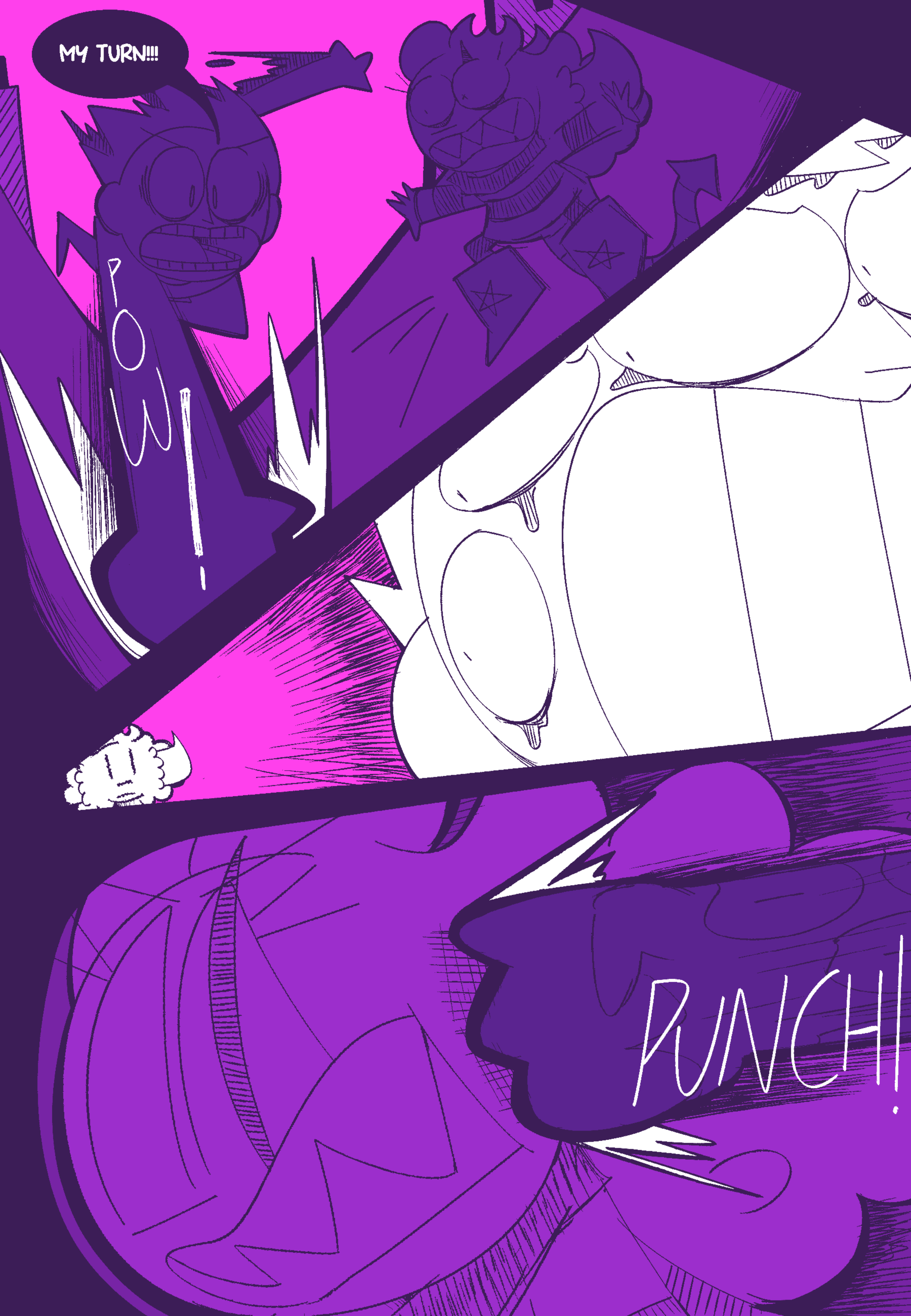
I WAS AFRAID
YOU WOULDN'T
SHOW UP!

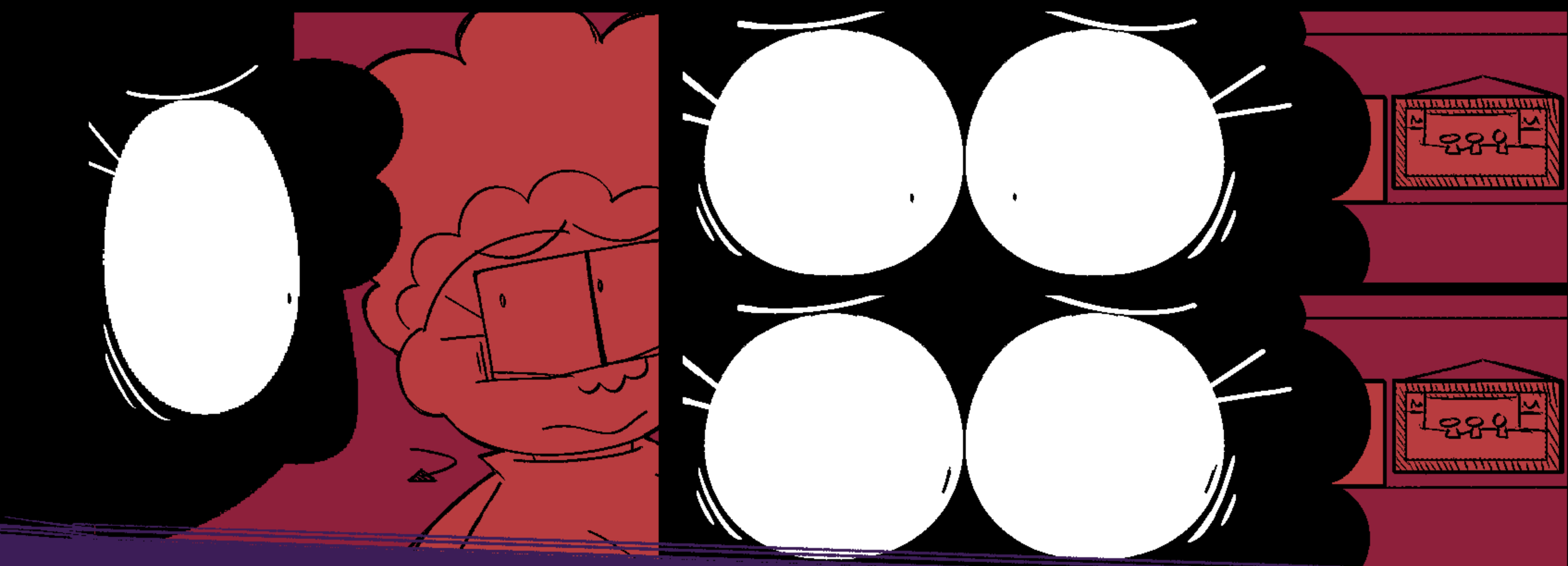
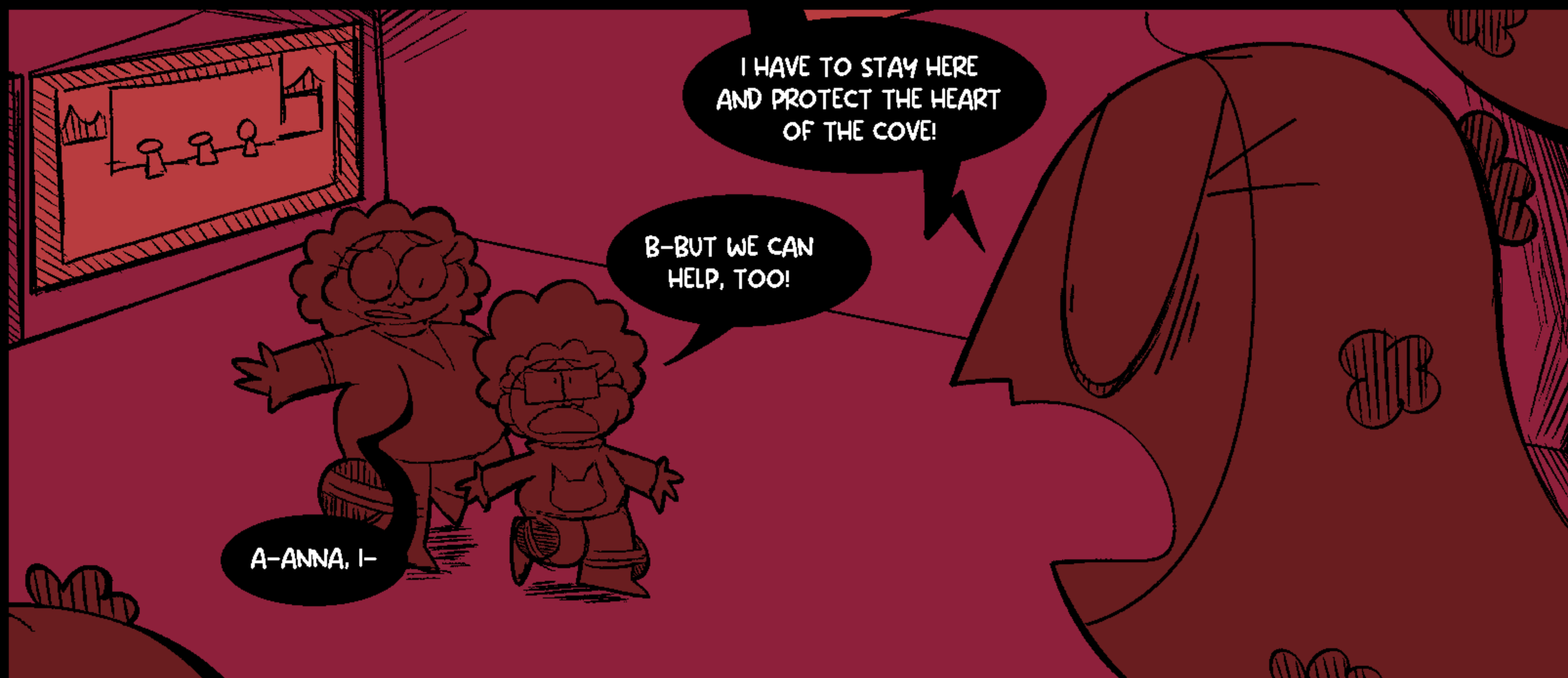


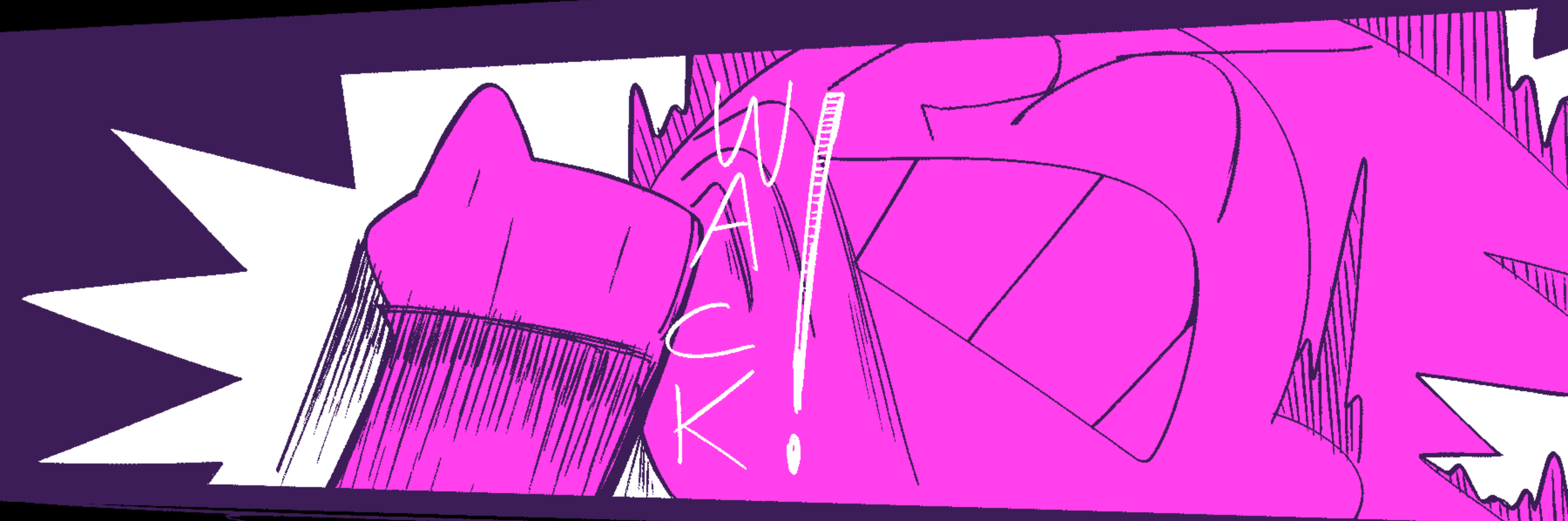
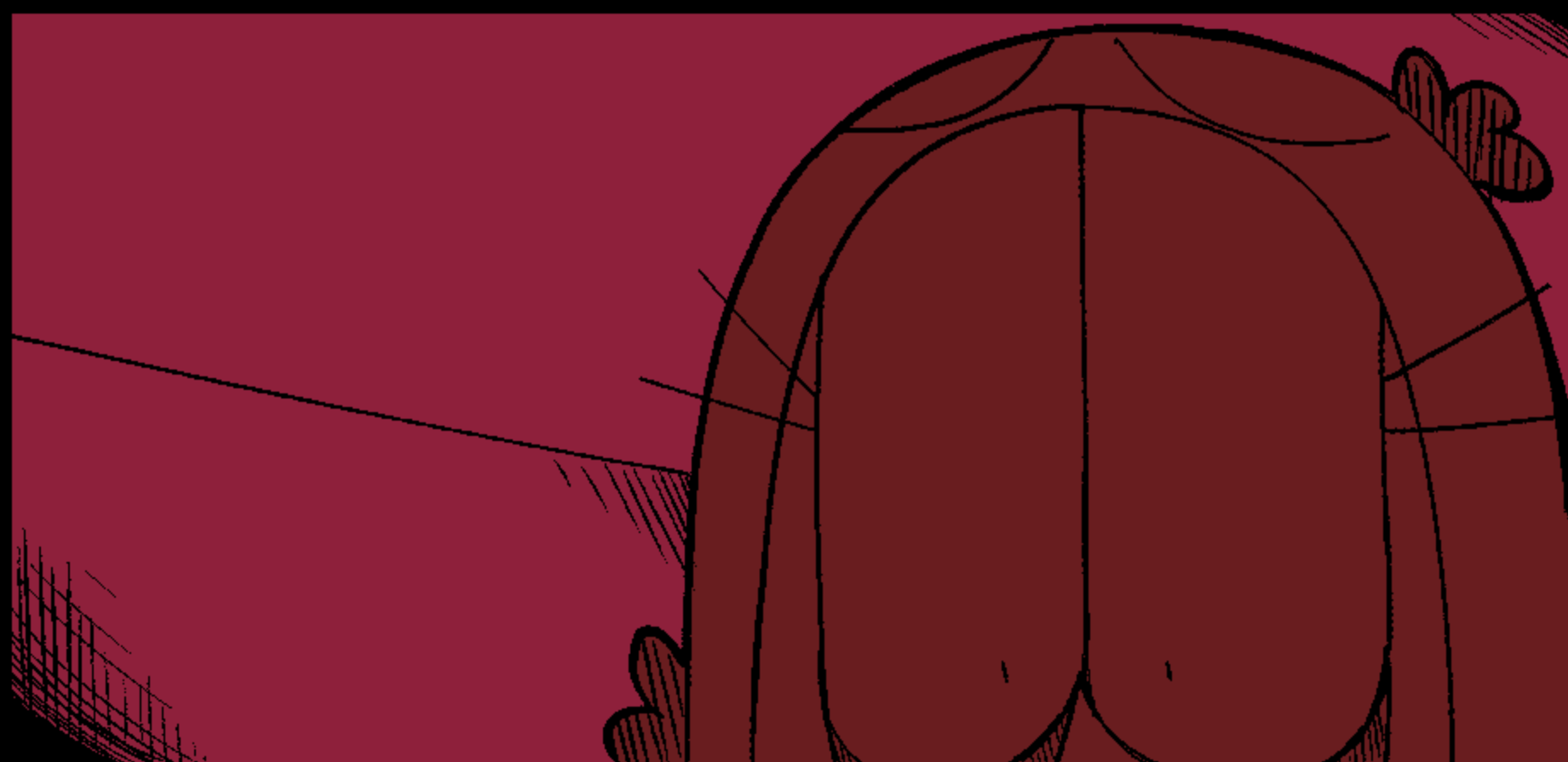
MY TURN!!!

POW!

RINCH!







THEY'RE

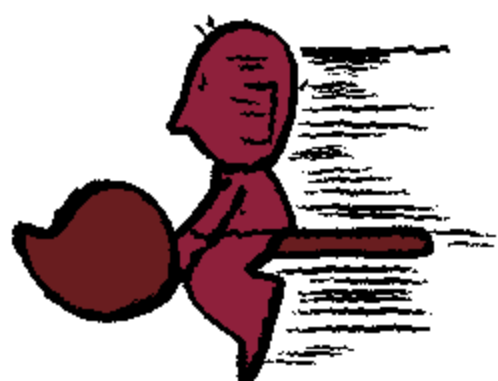
ALL

DEAD.

MY FORMER WITCH TROOP.

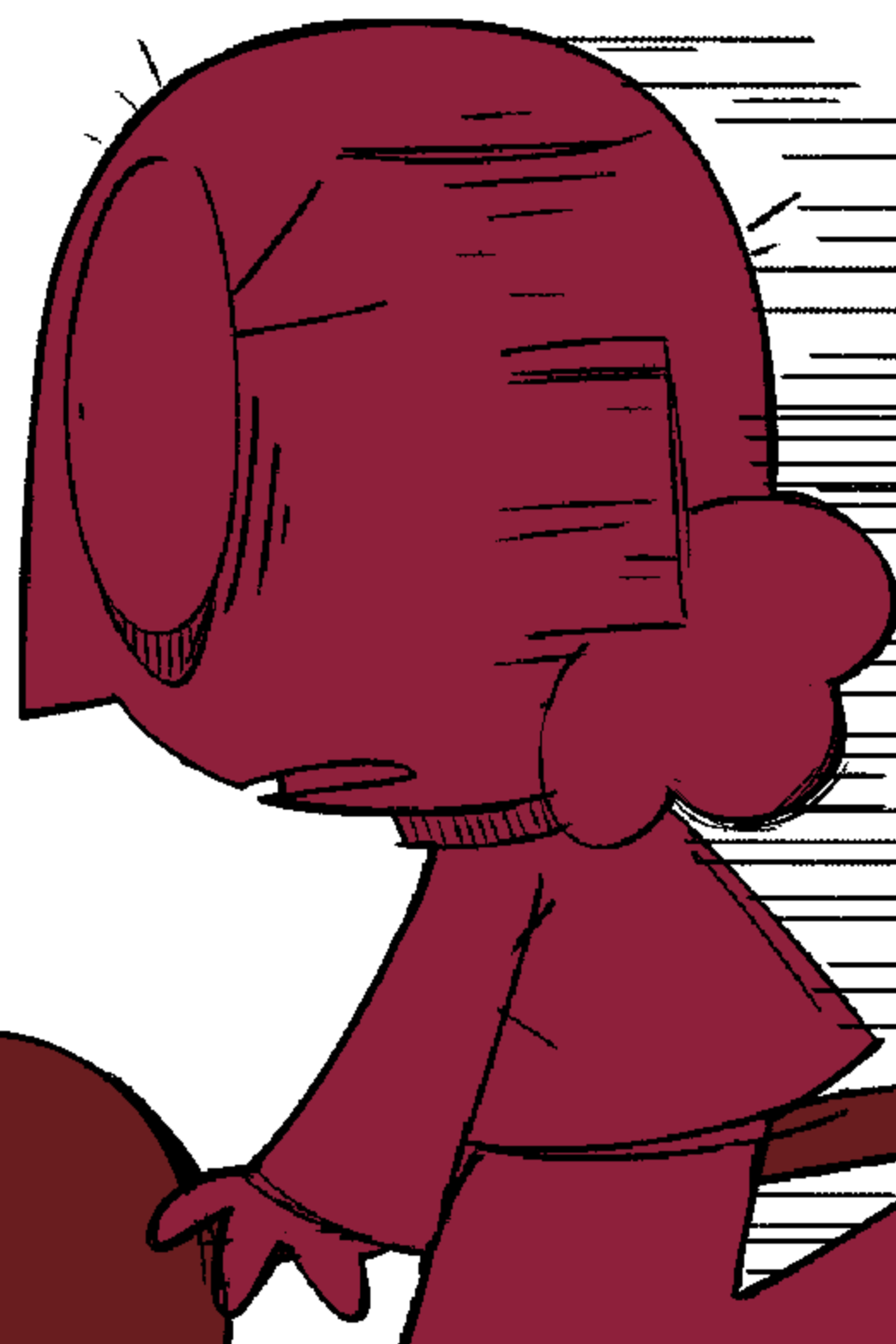
MY WITCHMATES.

THEY'RE ALL DEAD.

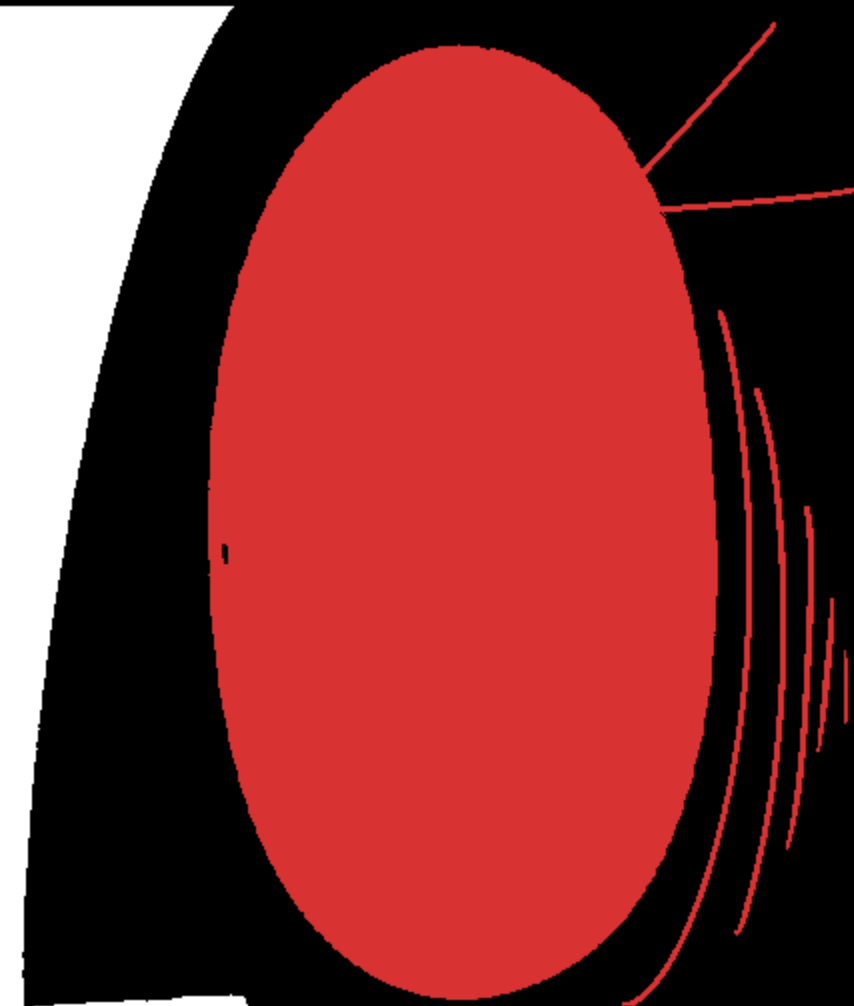


IF I HADN'T QUIT...

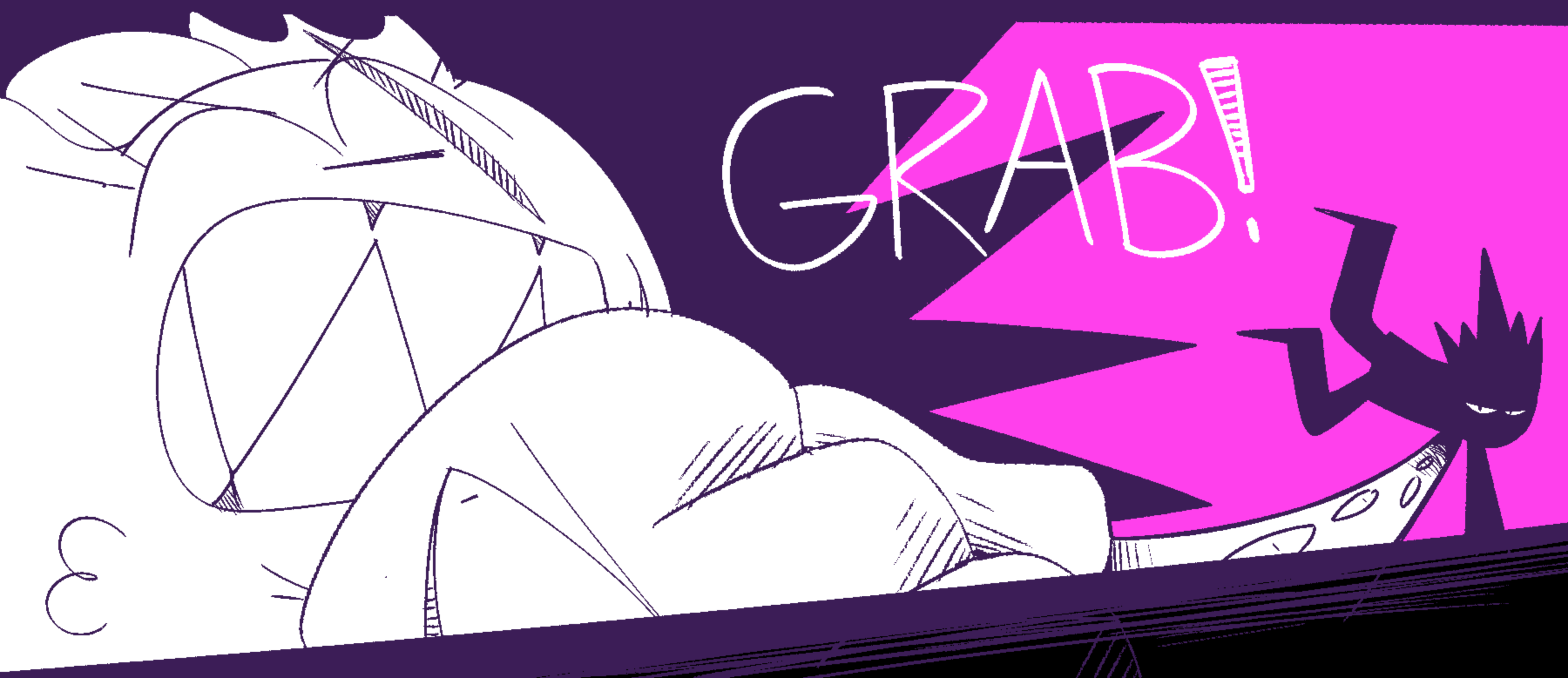
IF I HAD BEEN THERE TO
HELP THEM...

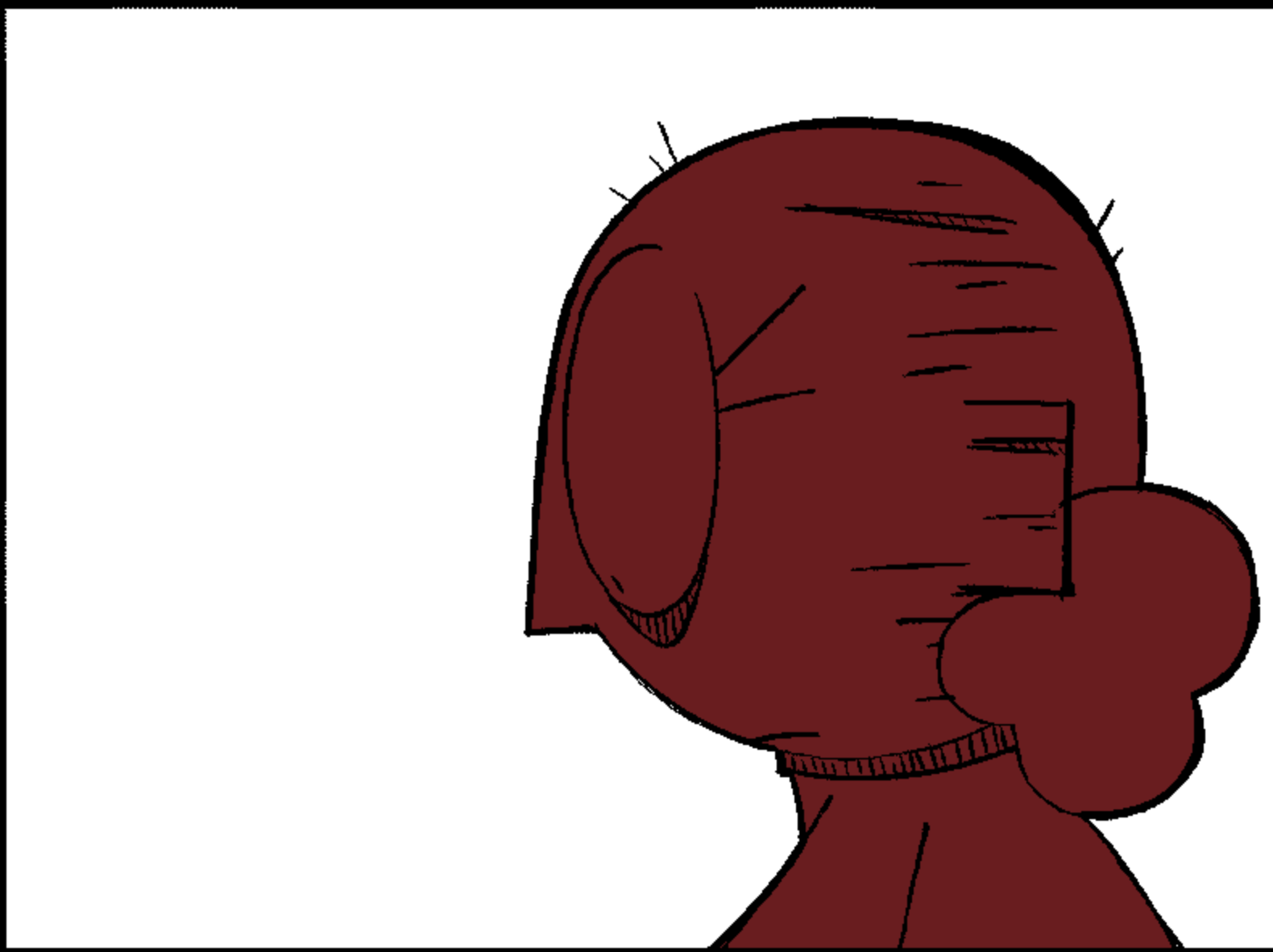


COULD I HAVE
SAVED THEM?



GRAB!

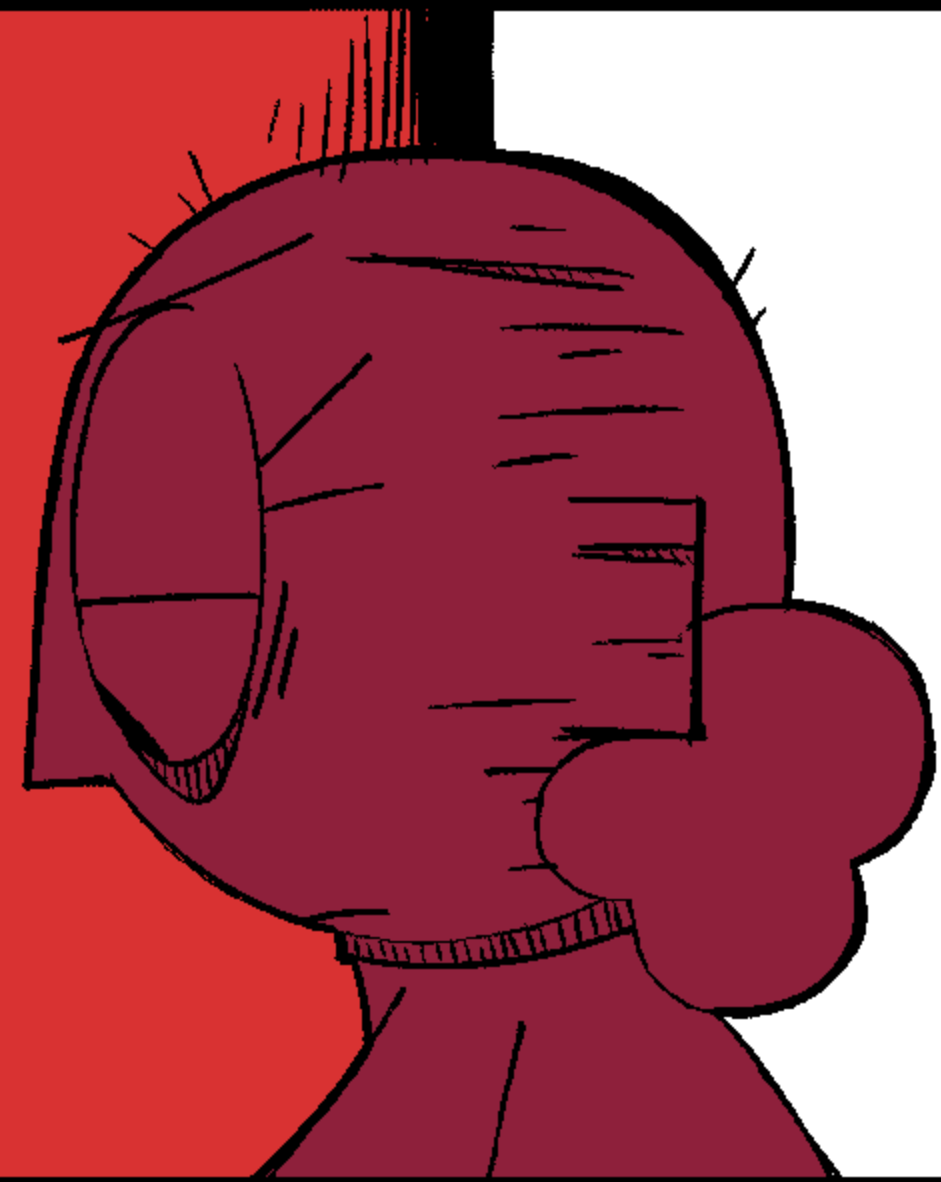




NO.

I PROBABLY
WOULD'VE BEEN
KILLED, TOO.

I ALMOST
WAS, ANYWAY.



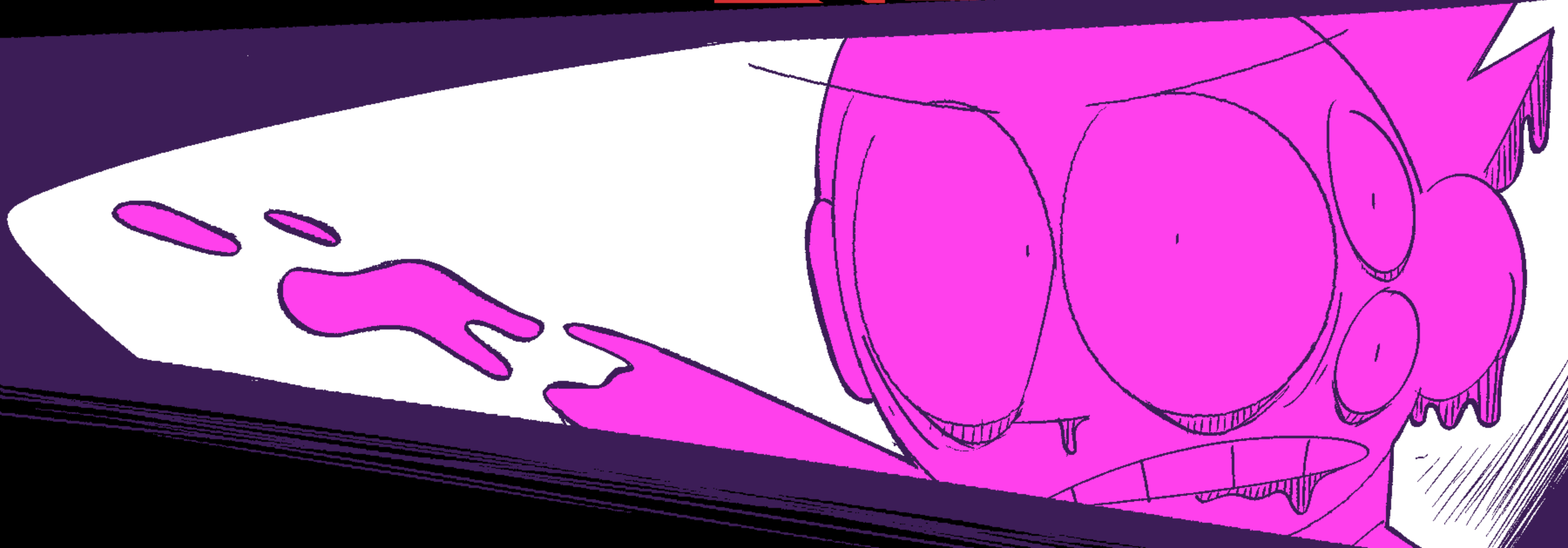
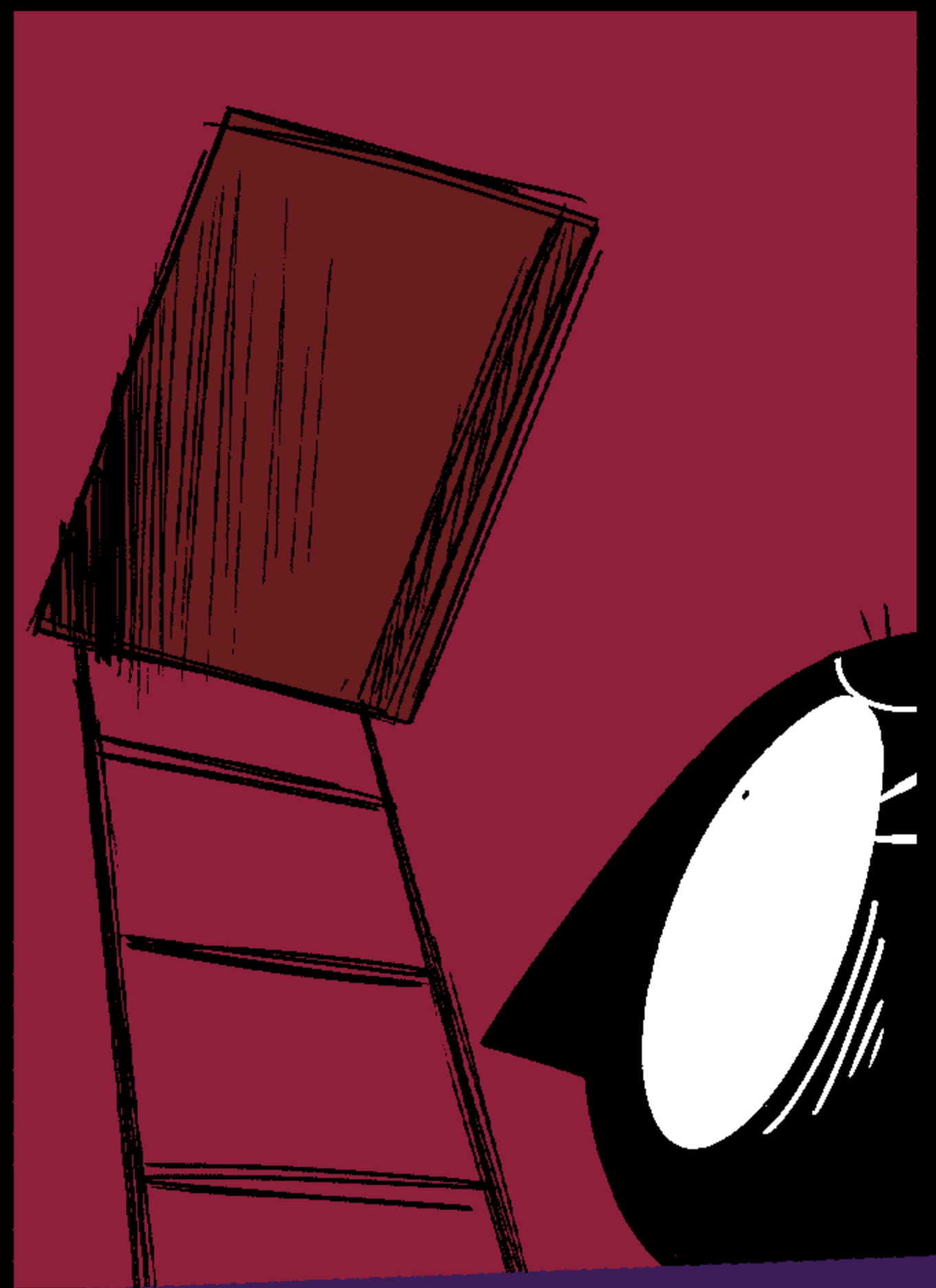
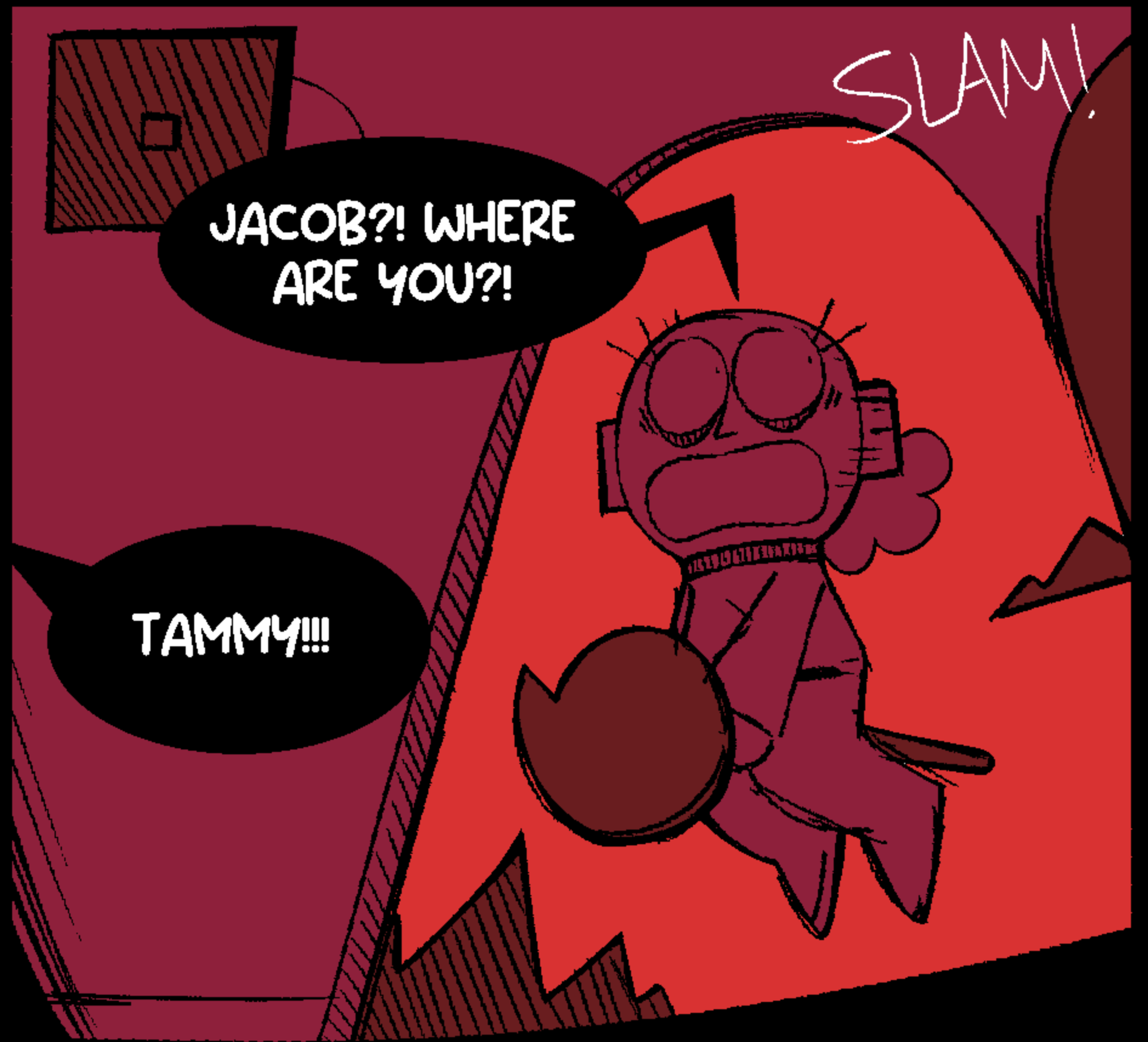
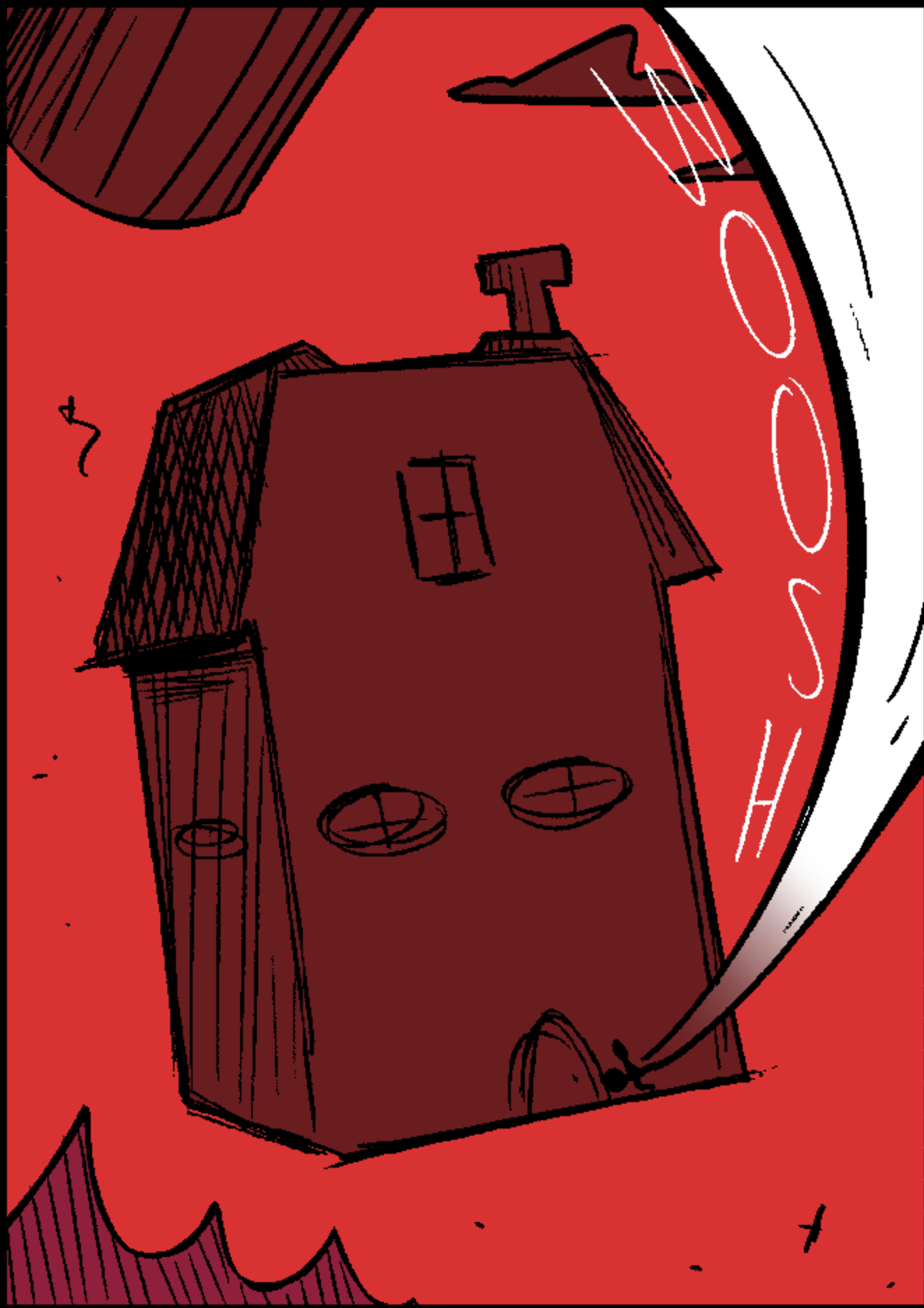
OH SHIT!!!

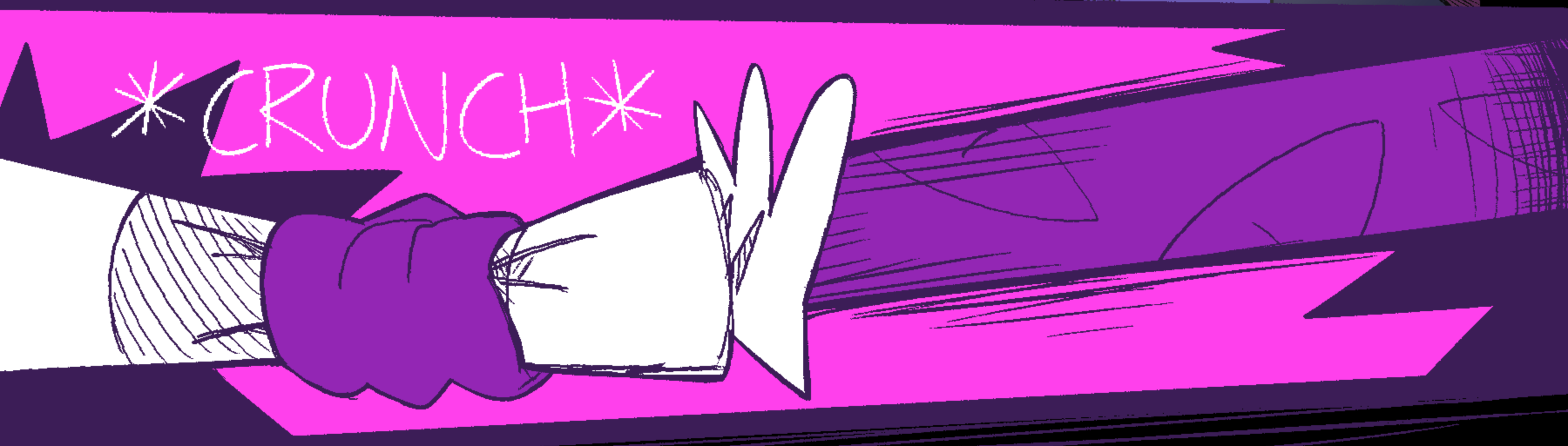


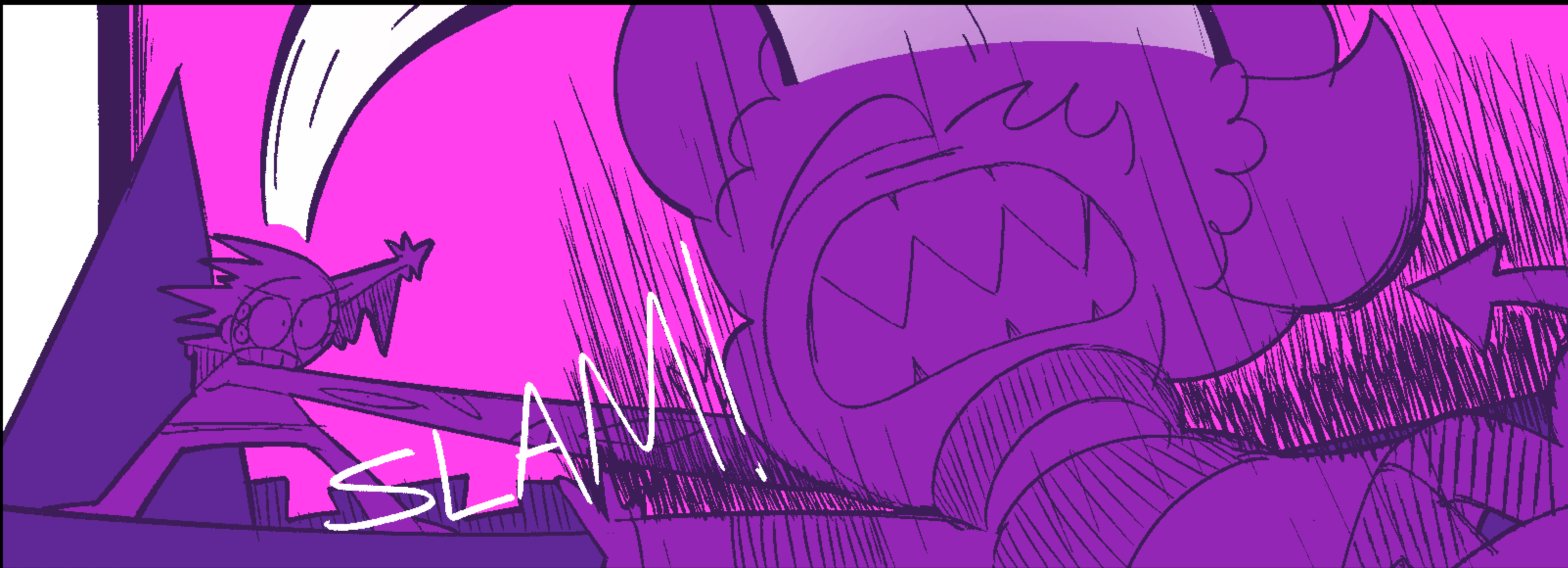
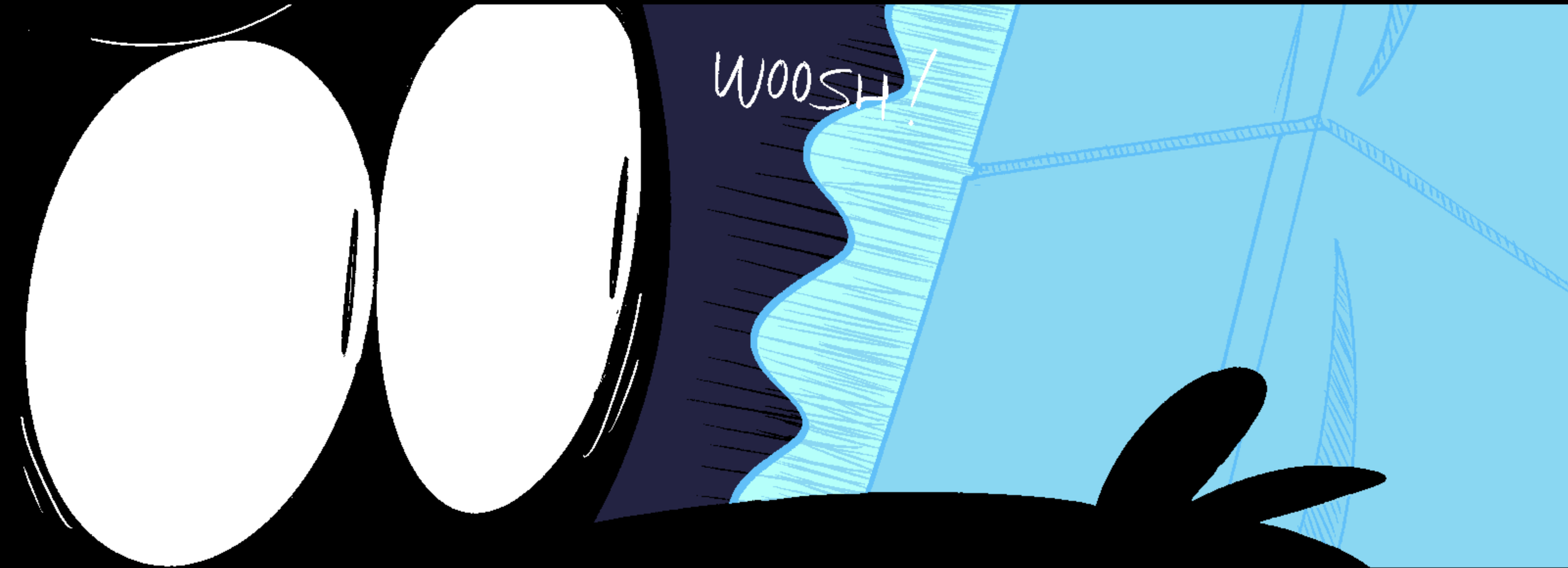
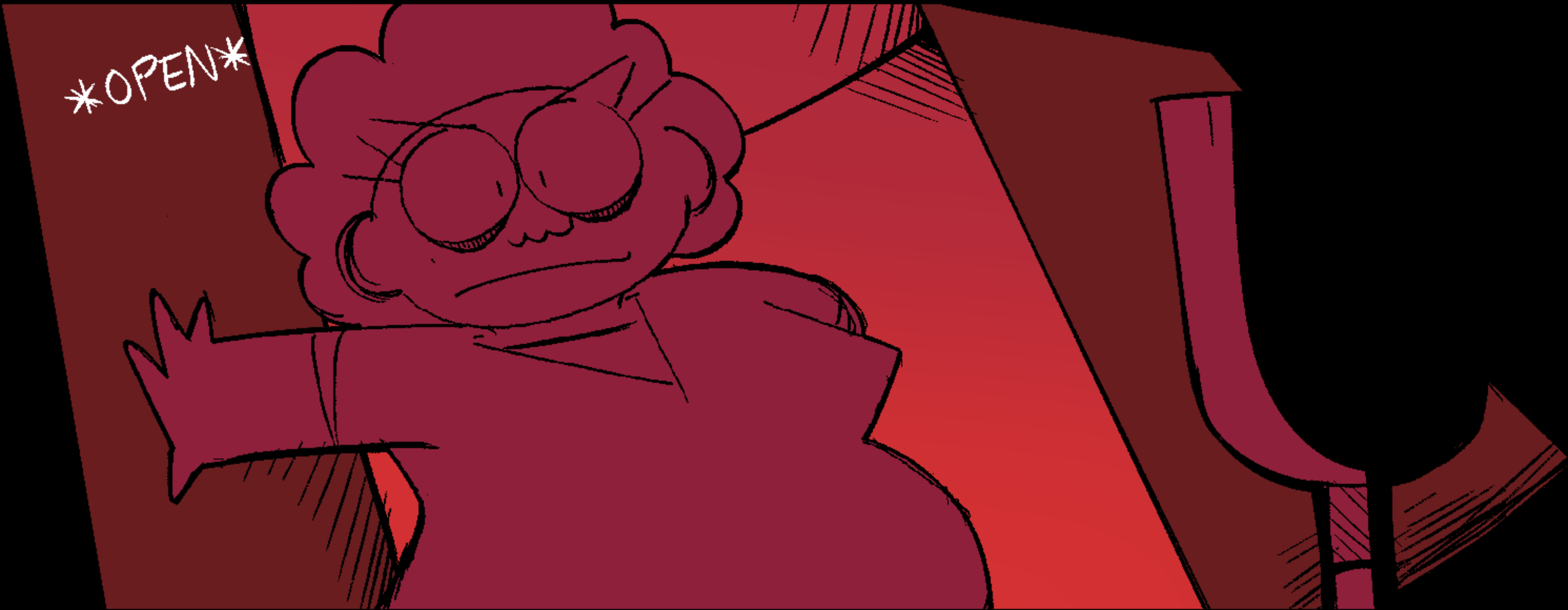
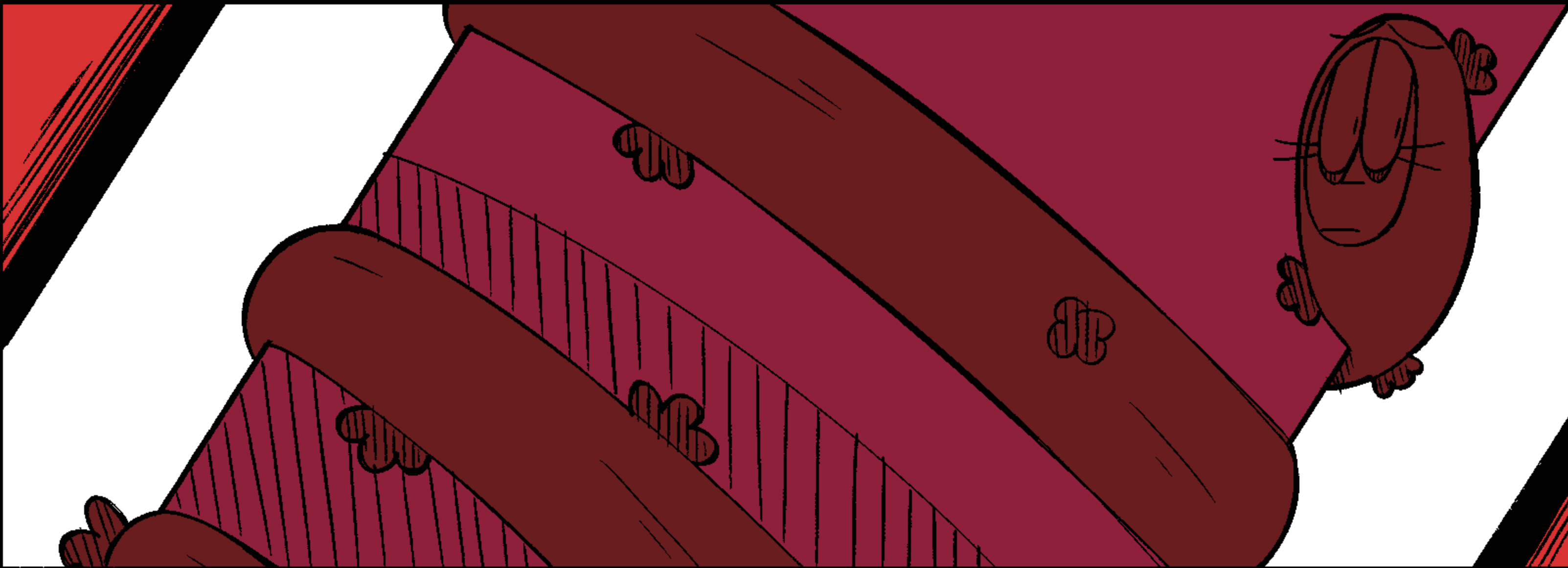
MY FUCKING
HOUSE!!

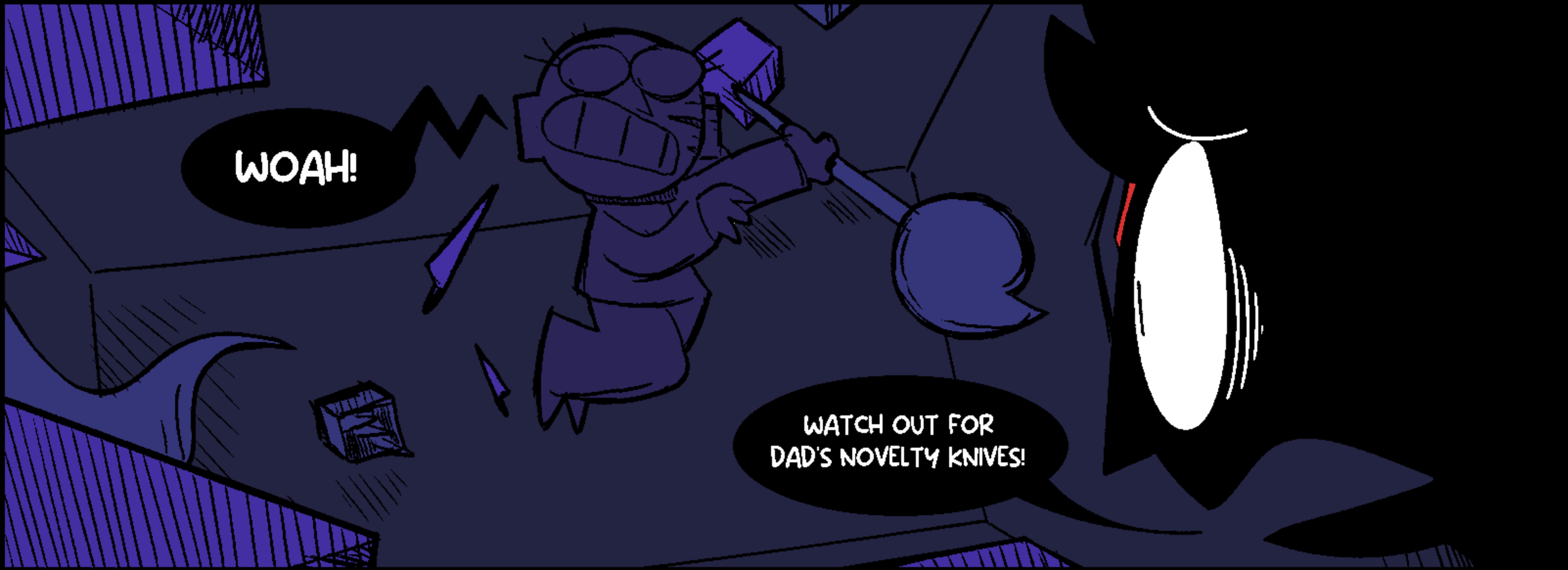
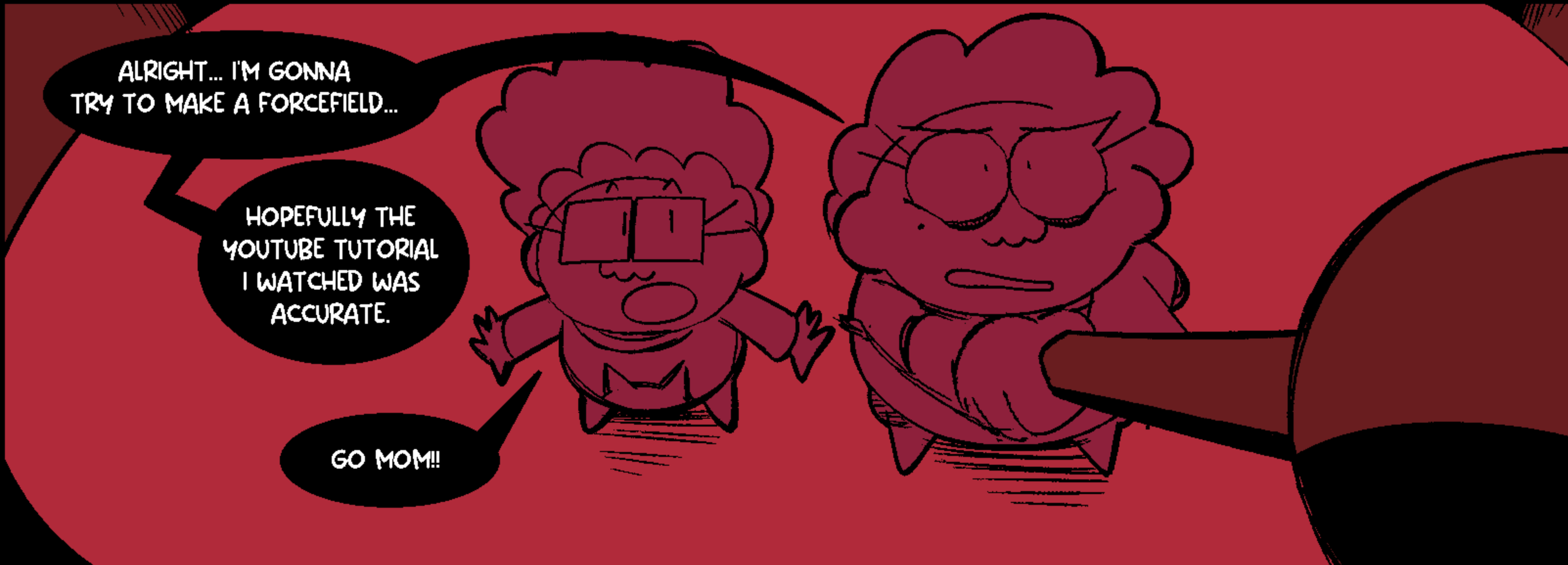
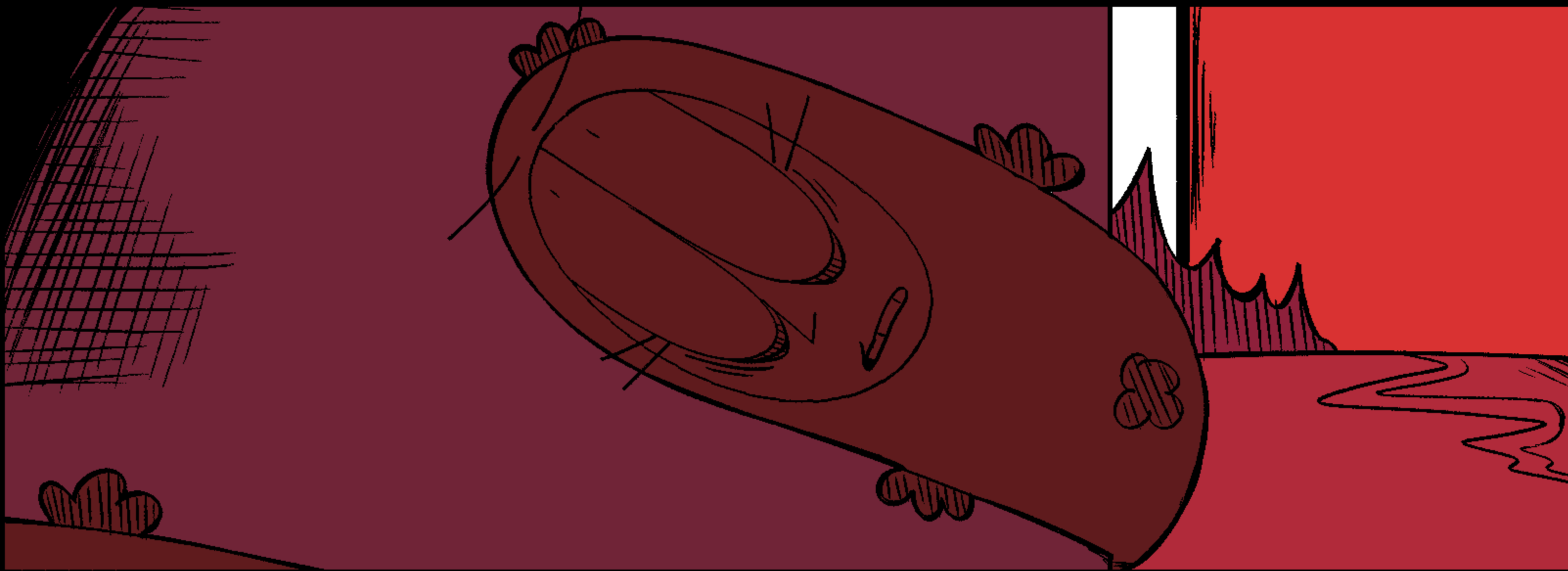


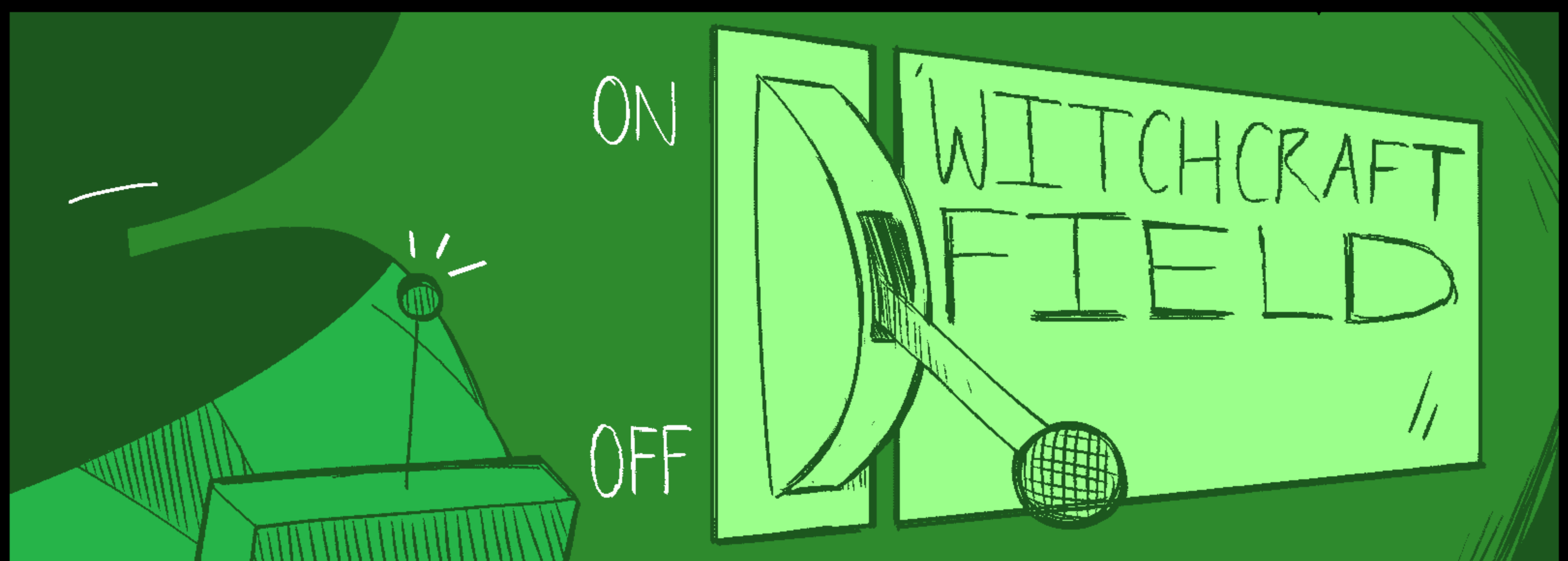
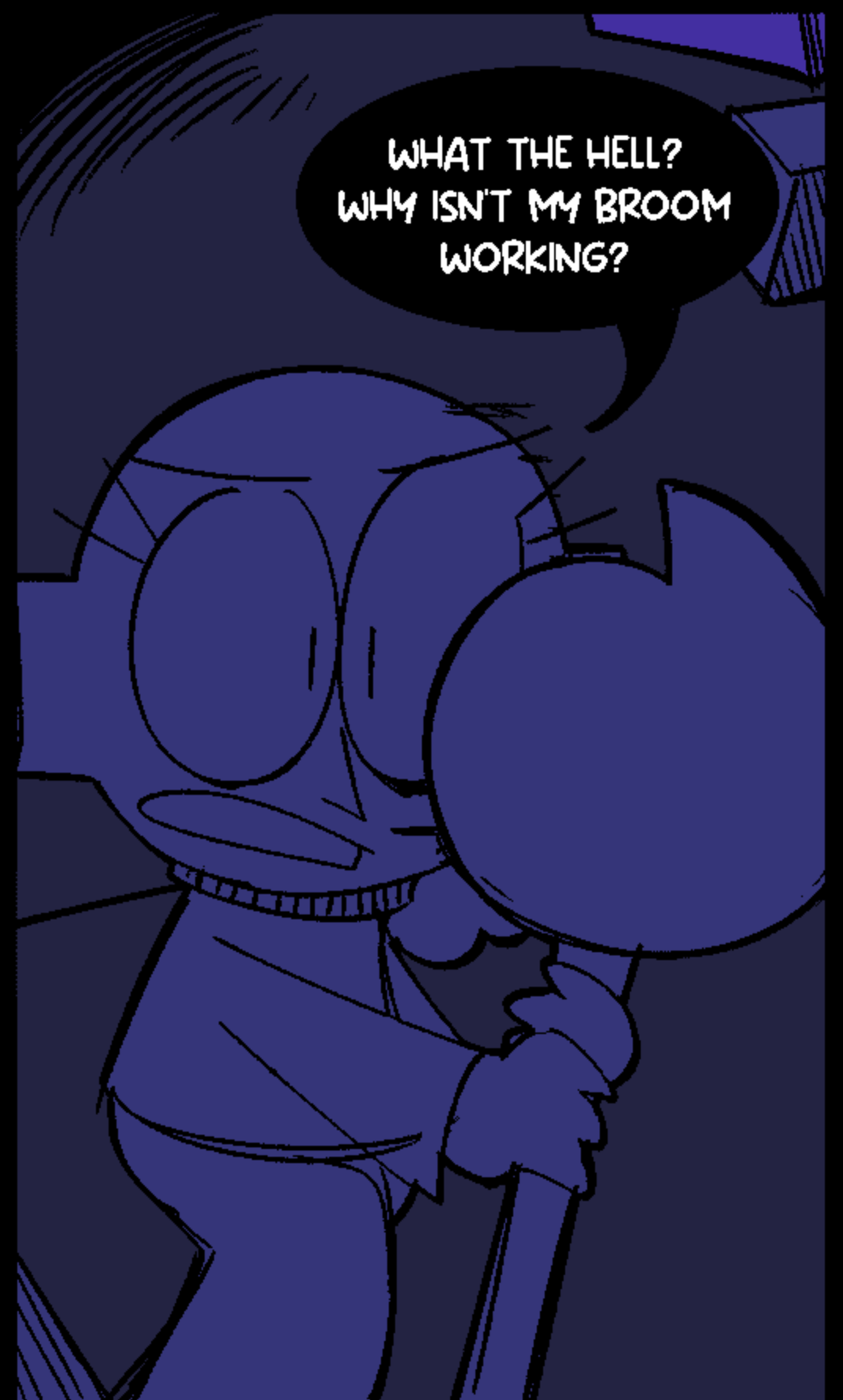
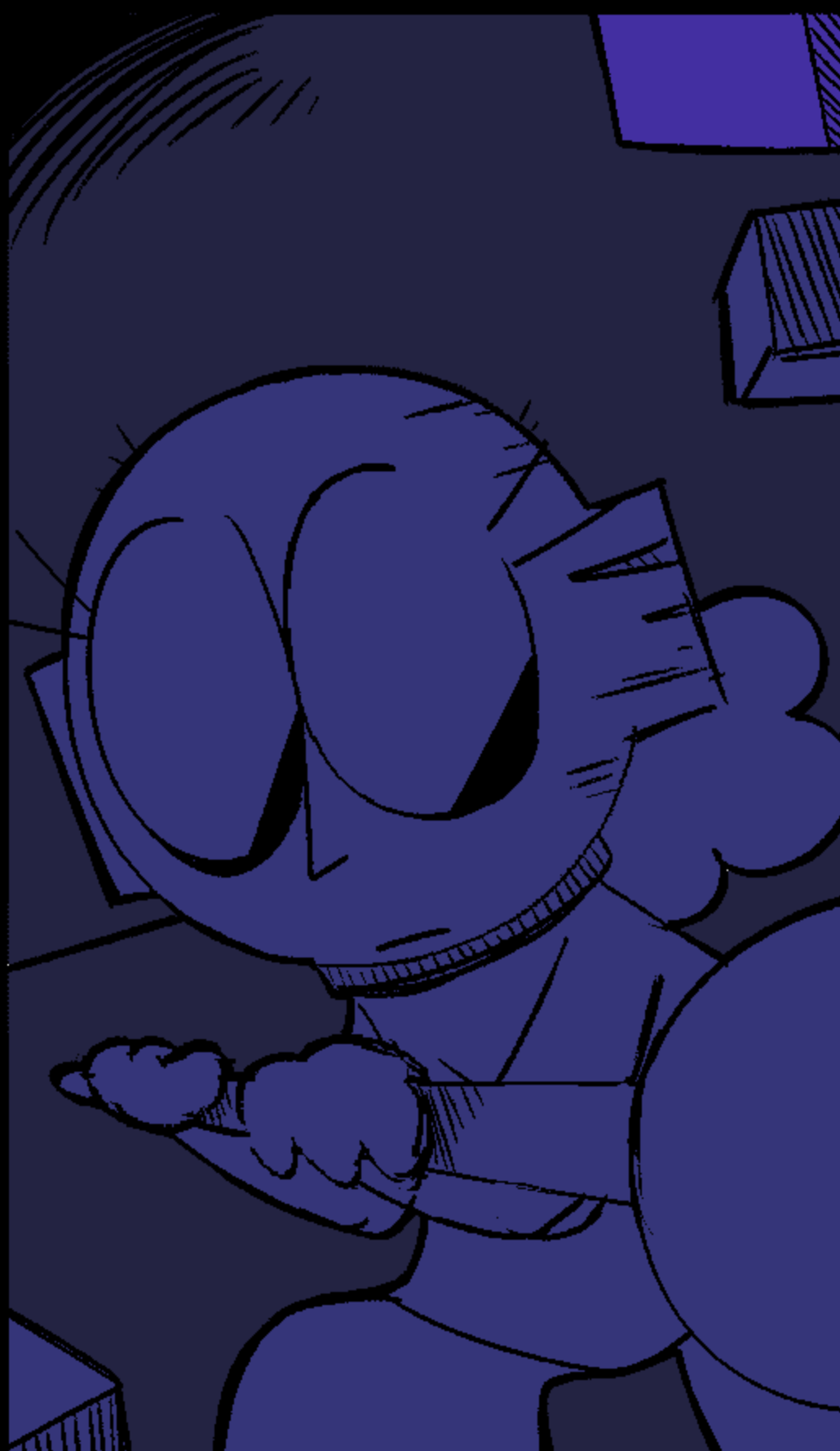
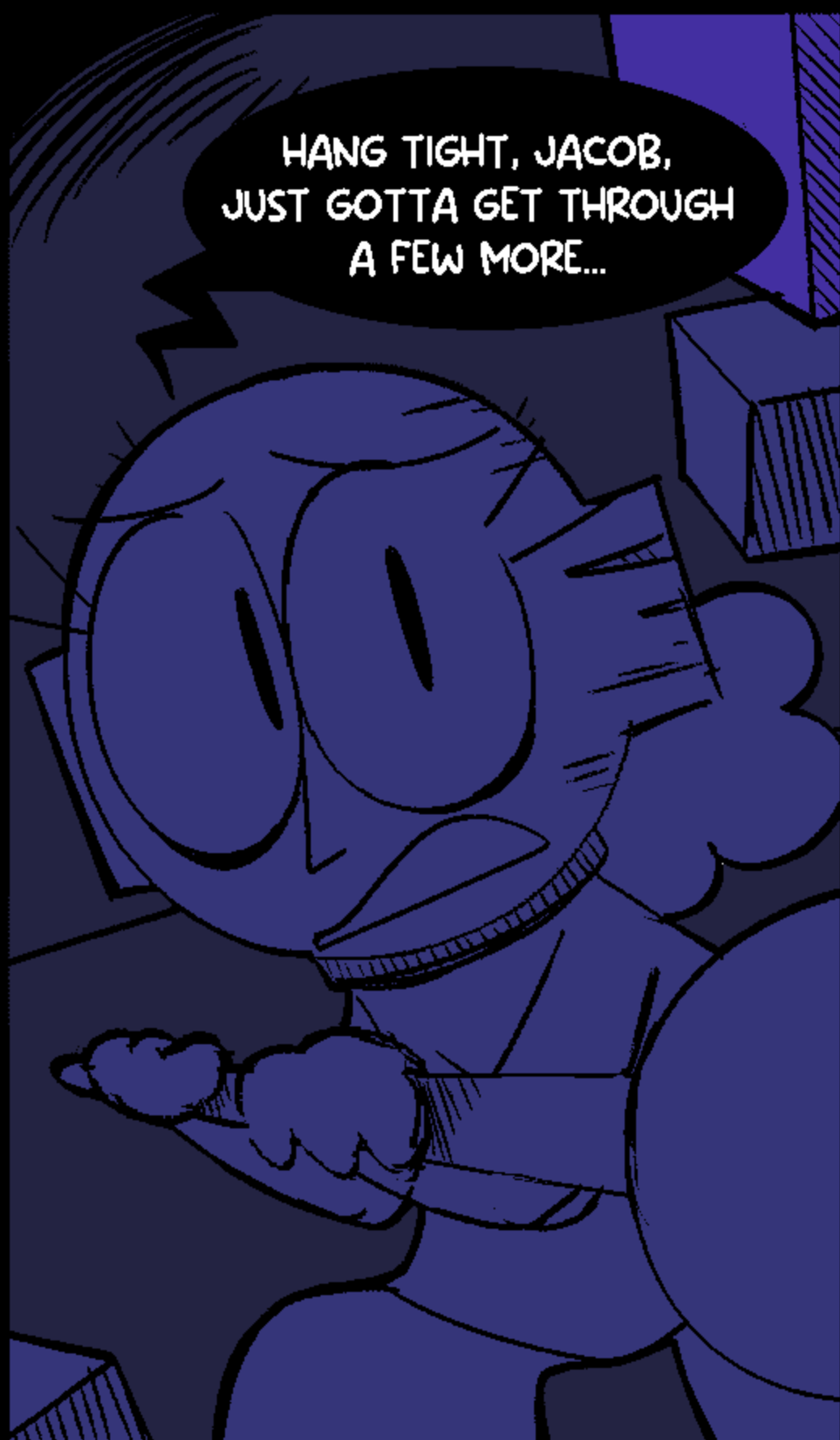
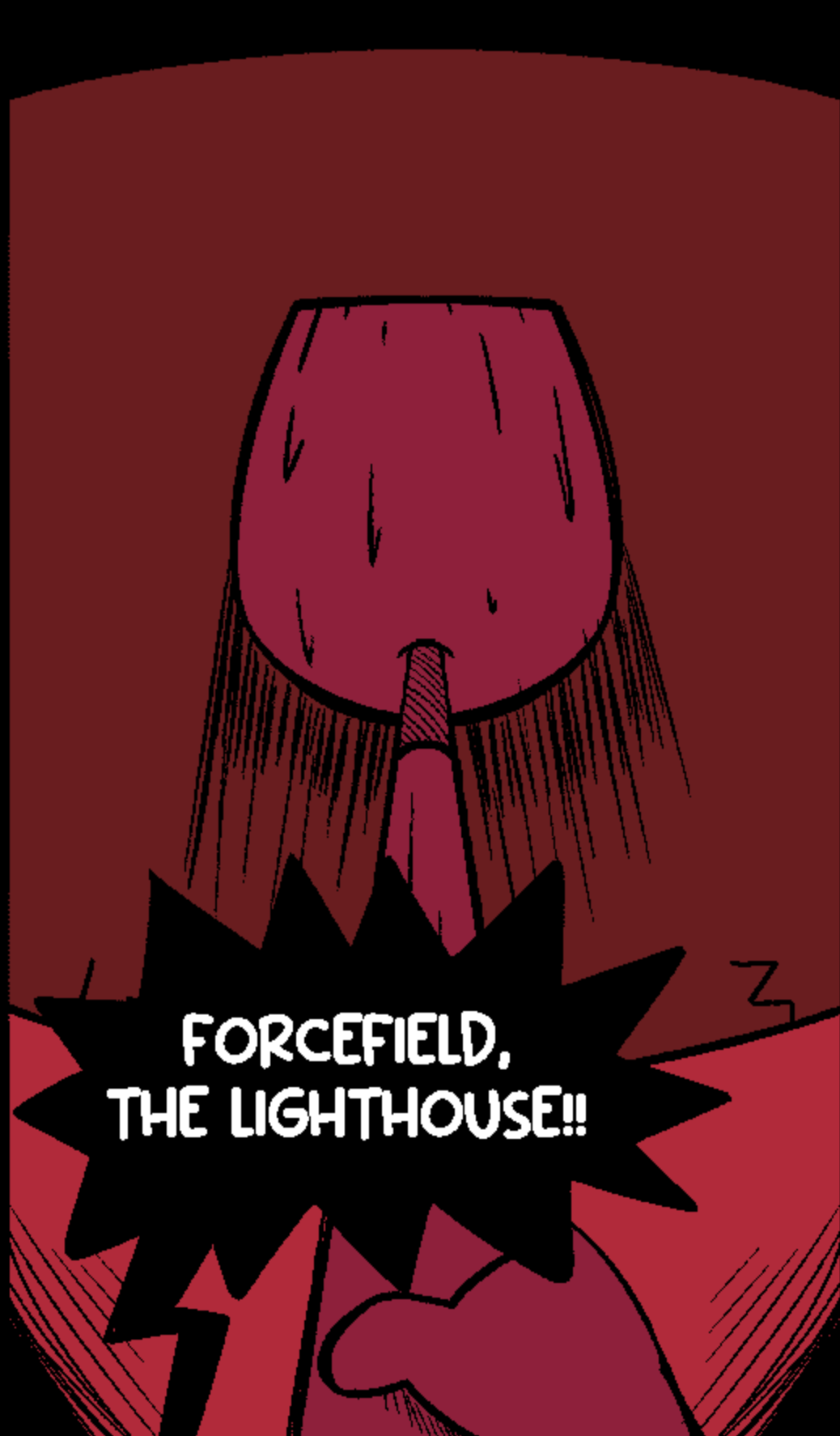
RIP

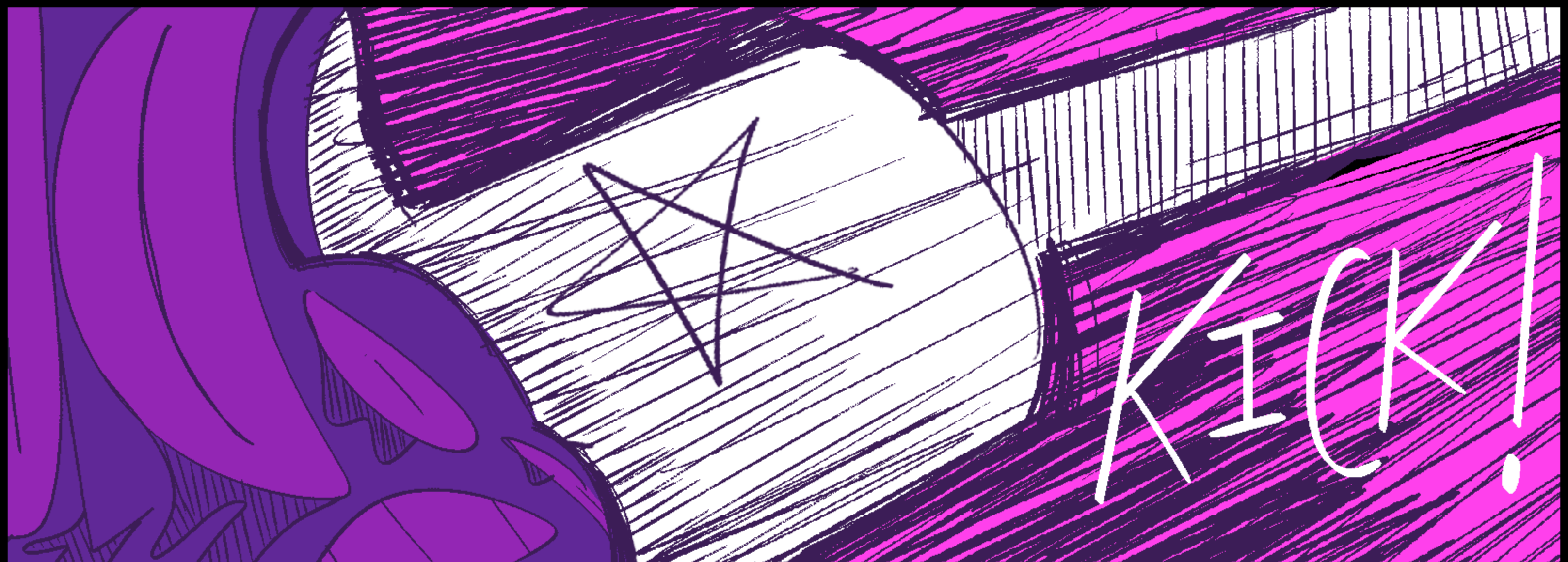
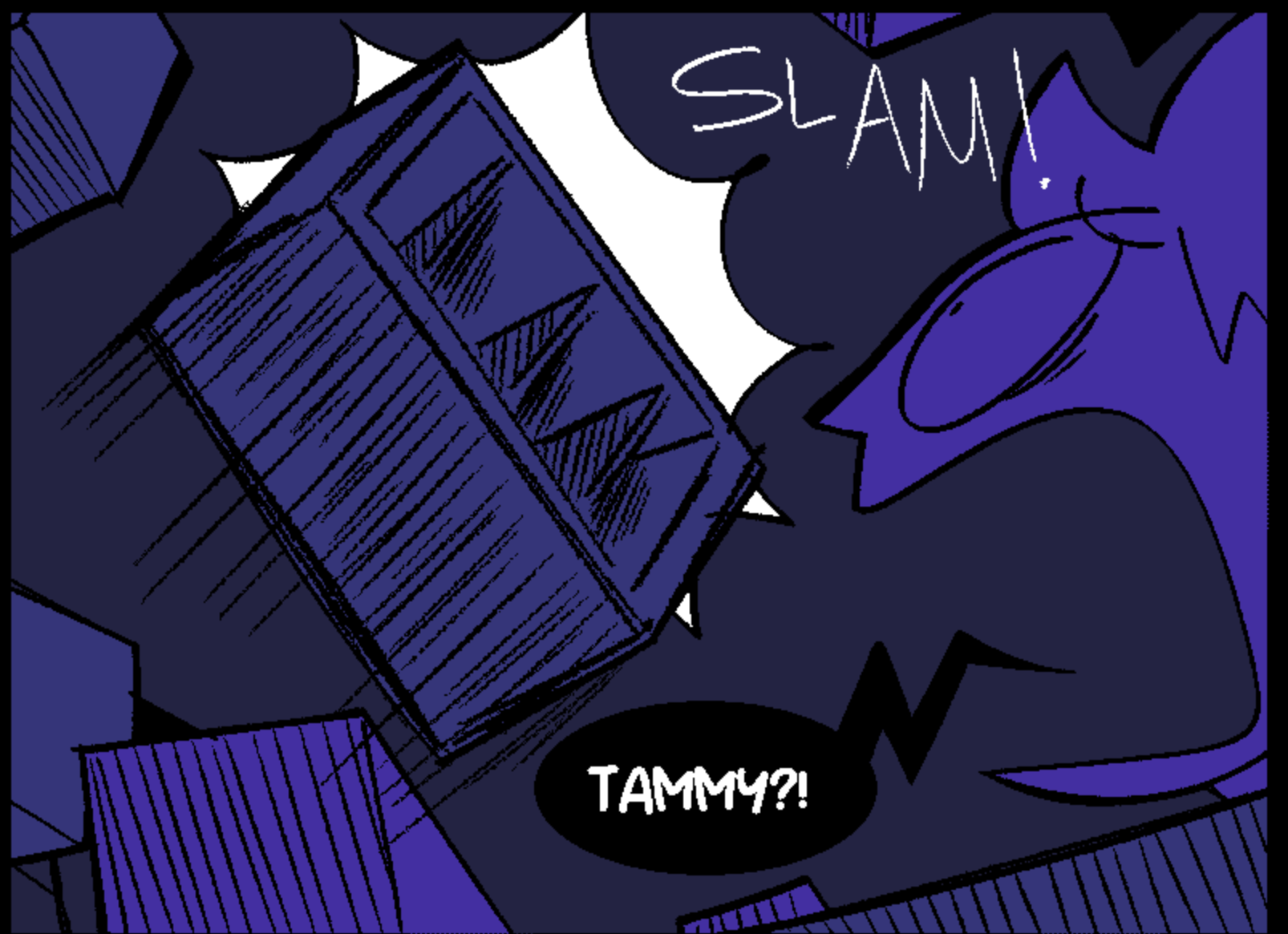
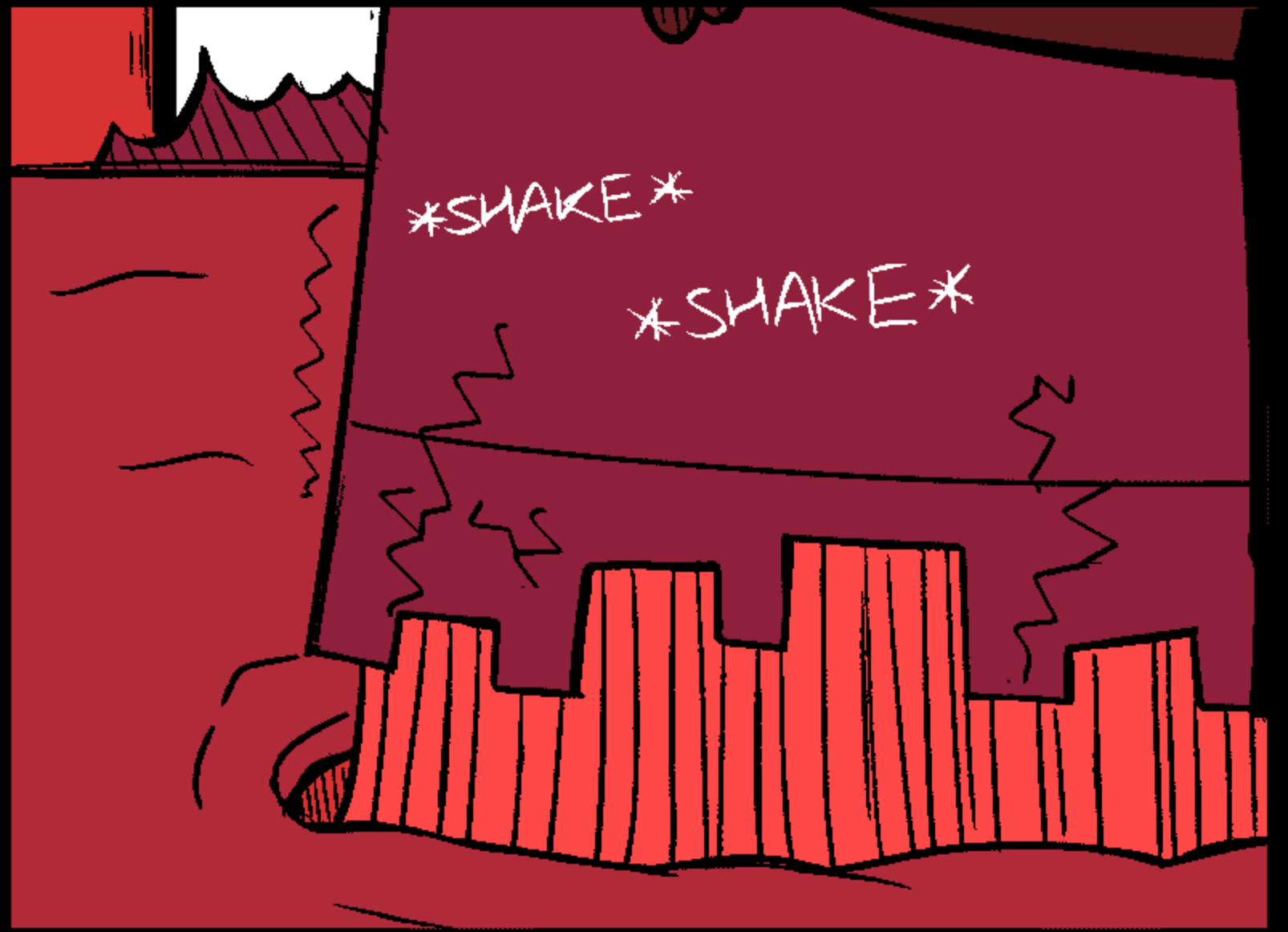
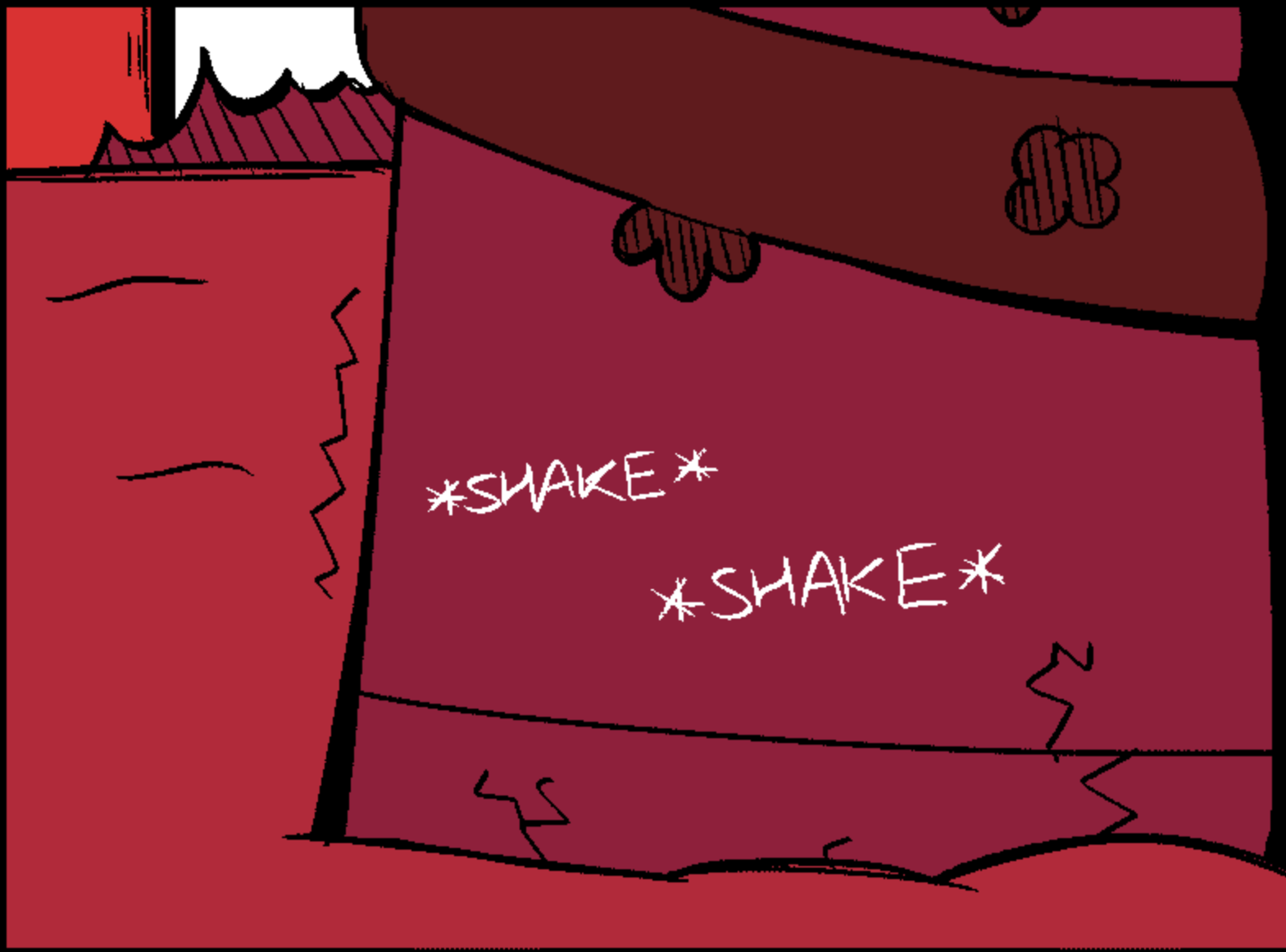


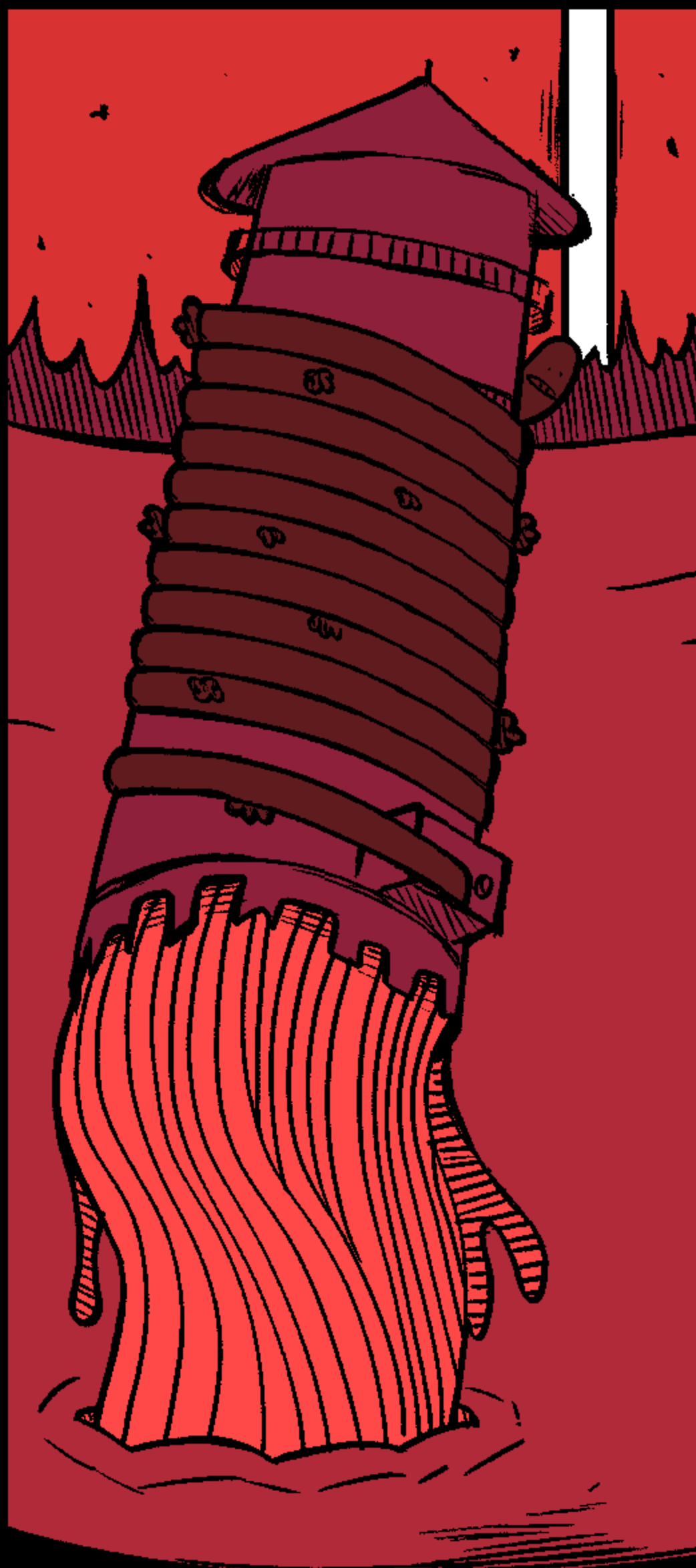
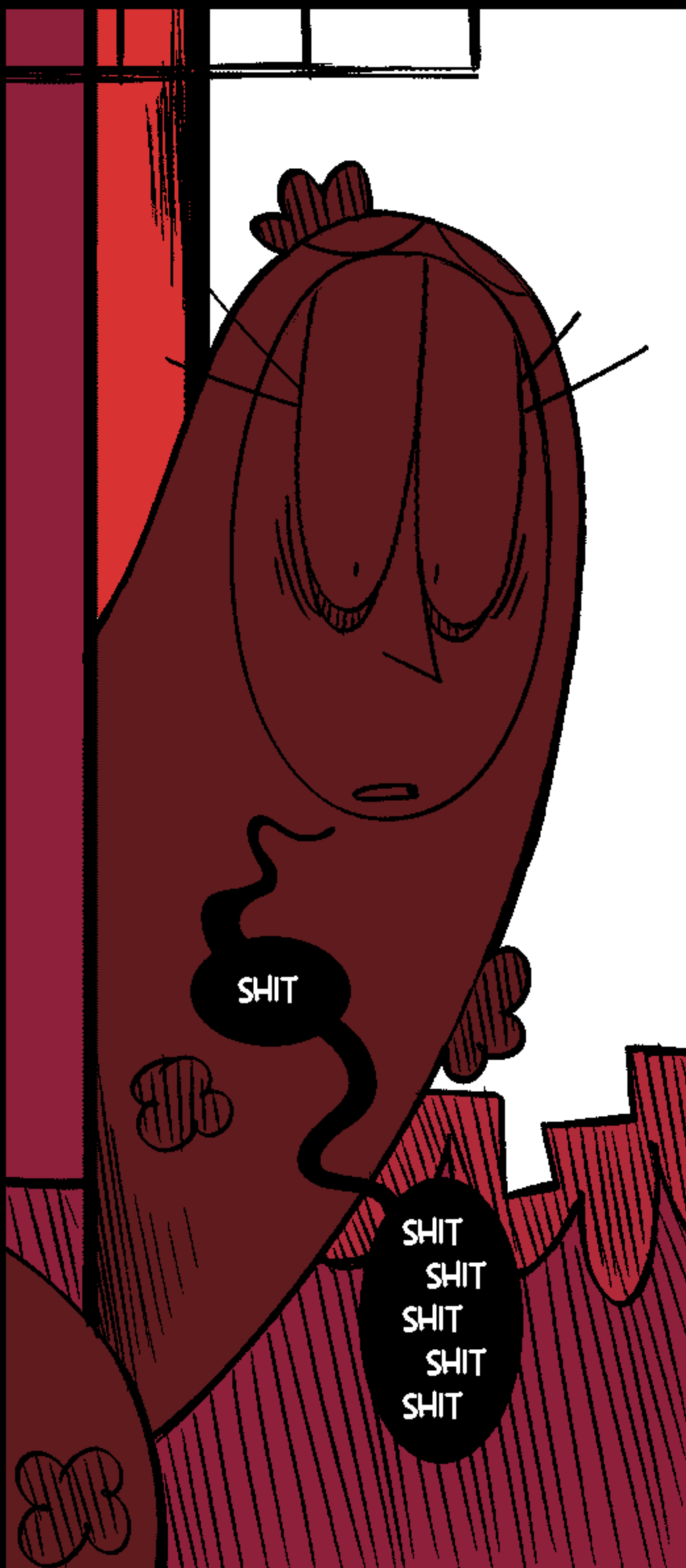


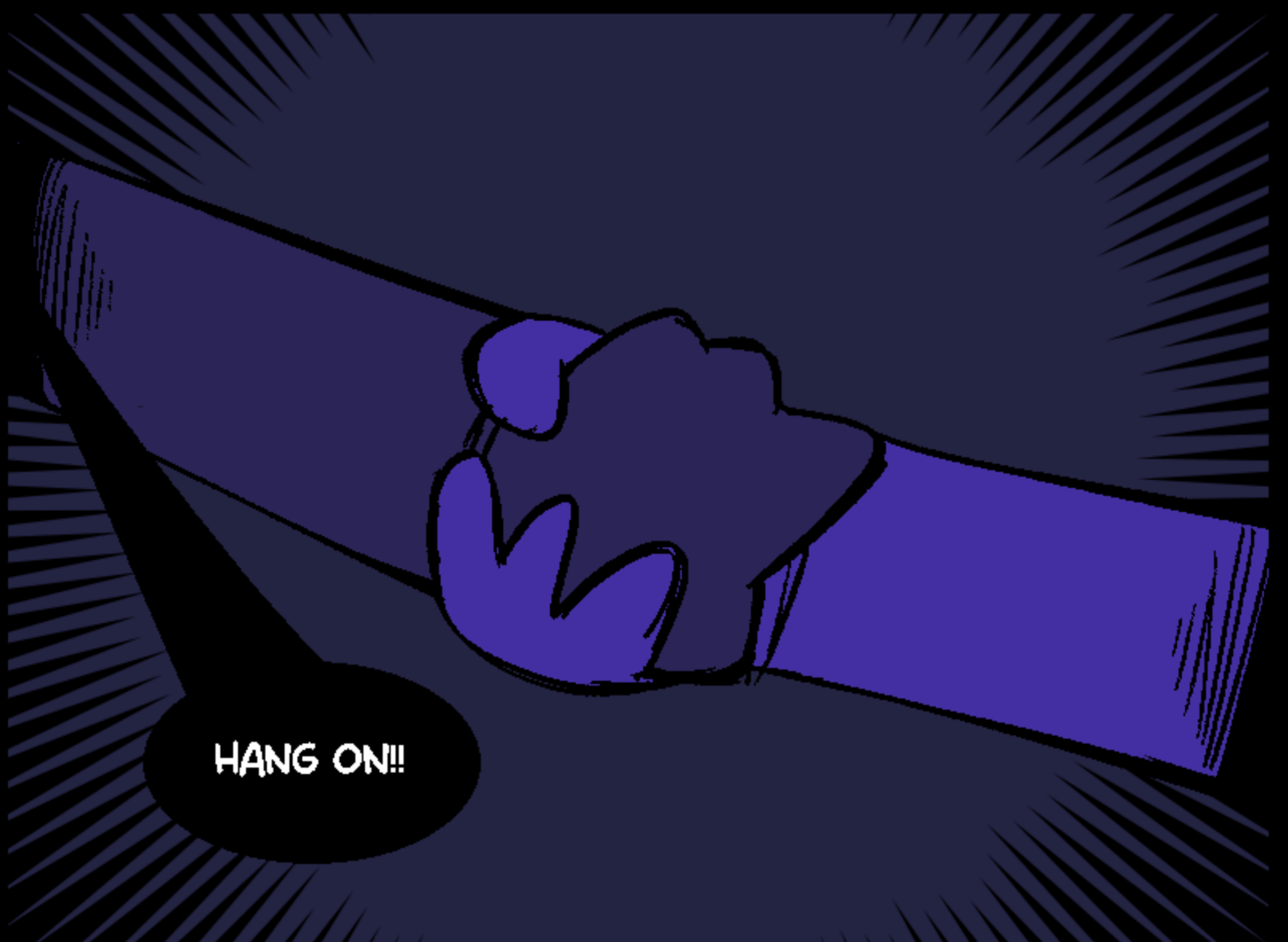
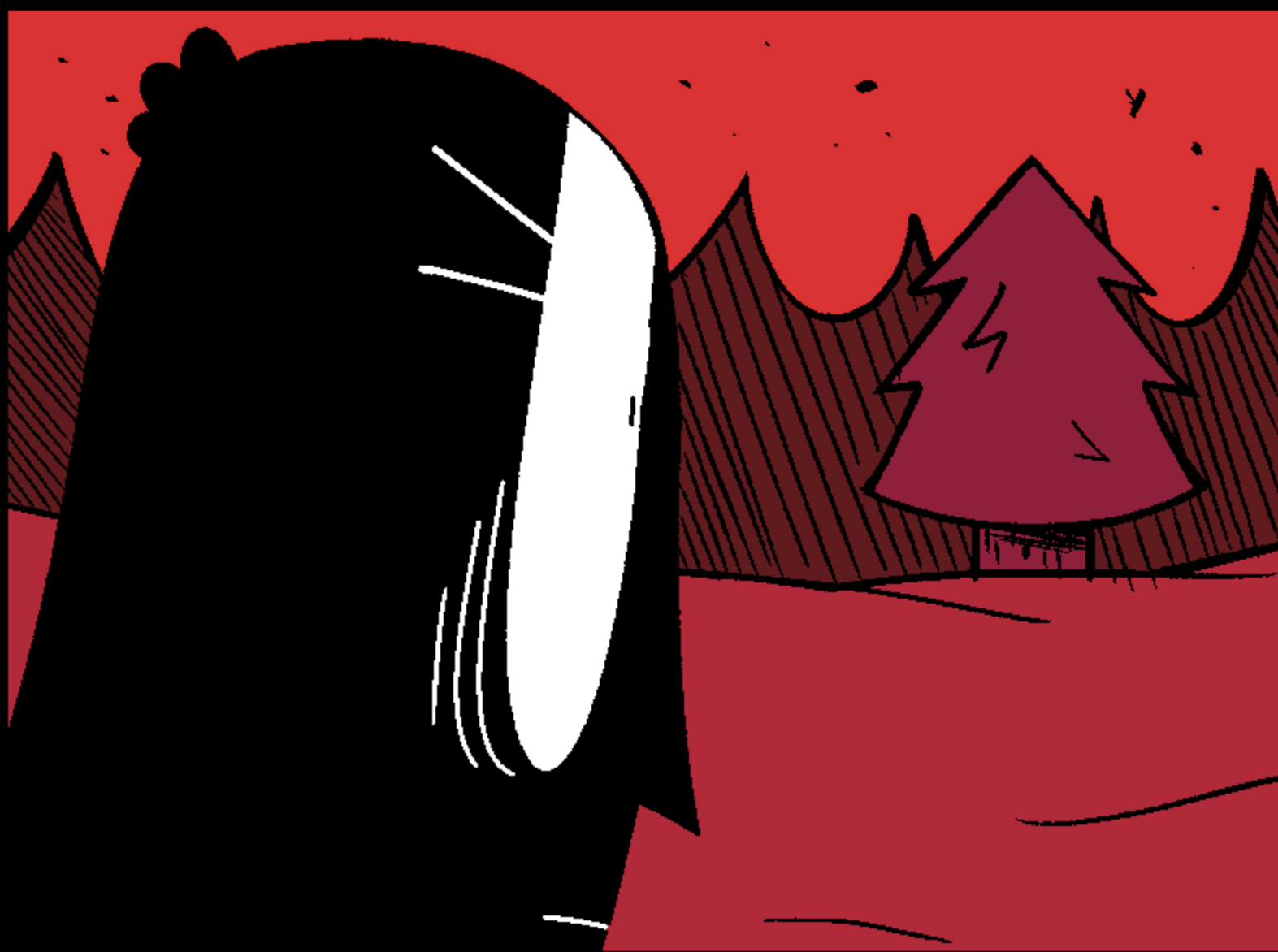


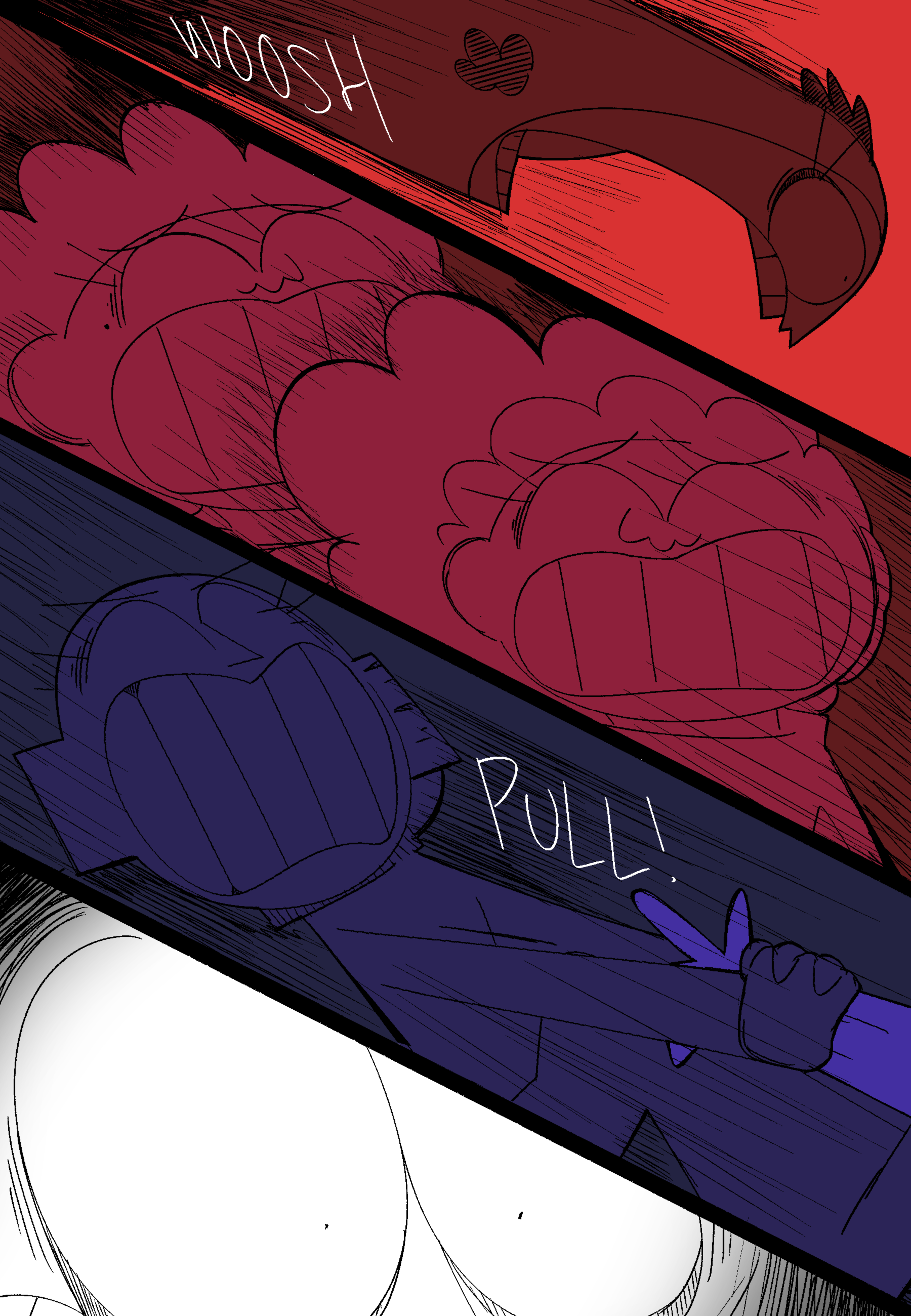








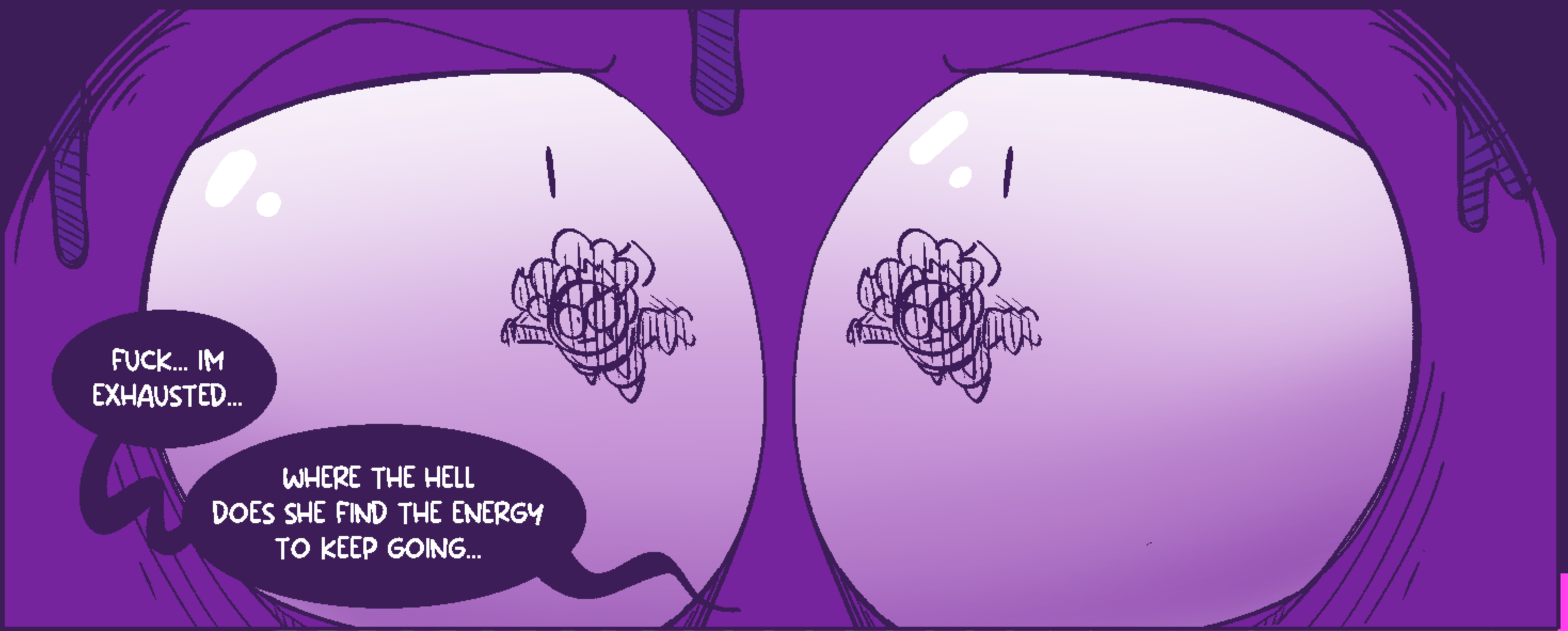
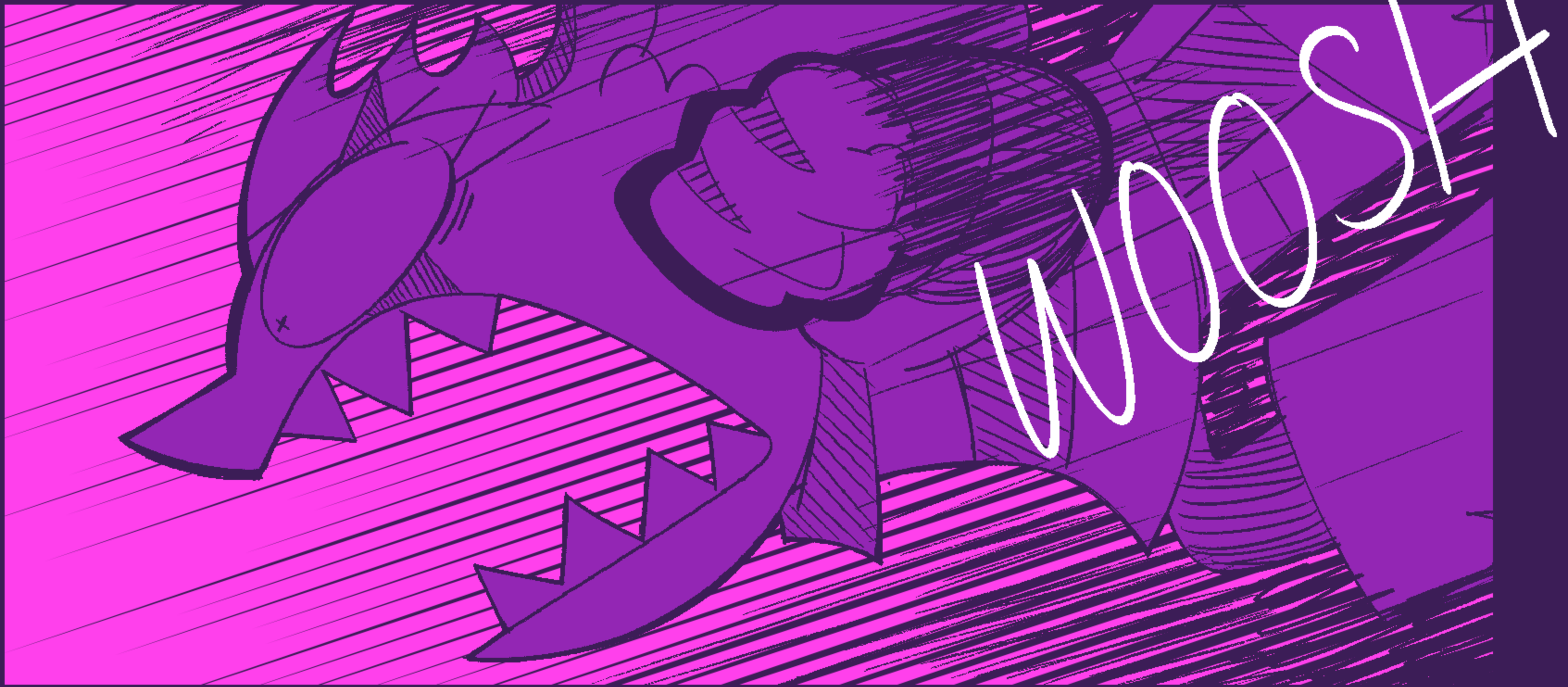


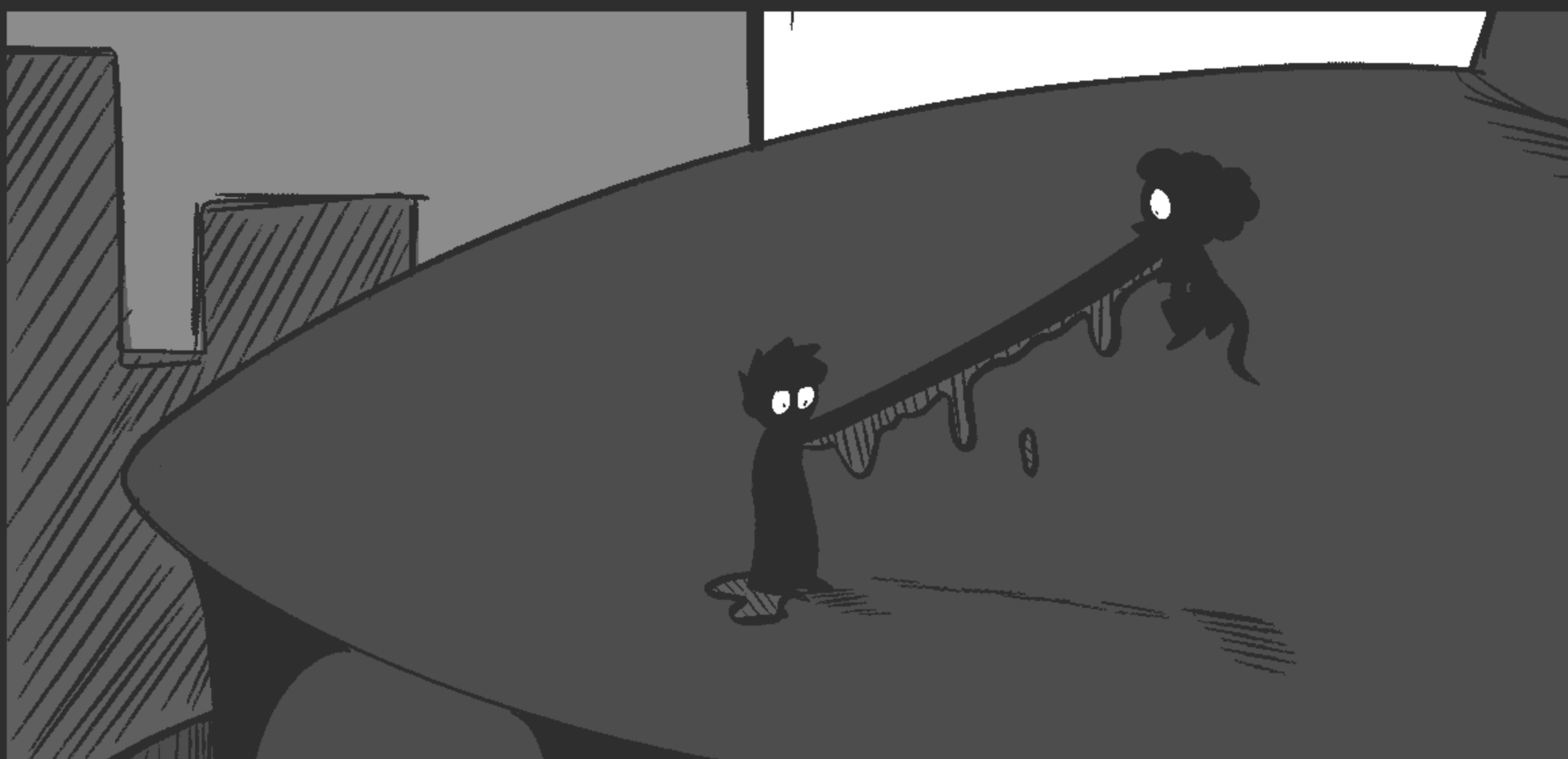


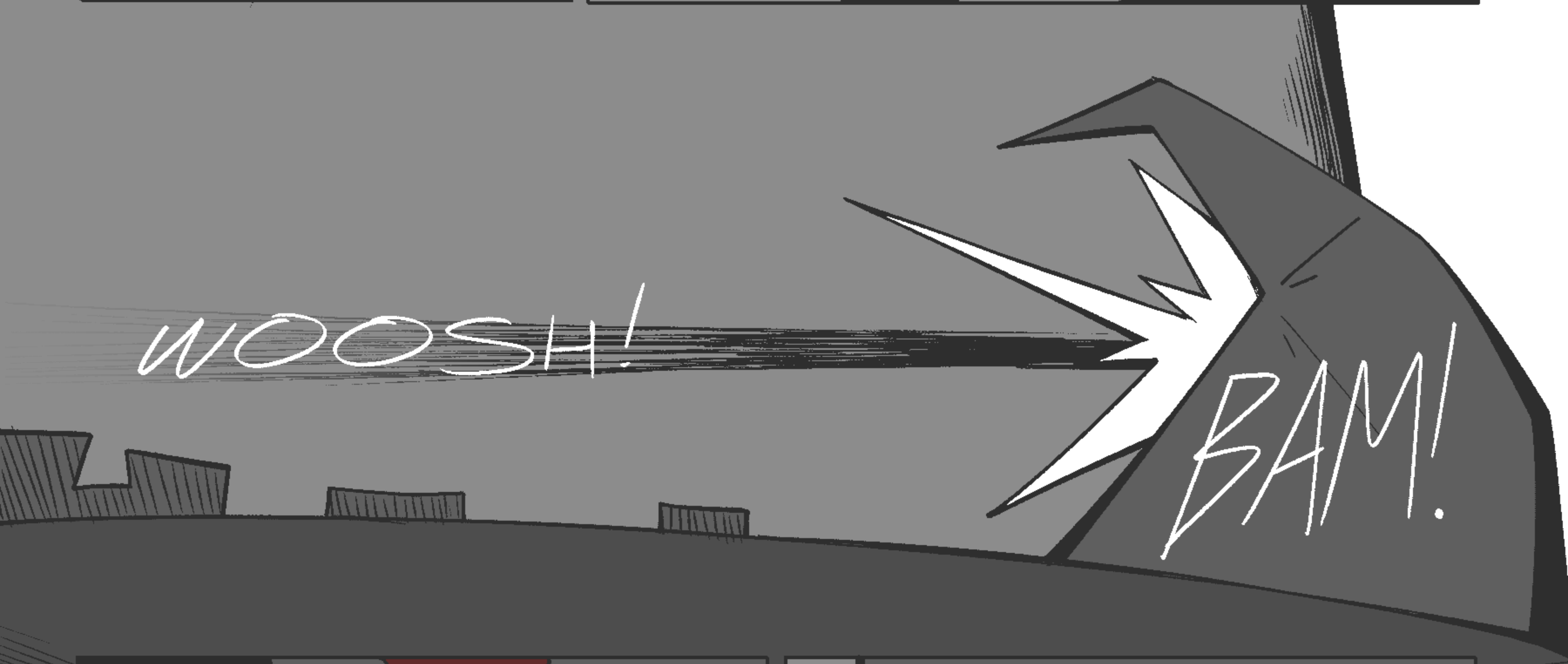


TUG!

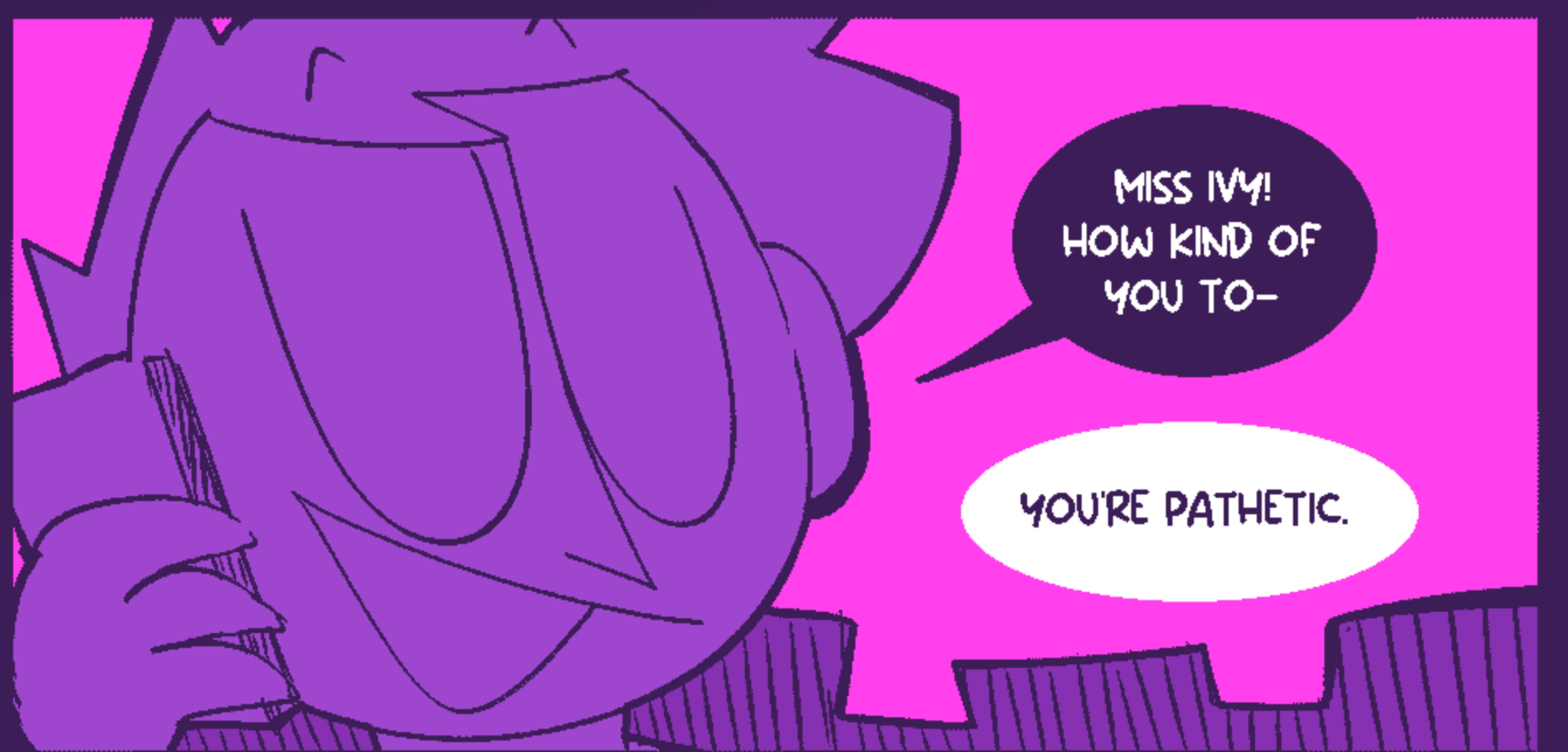
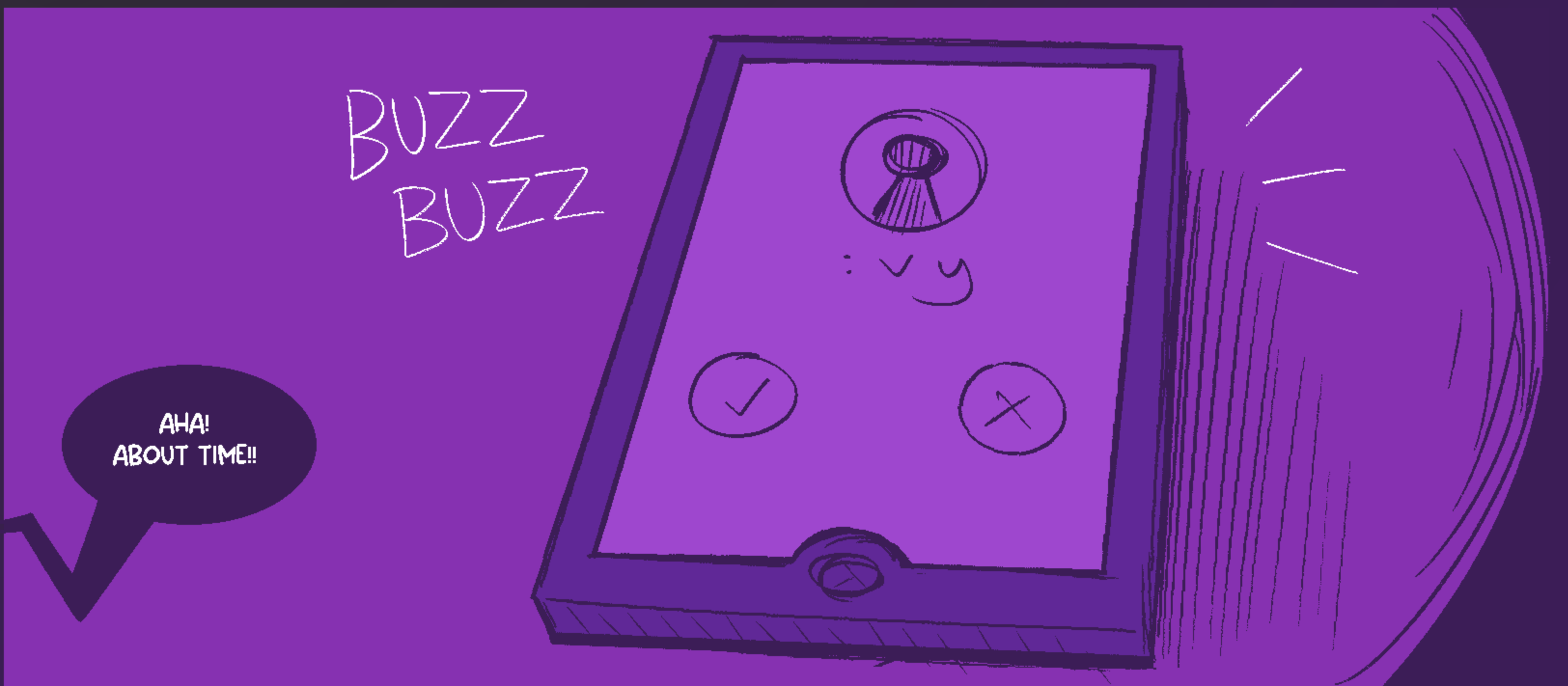
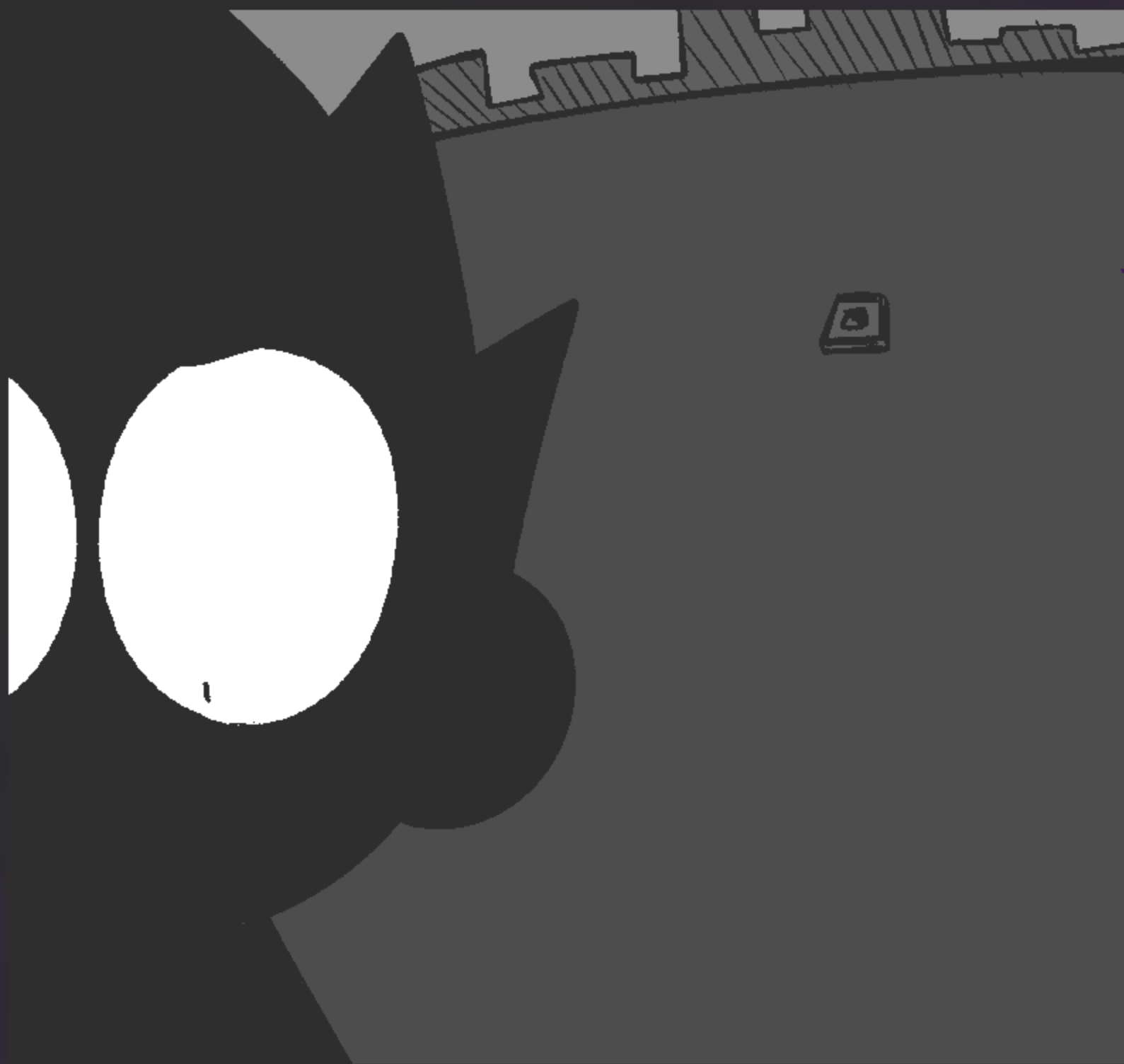
CRASH!











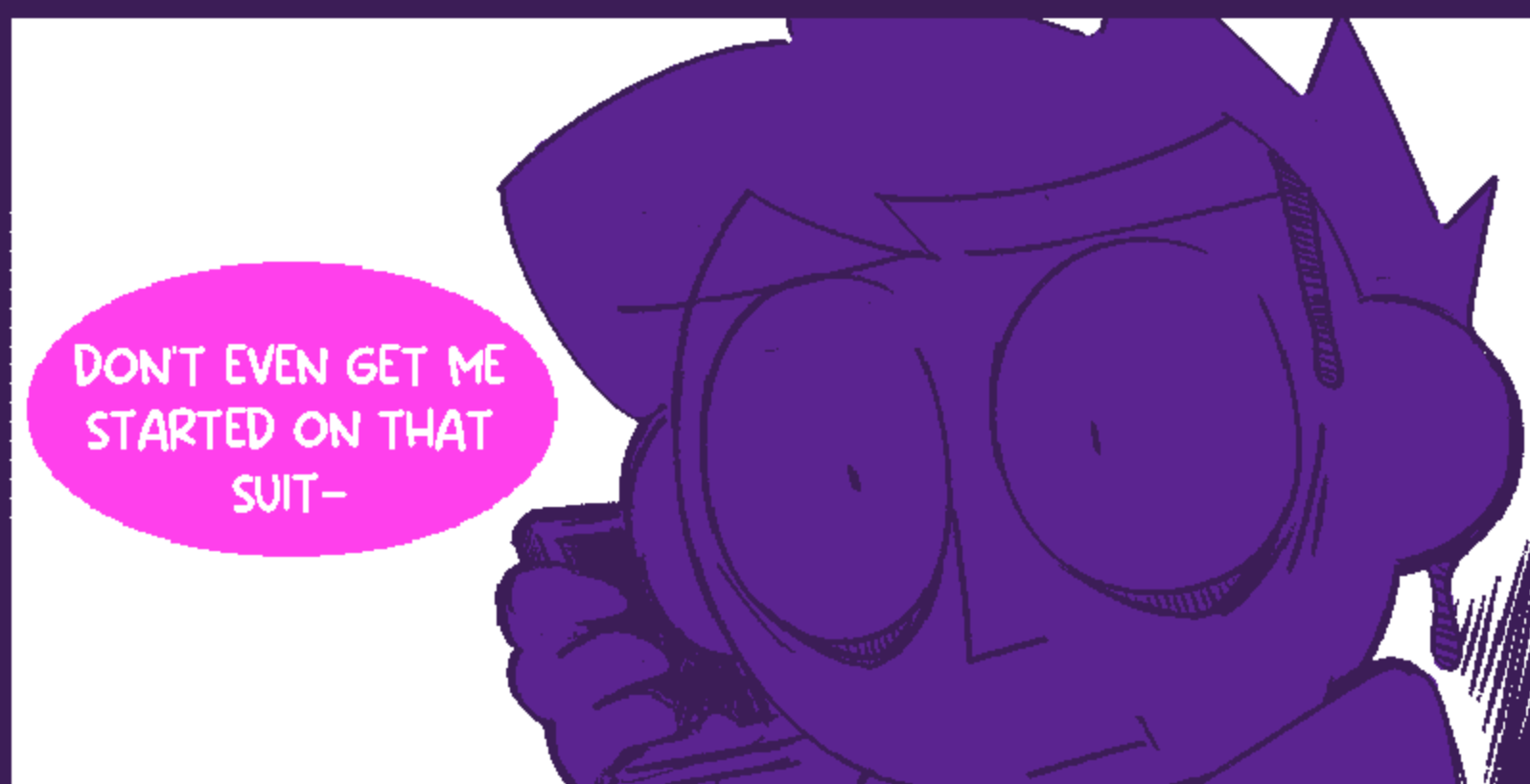


I MEAN,
WHERE DO I BEGIN?

THAT SPEECH?!

"EHEH, DON'T MIND THE BLOOD!
IT AIN'T MINE! HEHE!"

WHAT ARE YOU, 14?
DID YOU THINK YOU LOOKED
REALLY COOL WHEN YOU
SAID THAT??



DON'T EVEN GET ME
STARTED ON THAT
SUIT—



IS THAT...
THE ONLY REASON
YOU CALLED ME?

HM?



DID— DID YOU MISS
THE PART OF THE SPEECH
WHERE I SAID—

OH YES, THAT'S RIGHT,
YOU "KILLED MY WITCH TROOP."
SILLY ME, SO FORGETFUL.



WELL, I'VE KNOWN YOU
FOR A STUPID LONG TIME,
AND I KNOW TWO BIG THINGS
ABOUT YOU:

FIRST, YOU DON'T LIKE
KILLING. THAT'S WHY YOU
SENT ME TO KILL INSTEAD.

WHEN YOU TOLD ME
YOU DIDN'T KILL YOUR
BOYFRIEND, I BELIEVED
YOU. I STILL DO.

YOU CLEARLY HAVE THE POWER
TO KILL, BUT YOU DON'T WANT TO.

THE OTHER BIG THING I KNOW
ABOUT YOU...
YOU LIE. A LOT.



SO WHEN YOU BRAGGED ABOUT KILLING MY TROOP, I DON'T THINK YOU COULD BLAME ME FOR BEING SUSPICIOUS.

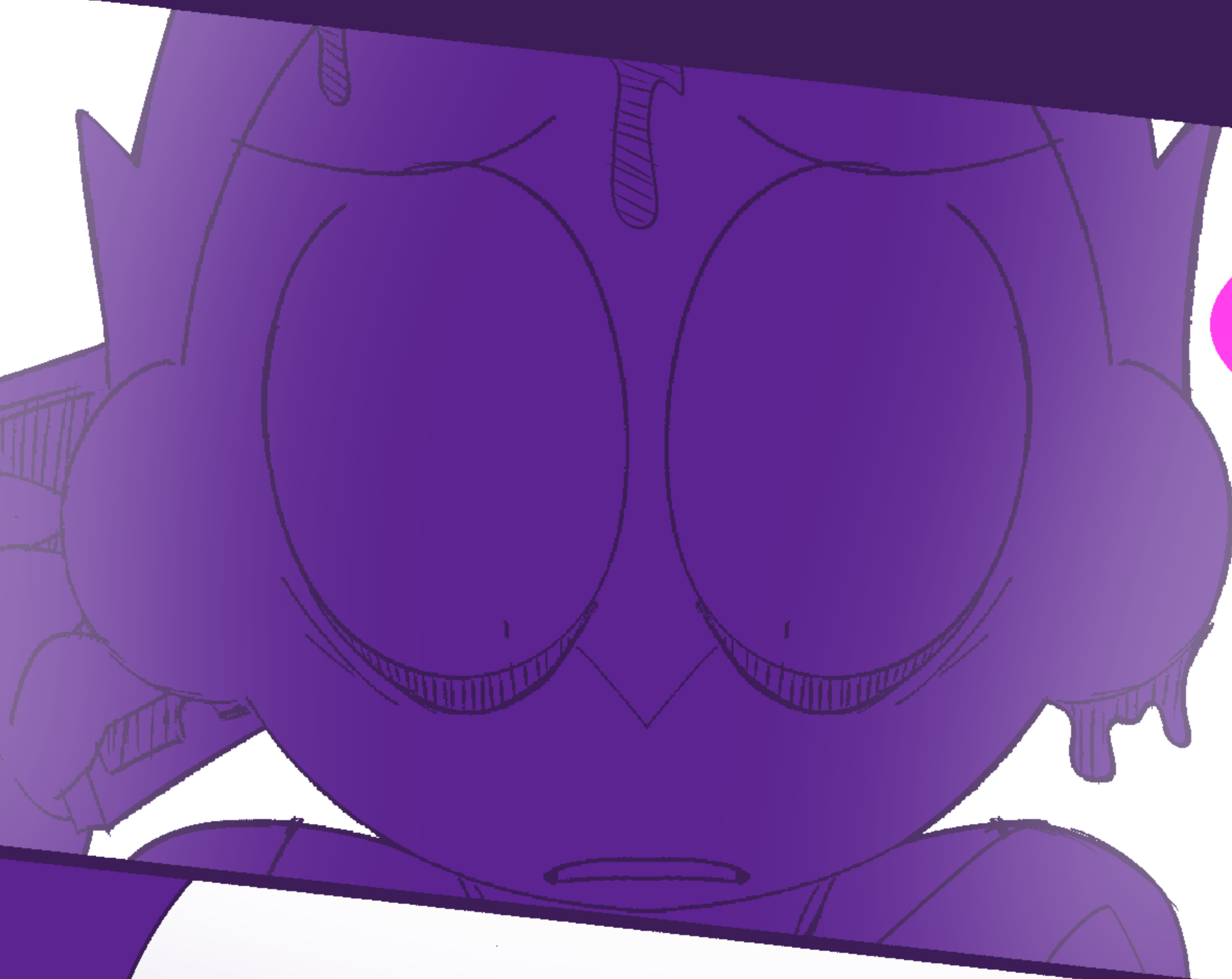
I'LL AT LEAST NOTE THAT YOU MADE AN ATTEMPT TO COVER YOUR TRACKS...



BUT JUST SO YOU KNOW, KILLING A WITCH DOESN'T STOP THEM FROM BEING TRACKED ON MY WITCH TRACKER.

WHEN NONE OF MY TROOP WAS SHOWING UP ON THE TRACKER, I THOUGHT THE NETWORK WAS DOWN.

BUT AFTER YOUR SPEECH, IT HIT ME THAT YOU MUST'VE TAMPERED WITH IT IN SOME WAY.



AND THEN IT HIT ME THAT YOU MUST'VE USED A SPELL TO HIDE THE TROOP'S LOCATION.

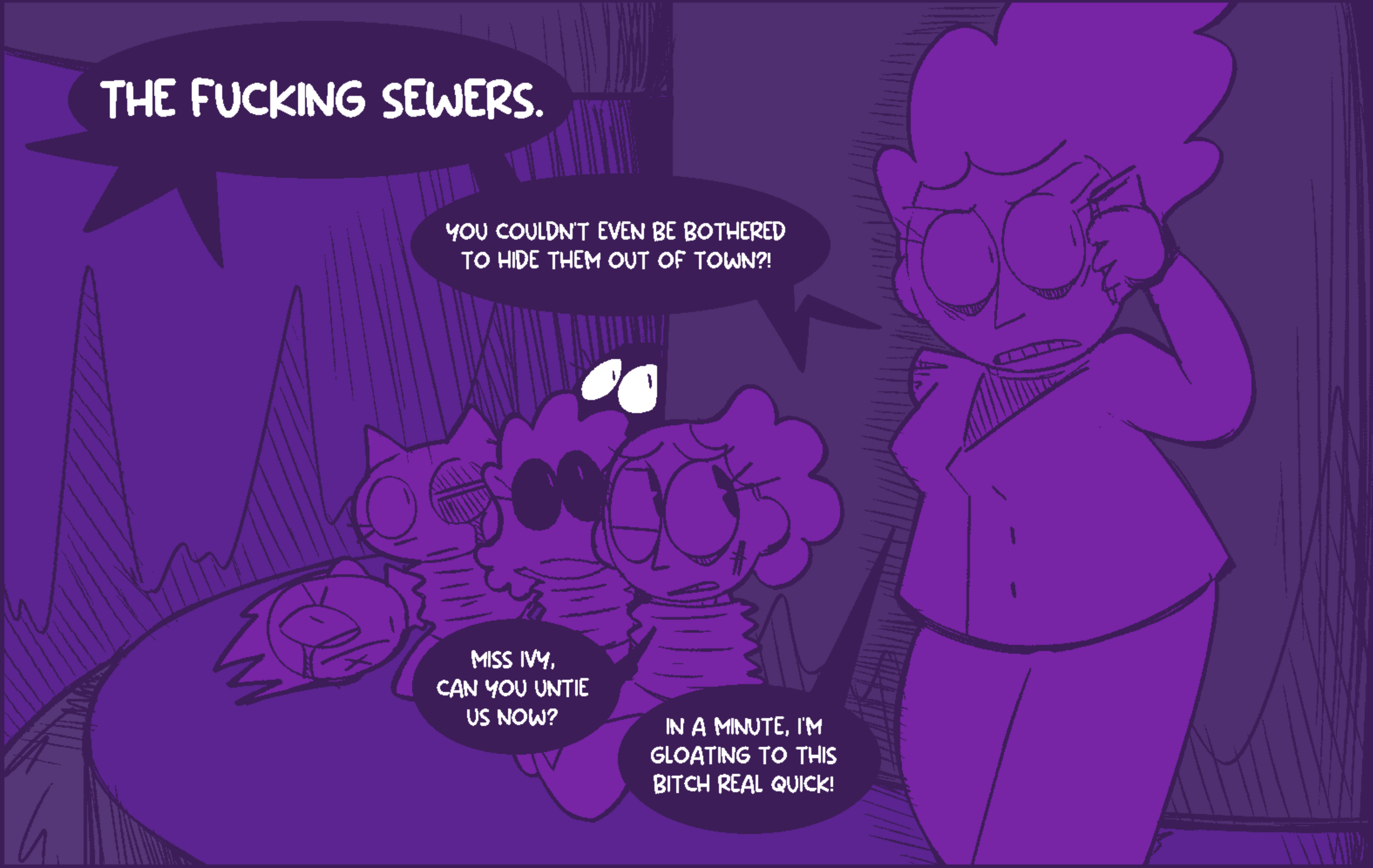
AND WOULDN'T YOU KNOW IT, ONCE I TURNED OFF THE COVE'S WITCHCRAFT FIELD, SUDDENLY, MY TRACKER WAS WORKING AGAIN!

WHAT LUCK, HUH?



DO YOU KNOW WHERE I FOUND THEM, DILLON?

UH-



THE FUCKING SEWERS.

YOU COULDN'T EVEN BE BOTHERED
TO HIDE THEM OUT OF TOWN?!

MISS IVY,
CAN YOU UNTIE
US NOW?

IN A MINUTE, I'M
GLOATING TO THIS
BITCH REAL QUICK!



I MEAN, MY GOD,
YOU ARE SO FUCKING
STUPID!

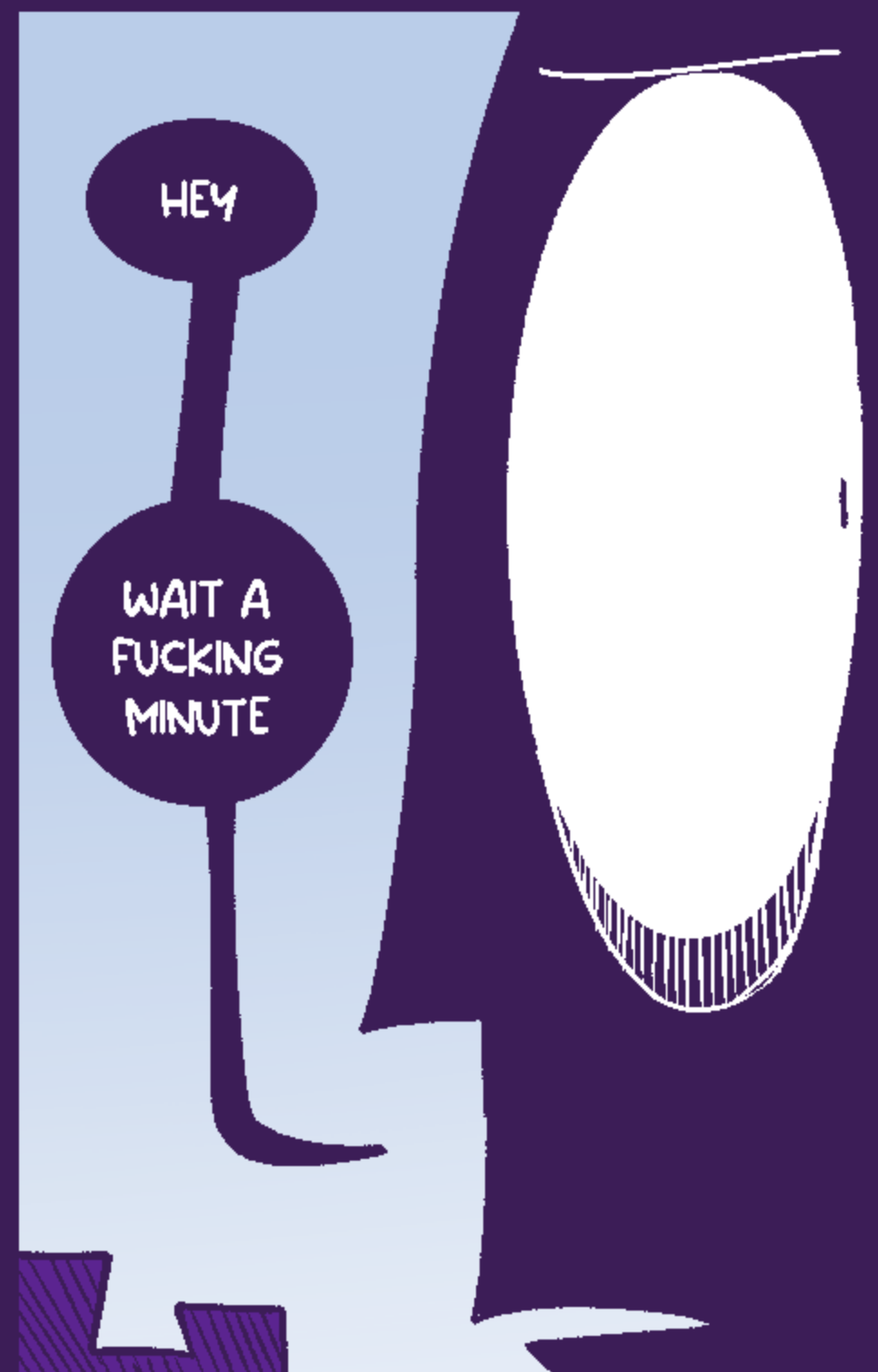
DID YOU THINK THIS
PLAN THROUGH IN ANY WAY??
OR DID YOU RUSH THROUGH
IT AS USUAL?

WELL... UH...



W-WELL,
PRETTY SOON THE HELLHOLE'S
GONNA KILL EVERYONE IN
THE COVE!

I'D SAY
THAT WAS PRETTY
PLANNED OU-



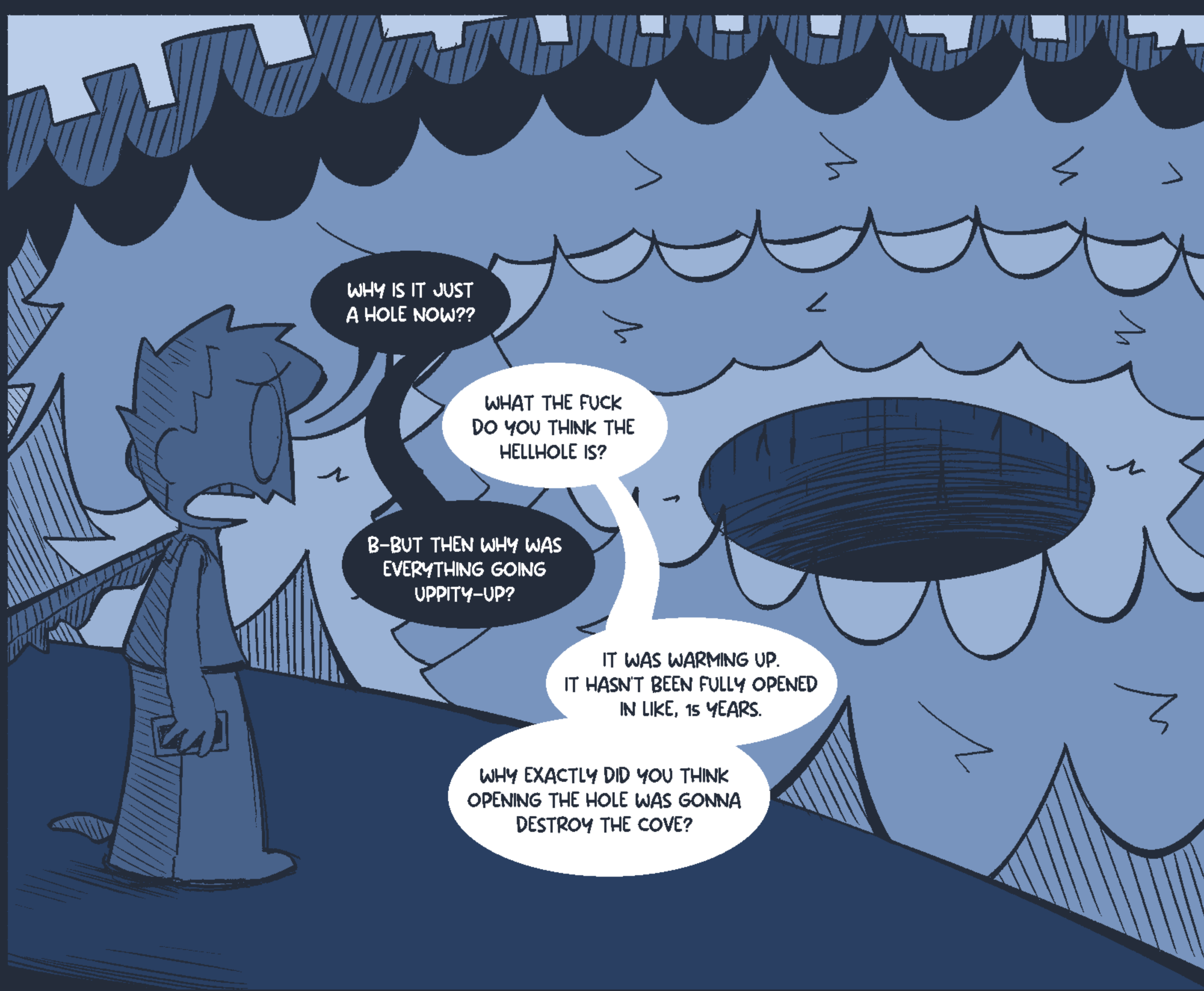
HEY

WAIT A
FUCKING
MINUTE



WH- HUH??

WH-WHAT
HAPPENED??



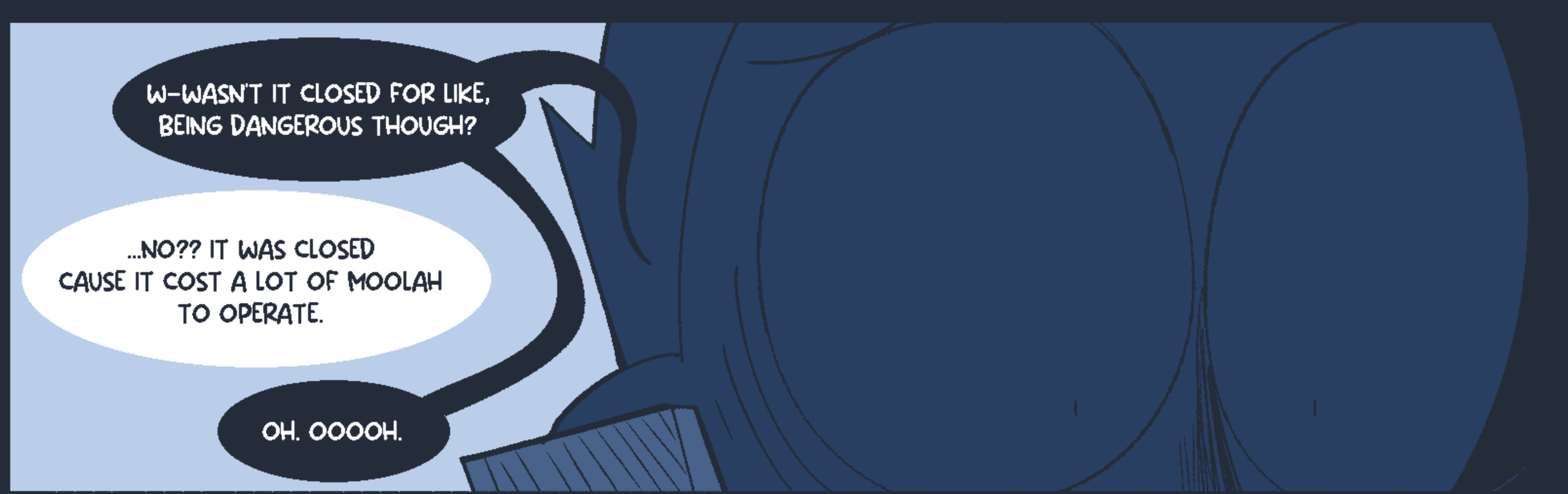
WHY IS IT JUST
A HOLE NOW??

WHAT THE FUCK
DO YOU THINK THE
HELLHOLE IS?

B-BUT THEN WHY WAS
EVERYTHING GOING
UPPITY-UP?

IT WAS WARMING UP.
IT HASN'T BEEN FULLY OPENED
IN LIKE, 15 YEARS.

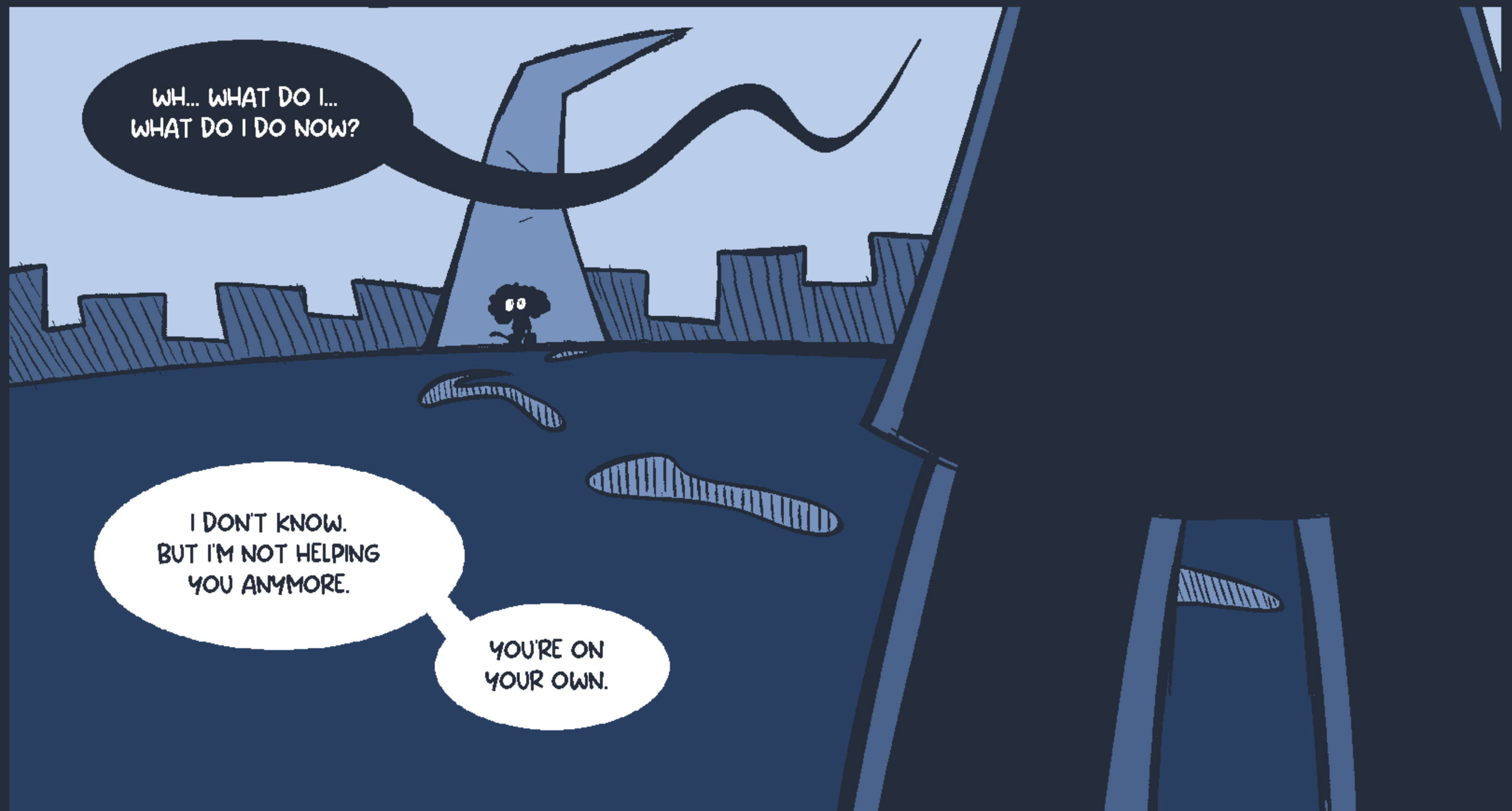
WHY EXACTLY DID YOU THINK
OPENING THE HOLE WAS GONNA
DESTROY THE COVE?

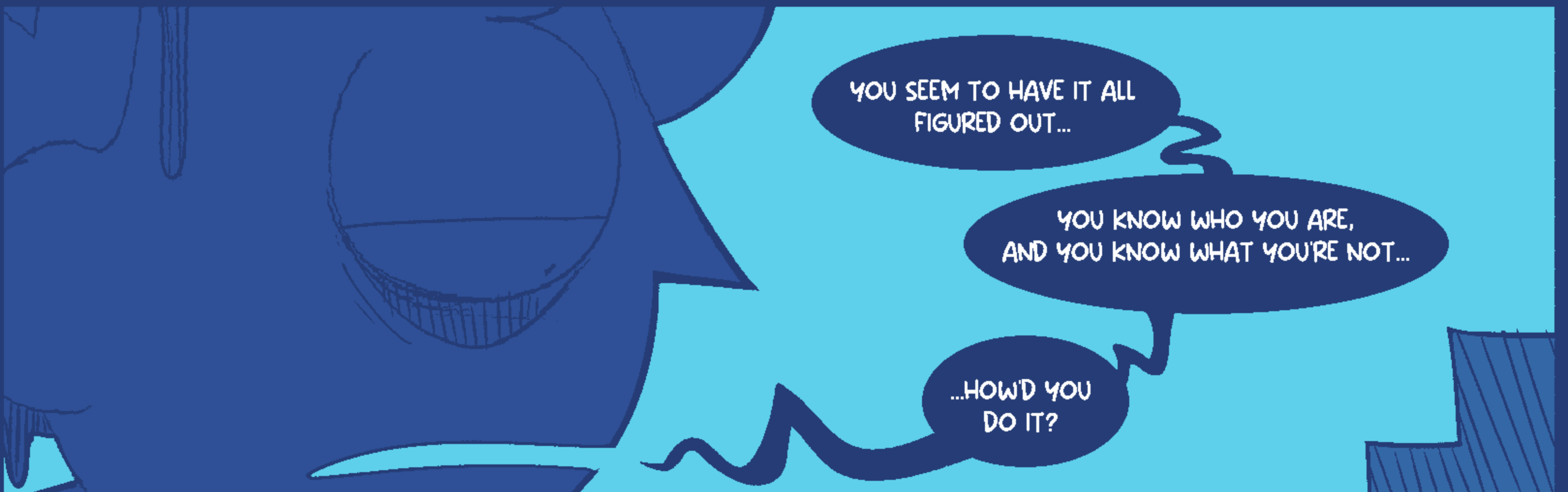
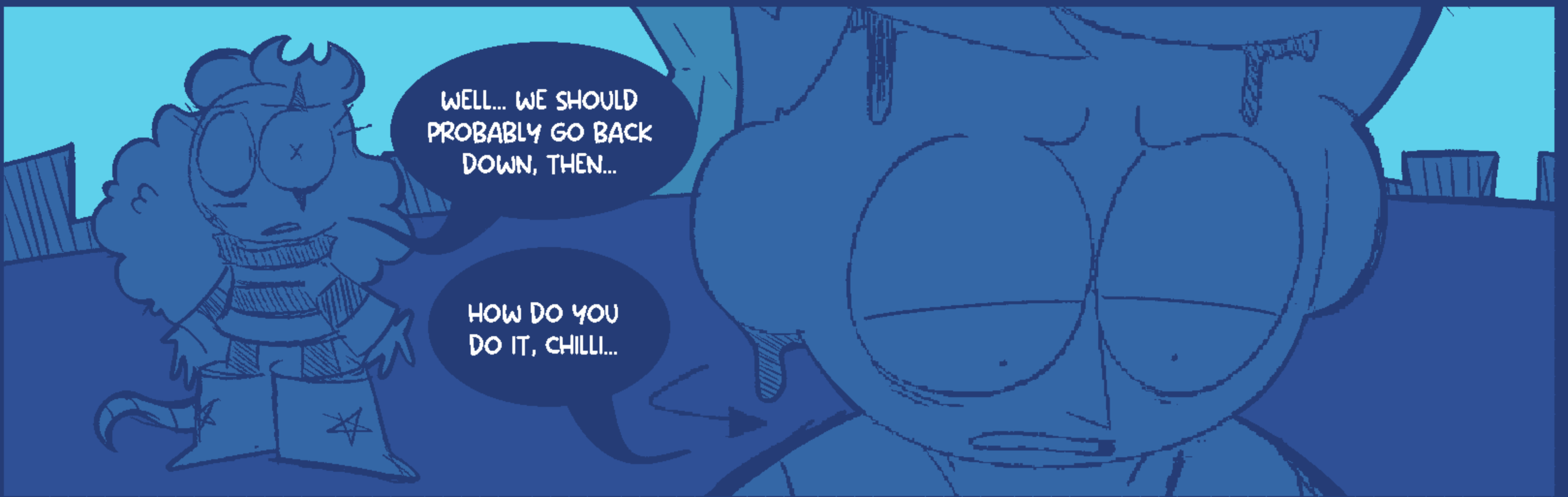
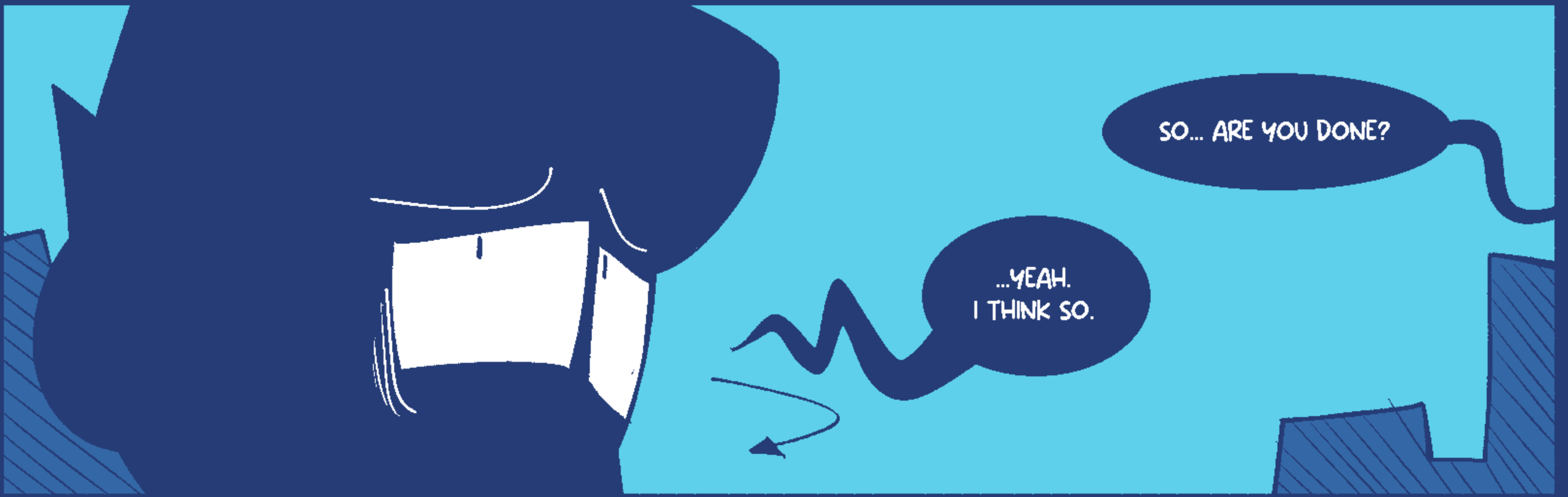
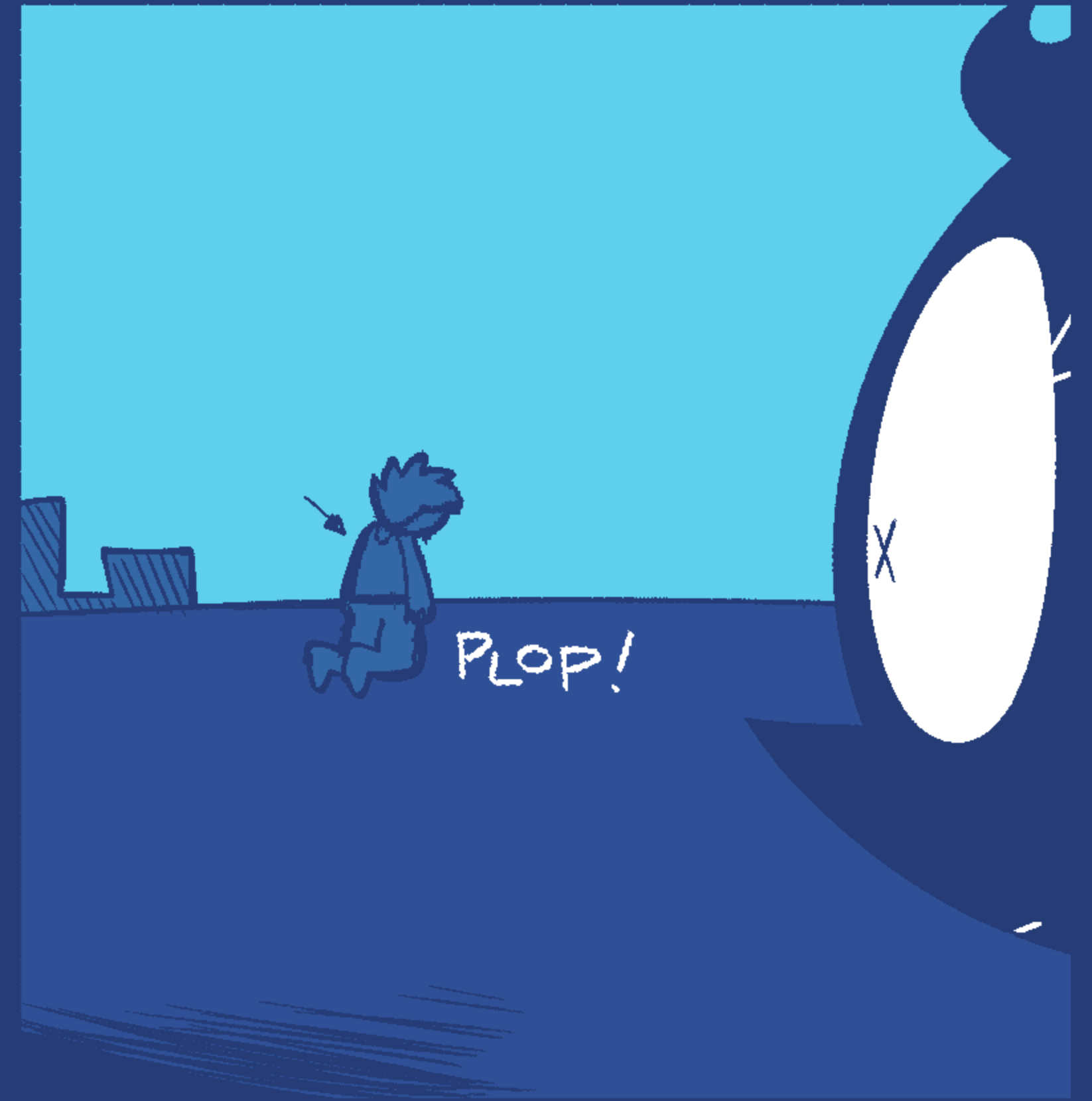
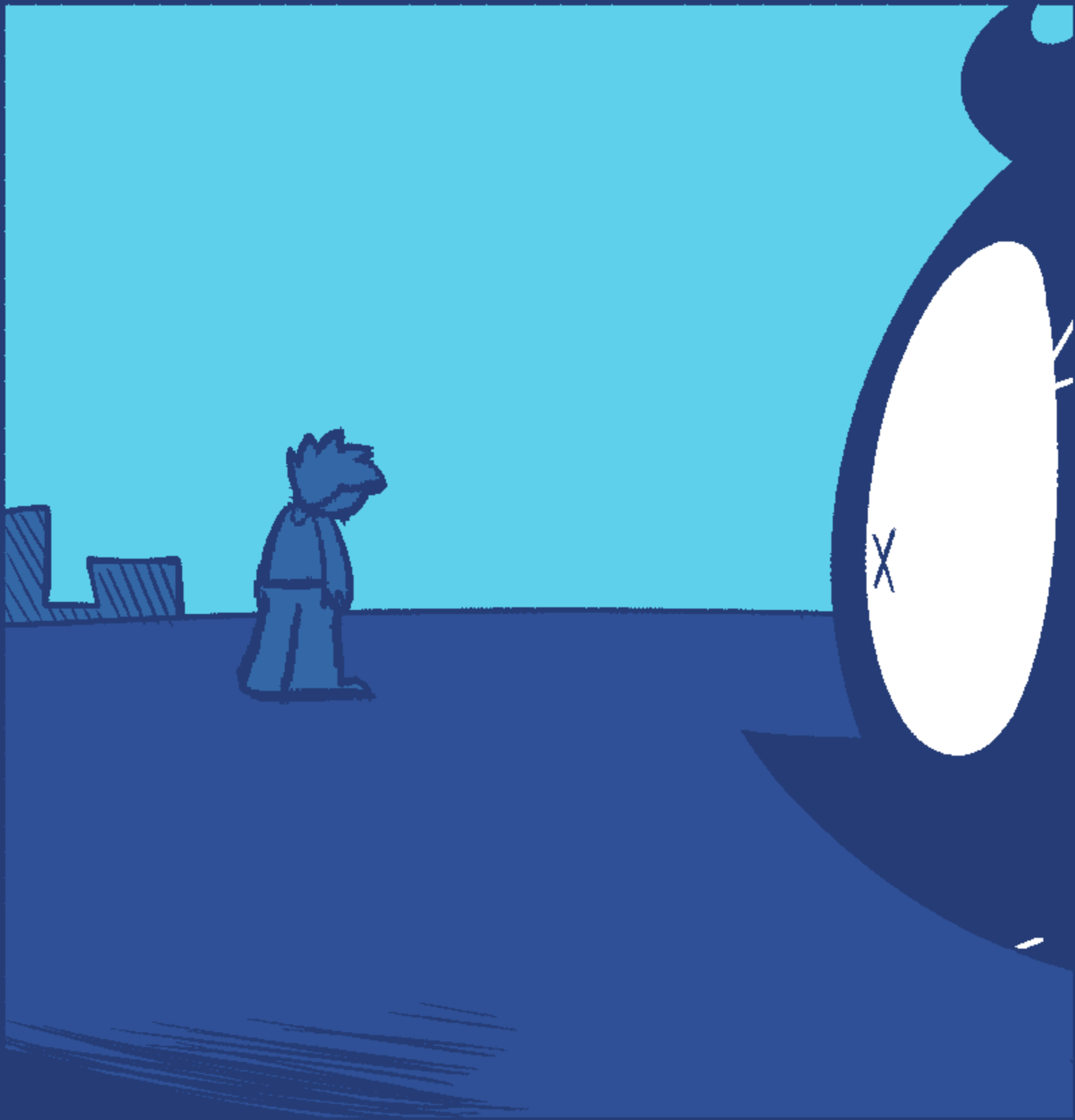


W-WASN'T IT CLOSED FOR LIKE,
BEING DANGEROUS THOUGH?

...NO?? IT WAS CLOSED
CAUSE IT COST A LOT OF MOOLAH
TO OPERATE.

OH. OOOOH.







I DON'T
FUCKING KNOW...

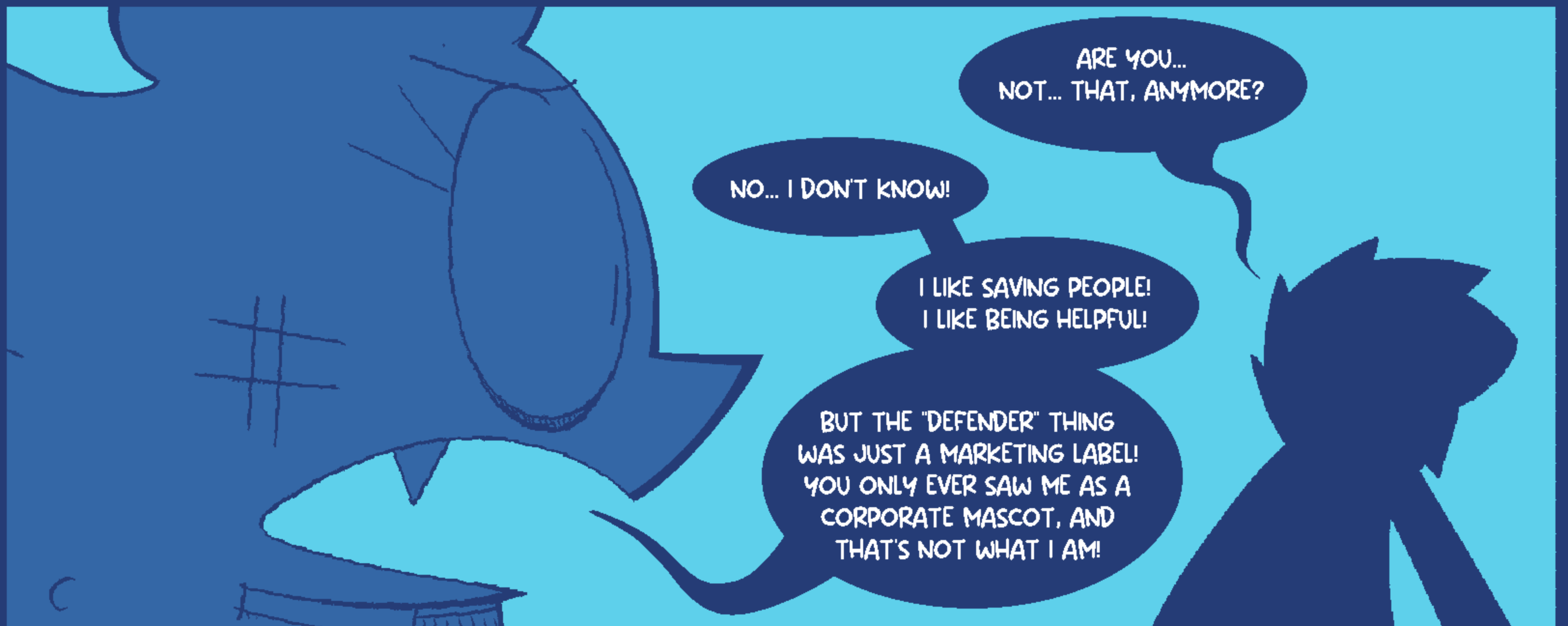
I'M 12.

I DON'T HAVE
ANYTHING FIGURED
OUT...



IF ANYTHING, YOU
MADE IT HARDER FOR ME
TO FIGURE MYSELF OUT—

WHAT WITH THE
"DEFENDER OF THE
COVE" STUFF.



ARE YOU...
NOT... THAT, ANYMORE?

NO... I DON'T KNOW!

I LIKE SAVING PEOPLE!
I LIKE BEING HELPFUL!

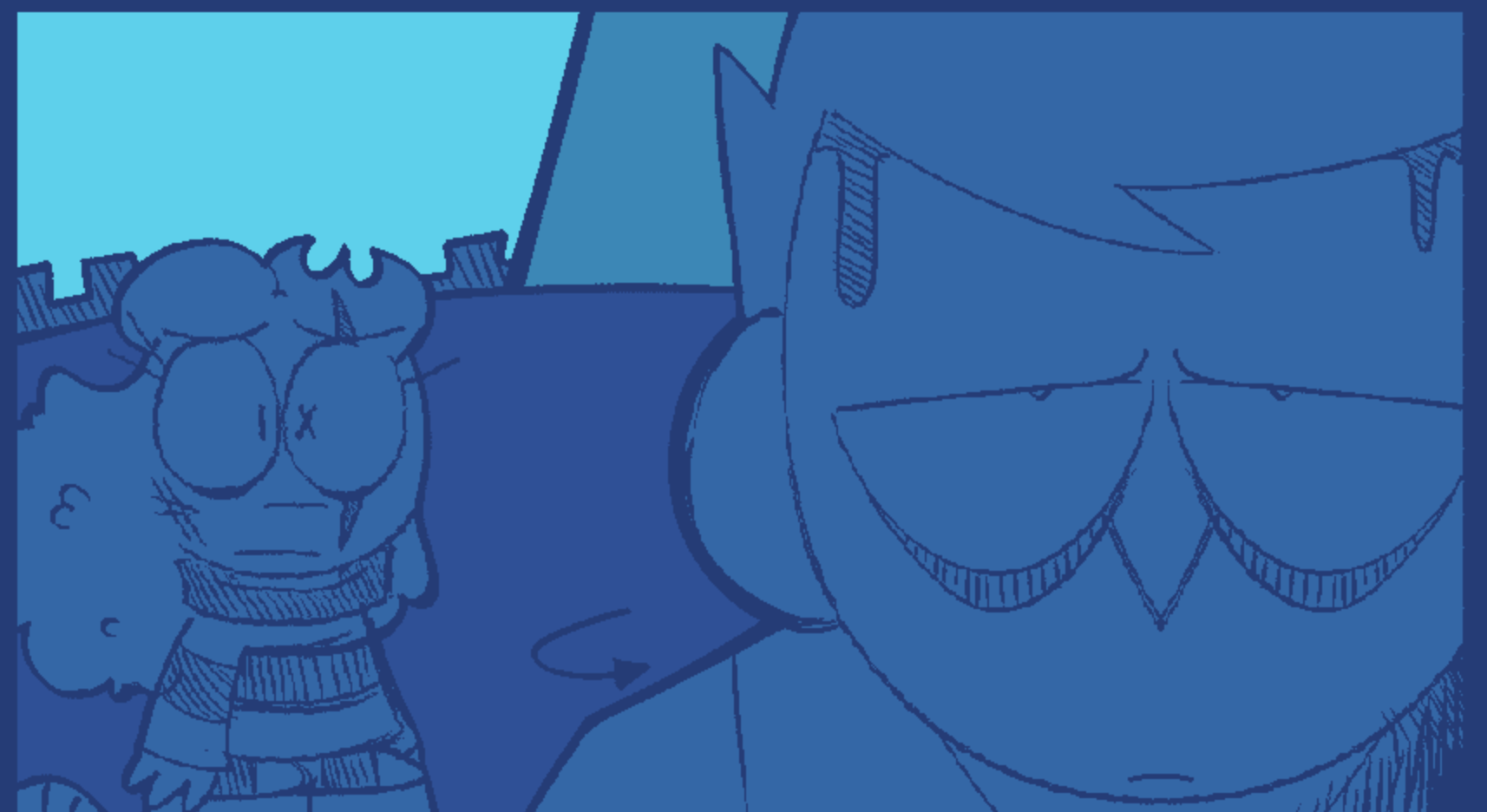
BUT THE "DEFENDER" THING
WAS JUST A MARKETING LABEL!
YOU ONLY EVER SAW ME AS A
CORPORATE MASCOT, AND
THAT'S NOT WHAT I AM!



I'M... CHILL.

BUT WHAT DOES
THAT MEAN TO YOU?
HOW DID YOU BECOME
OKAY WITH WHAT
YOU ARE??

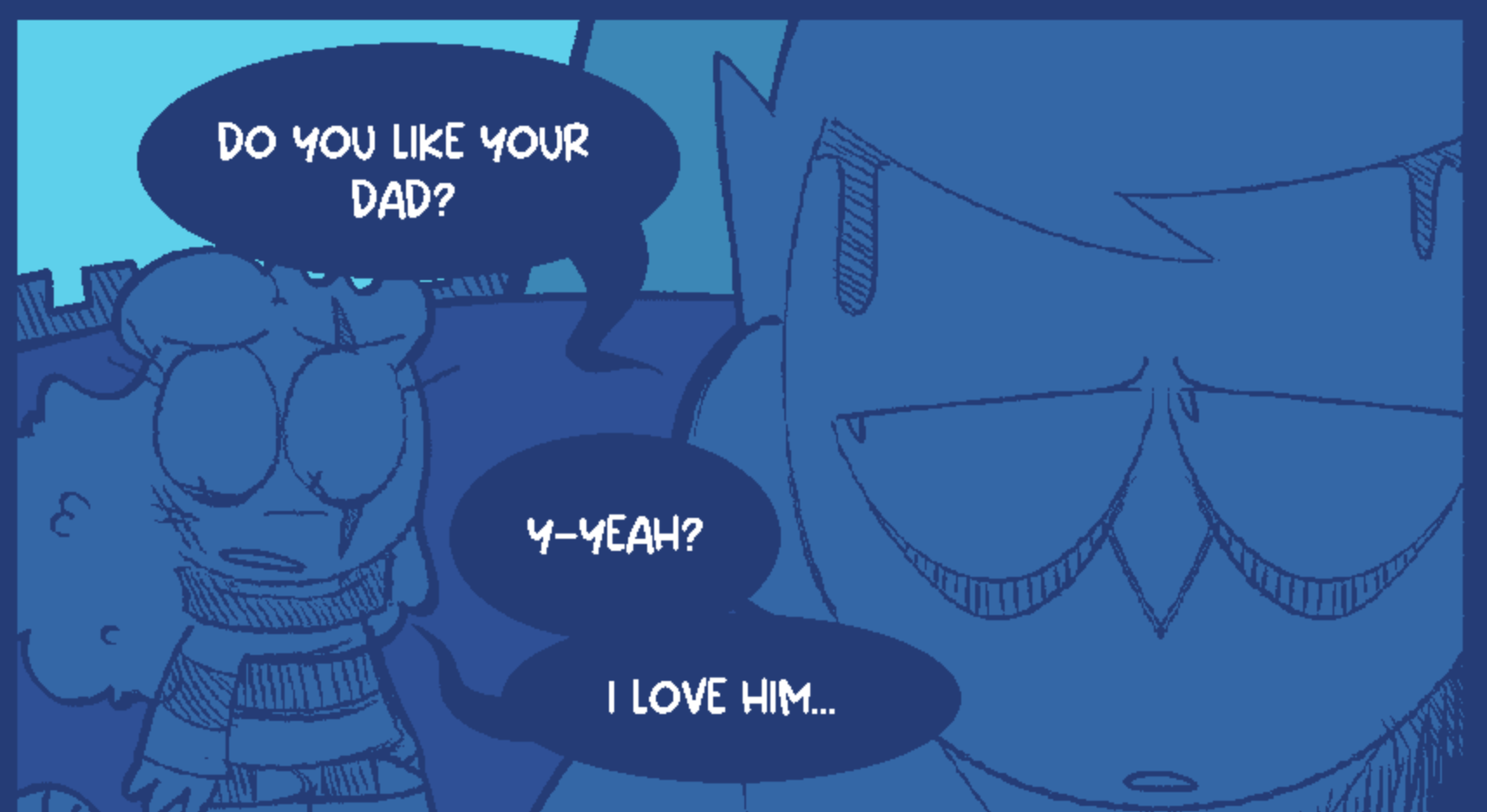
I DON'T KNOW!
MY DAD AND MY FRIENDS
LIKE ME. I GUESS THAT'S
ENOUGH FOR NOW.



DO YOU LIKE YOUR
DAD?

Y-YEAH?

I LOVE HIM...



HE DOESN'T... CARE,
THAT YOU'RE A CRYPTID?

I MEAN, OBVIOUSLY
HE WAS FREAKED OUT AT
FIRST BUT... HE THINKS
IT'S COOL.

I THINK IT'S
COOL.



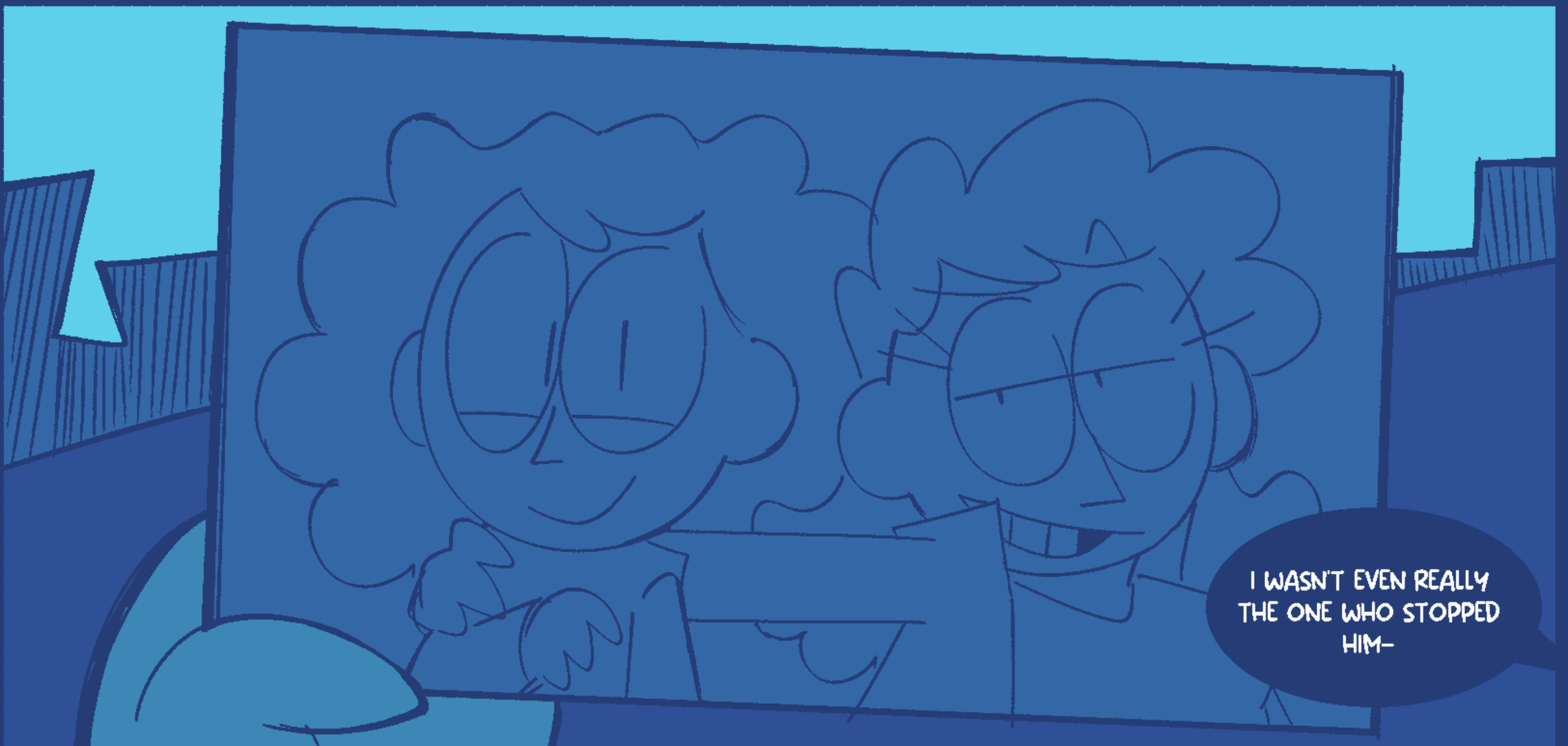
AND EVEN IF HE
DIDN'T THINK IT WAS
COOL, I WOULDN'T CA-

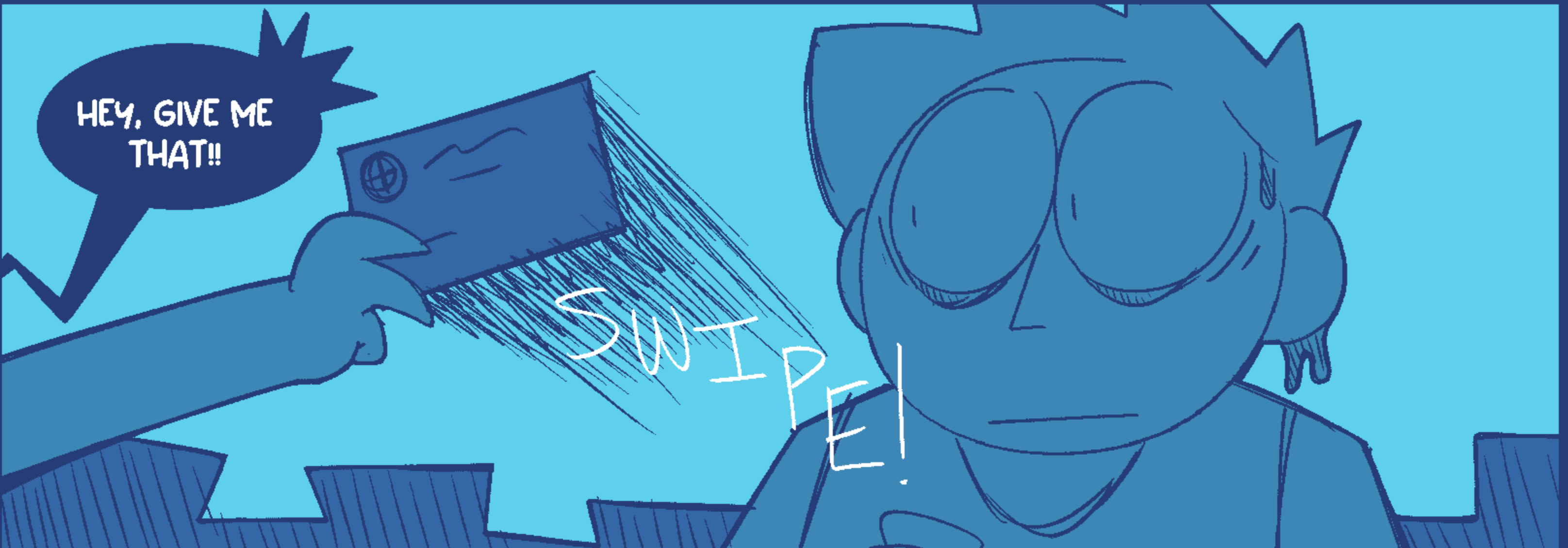
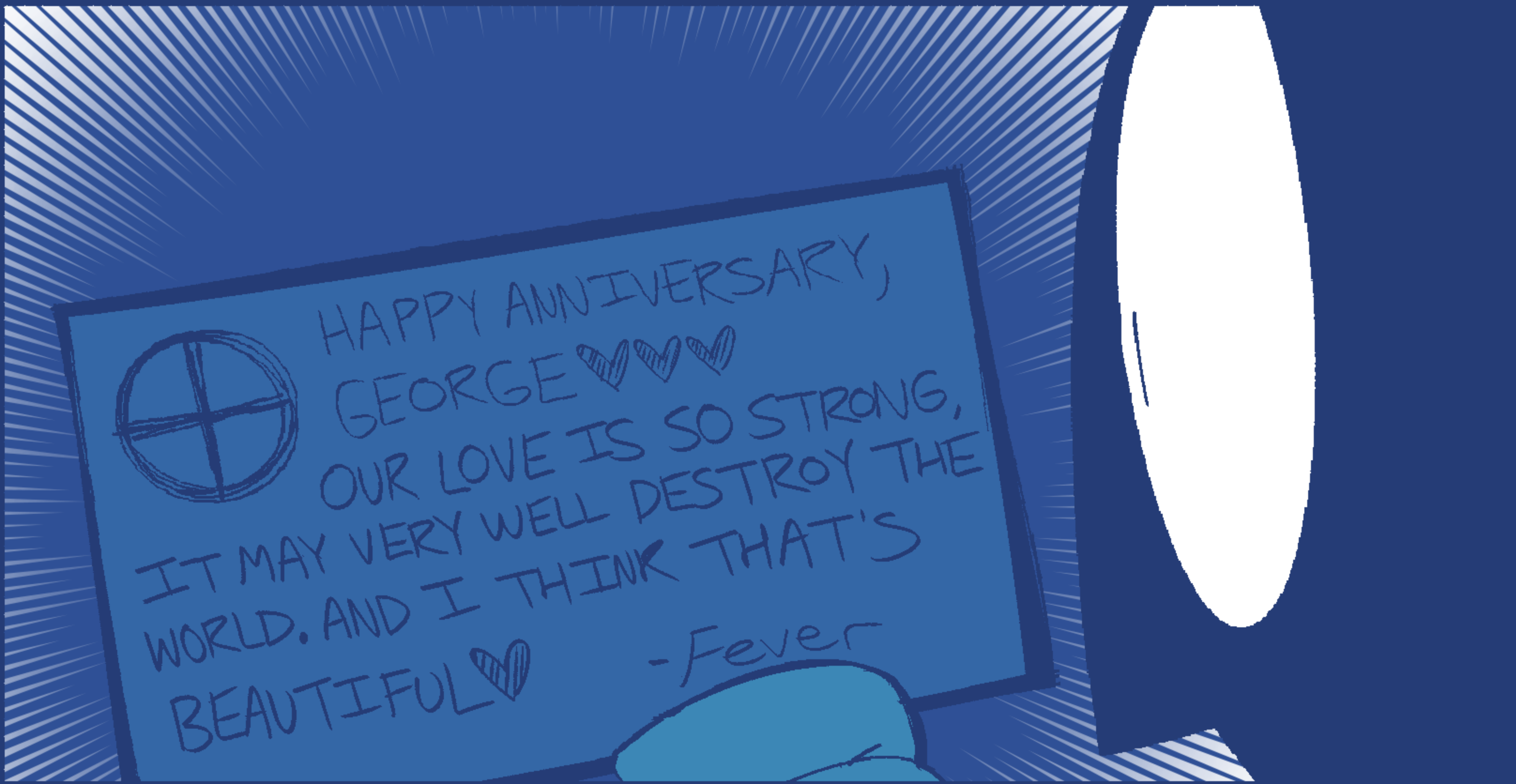
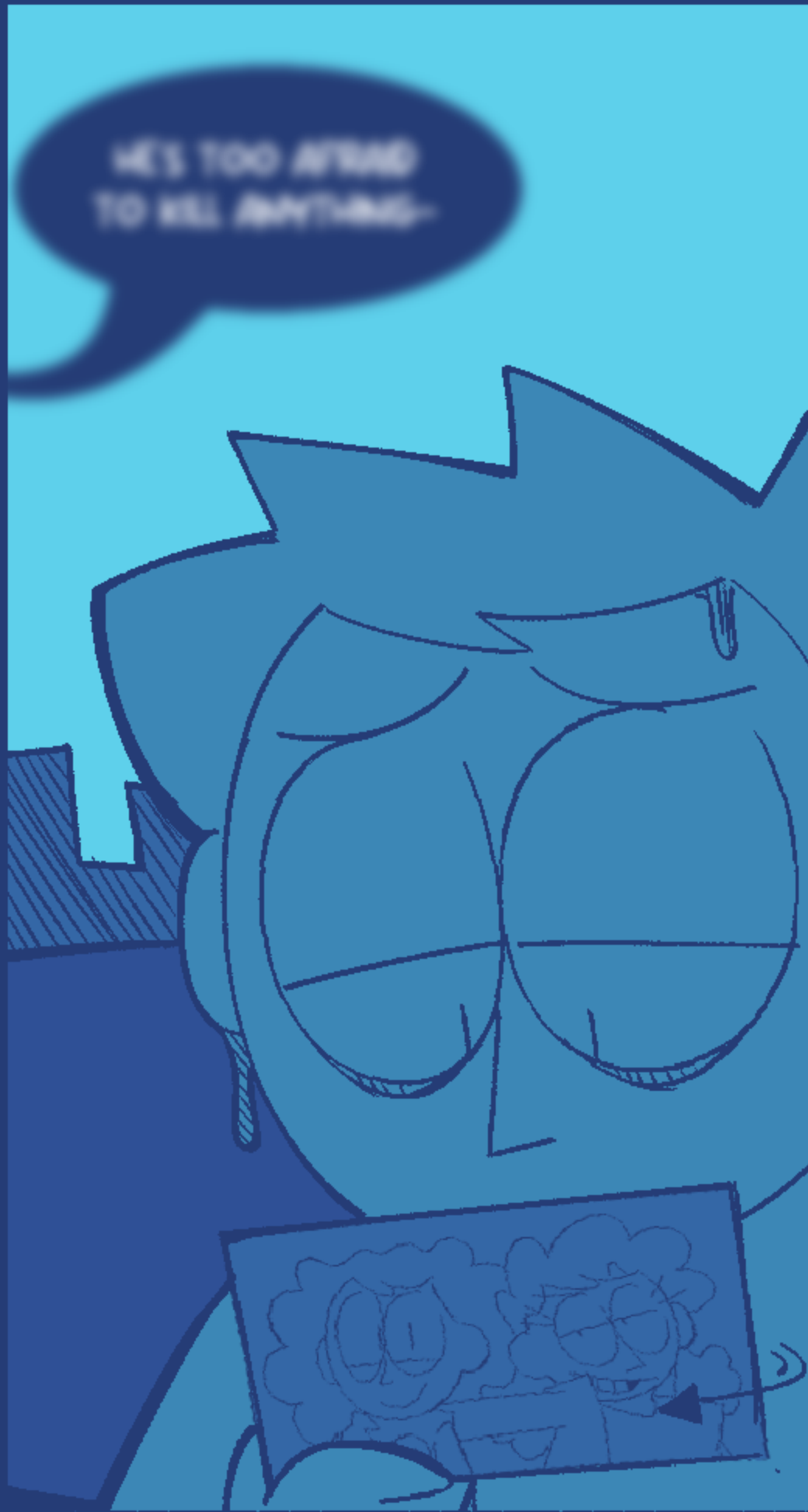


DAD?!?!?



BANG!







DON'T LOOK THROUGH MY WALLET!

SORRY MY BAD

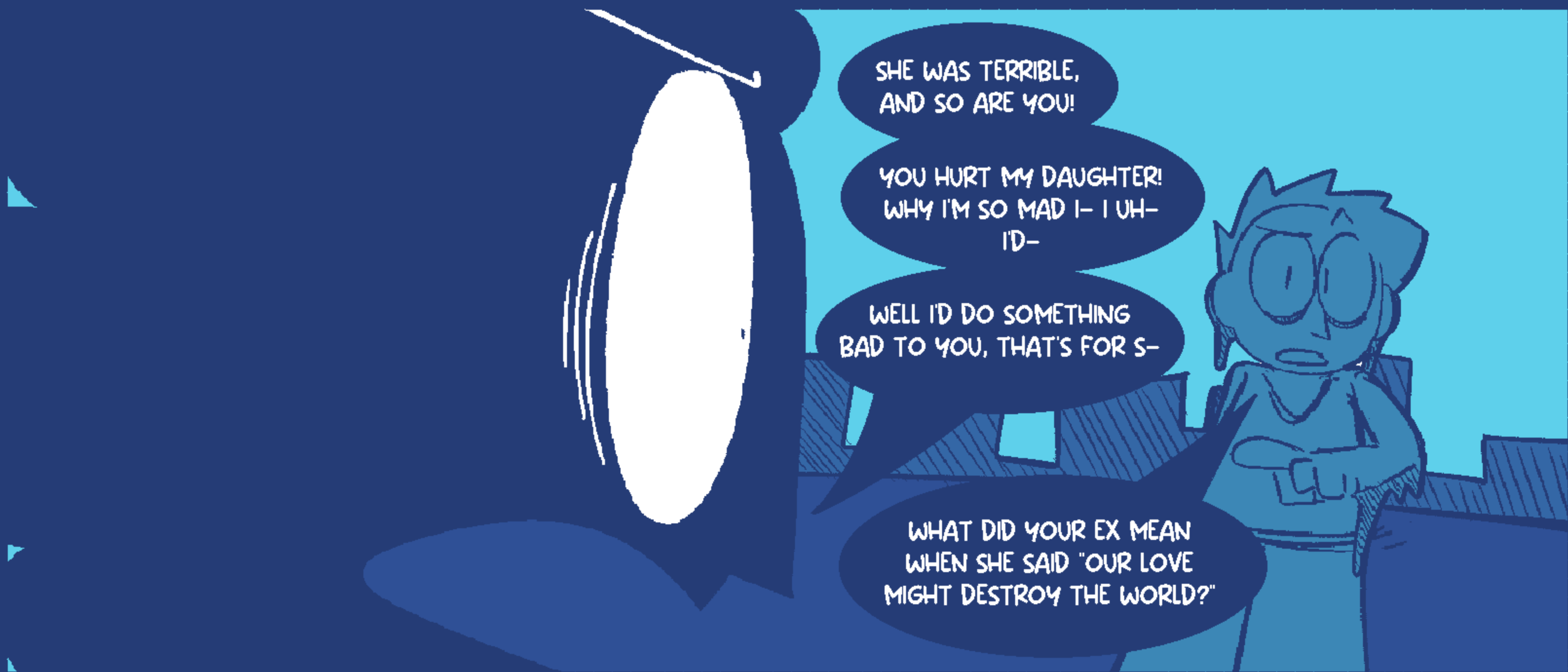
YOUR WIFE LOOKS SMOKING



SHE'S NOT... MY WIFE... ANYMORE.

OH SORRY

BUT, STILL-

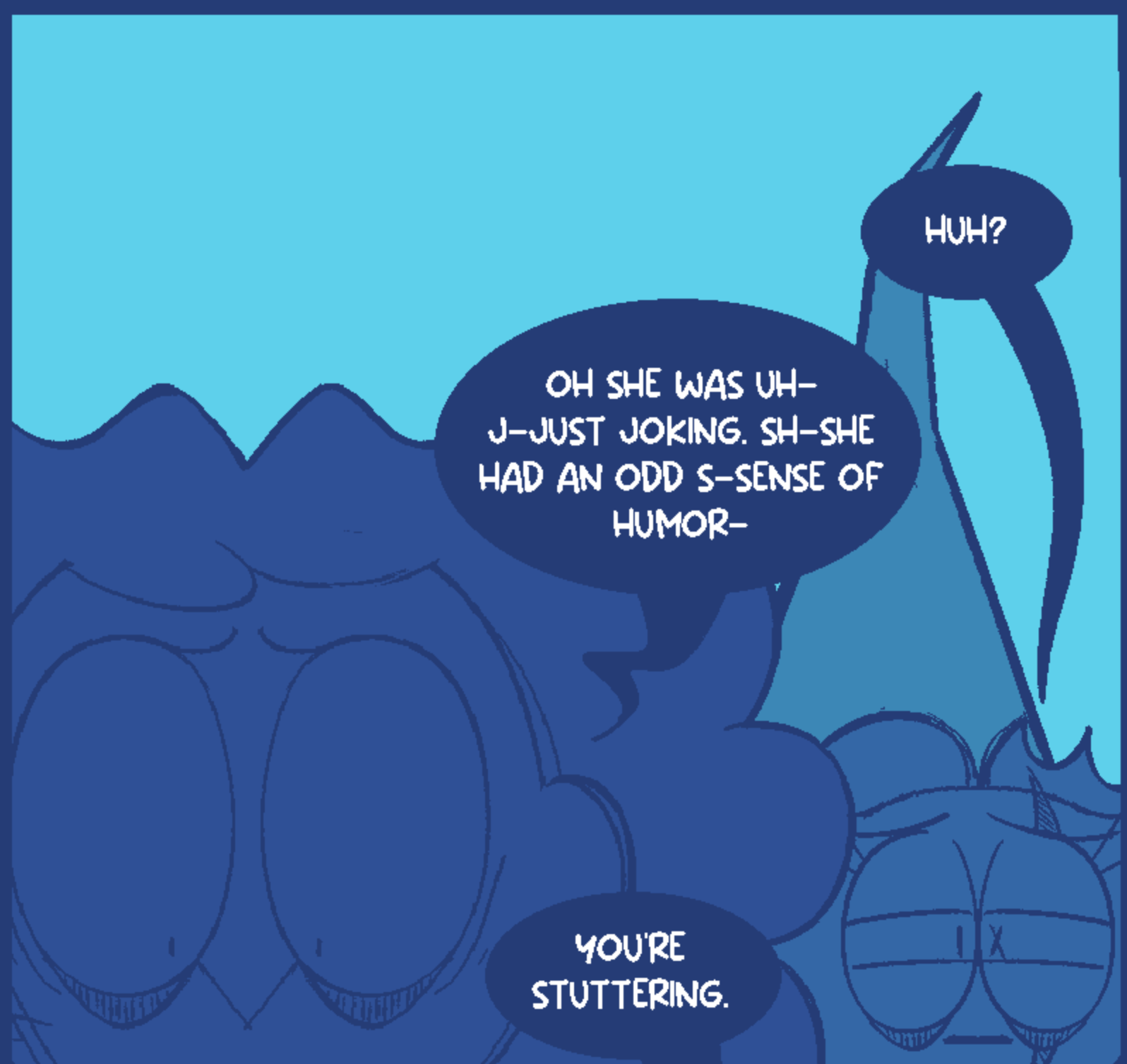
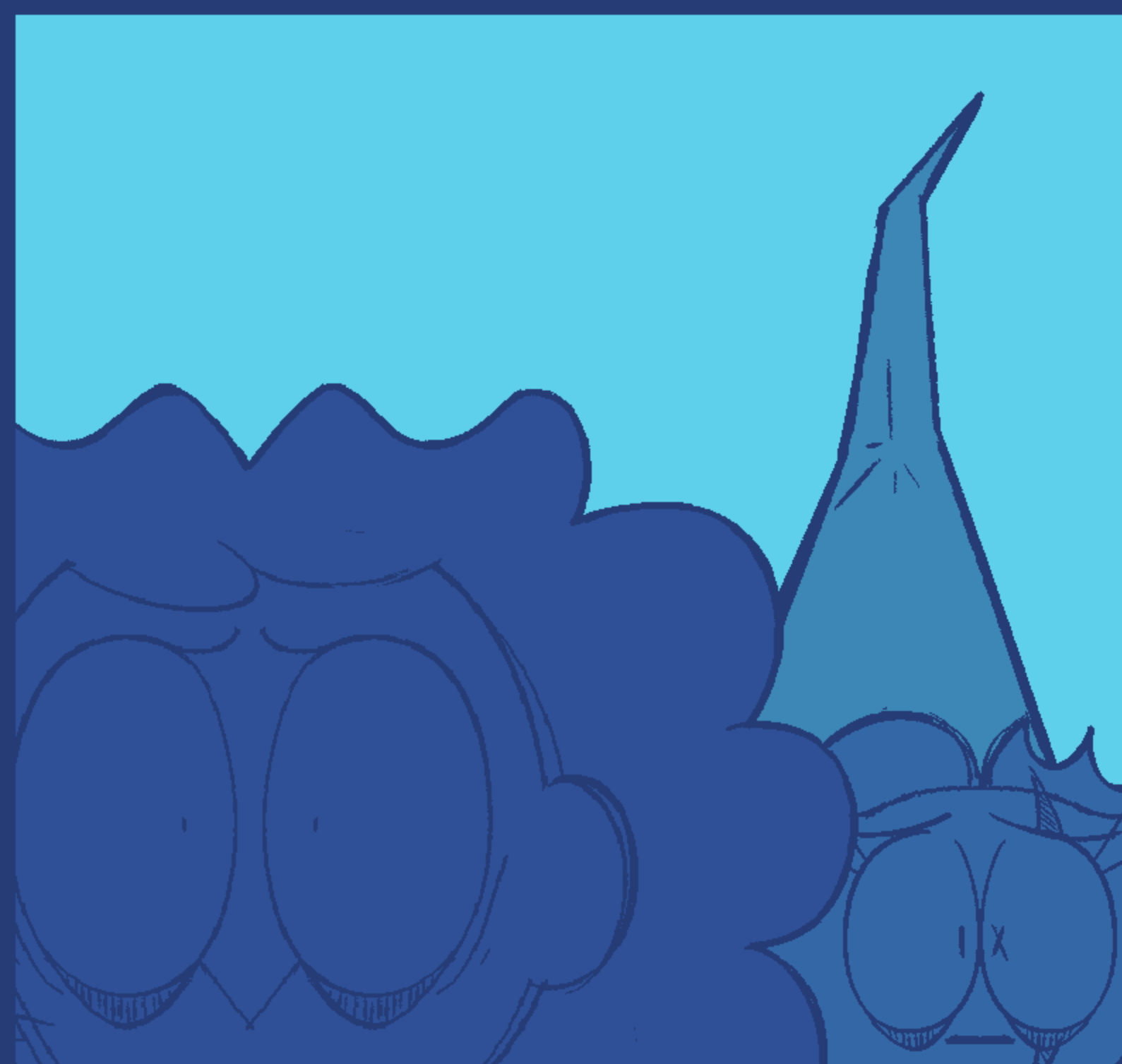


SHE WAS TERRIBLE, AND SO ARE YOU!

YOU HURT MY DAUGHTER! WHY I'M SO MAD I- I UH- I'D-

WELL I'D DO SOMETHING BAD TO YOU, THAT'S FOR S-

WHAT DID YOUR EX MEAN WHEN SHE SAID "OUR LOVE MIGHT DESTROY THE WORLD?"



HUH?

OH SHE WAS UH- J-JUST JOKING. SH-SHE HAD AN ODD S-SENSE OF HUMOR-

YOU'RE STUTTERING.

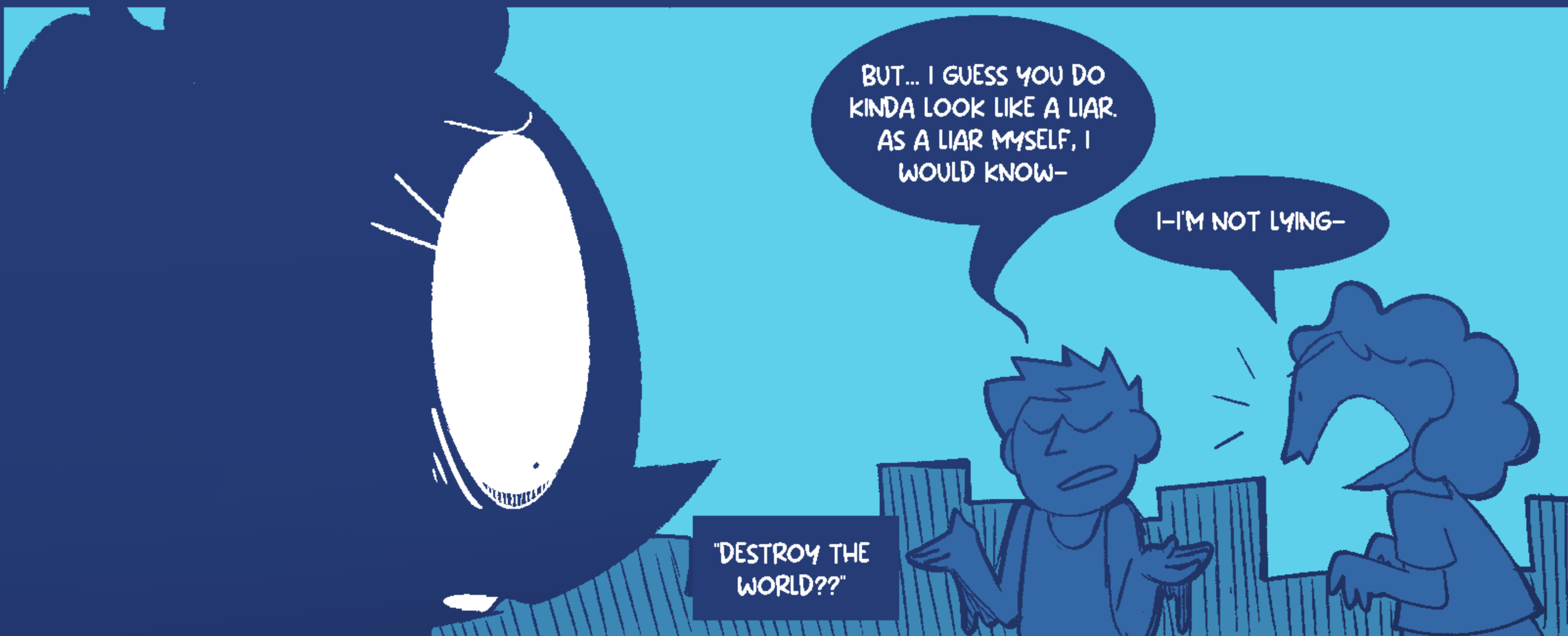


B-BECAUSE Y-YOU'RE MAKING ME ANXIOUS...

I FEEL LIKE YOU'RE TRYING TO COVER UP FOR SOMETHING-

A-ARE YOU ACCUSING ME O-OF LYING?!

I WASN'T ACCUSING YOU OF ANYTHING...



BUT... I GUESS YOU DO KINDA LOOK LIKE A LIAR. AS A LIAR MYSELF, I WOULD KNOW-

I-I'M NOT LYING-

"DESTROY THE WORLD??"



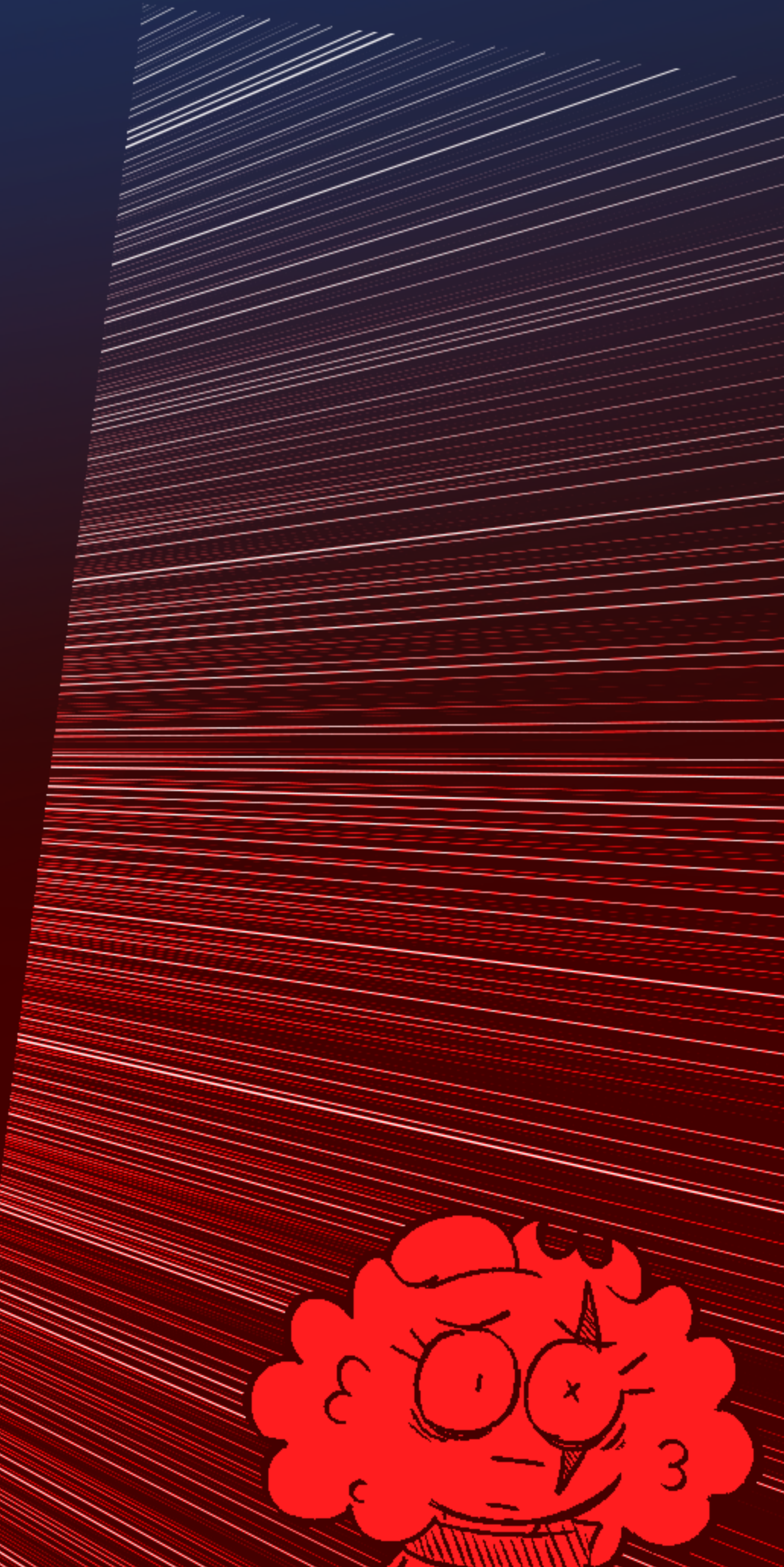
THAT- THAT CAN'T BE REFERRING TO ME, RIGHT?

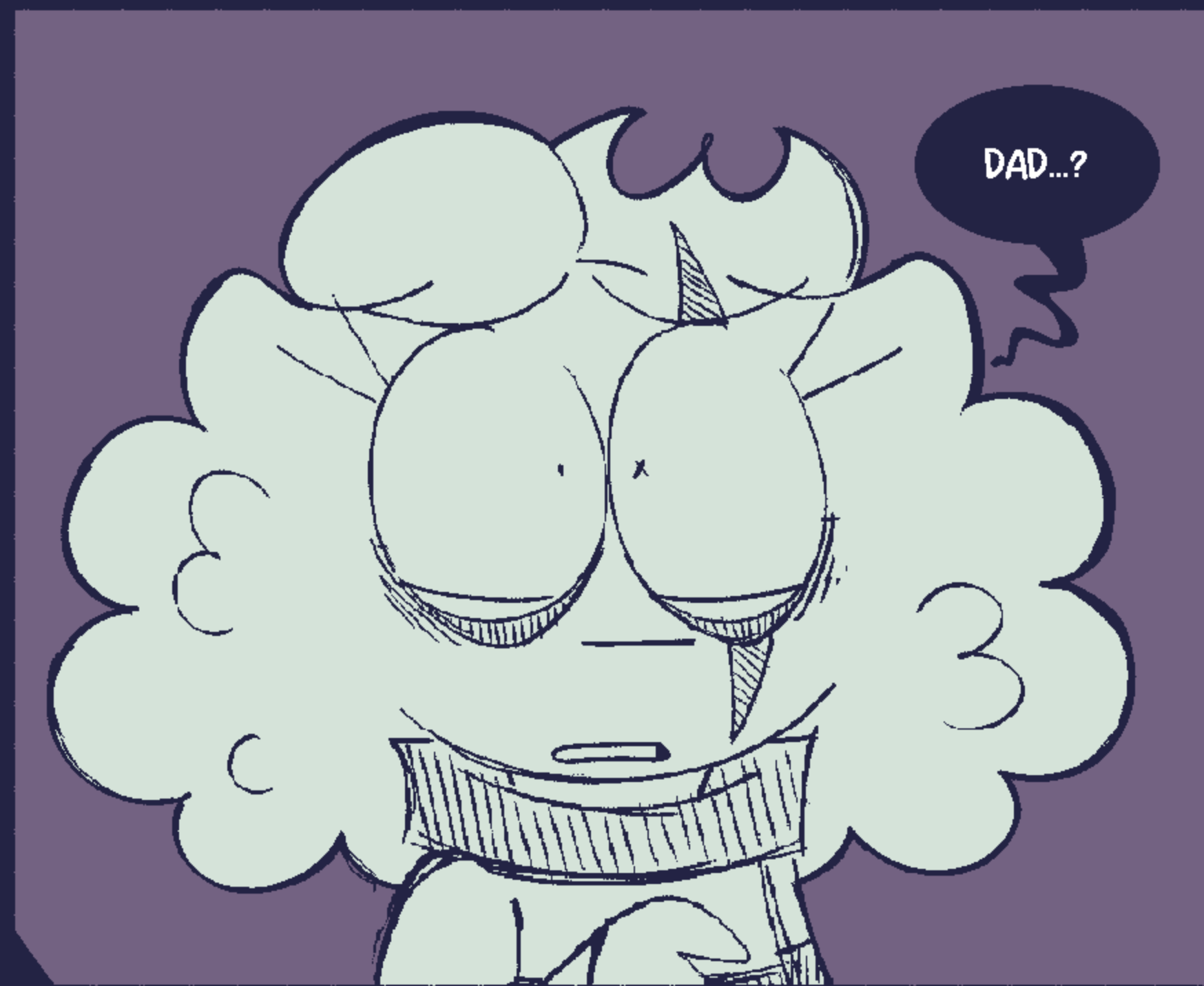
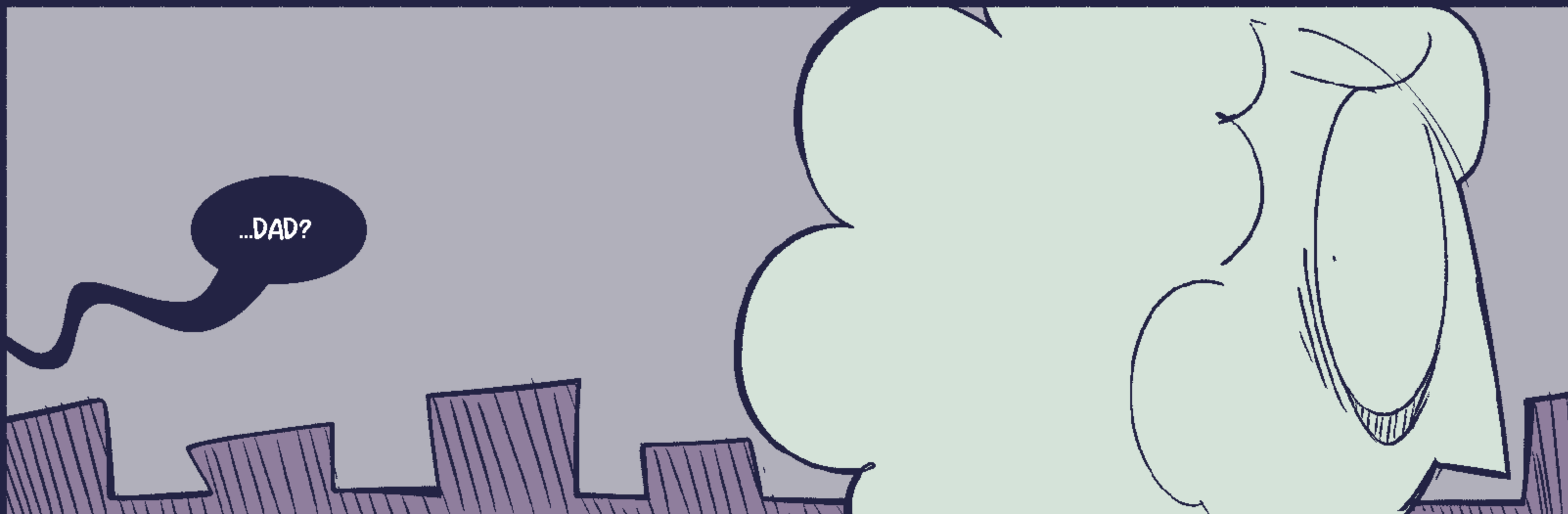
D-DAD SAID HE DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THE PROPHECY-

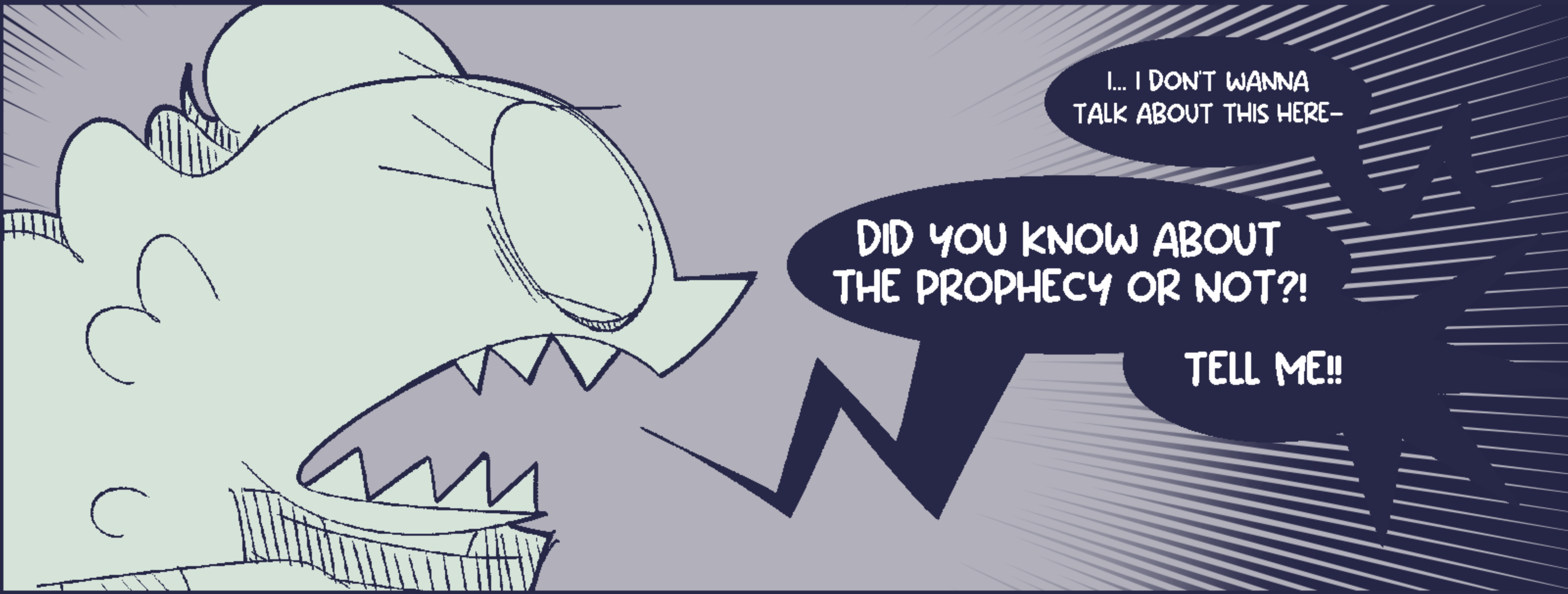


MAYBE HE LIED ABOUT THE DEMON MOM THING, B-BUT HE WOULDN'T LIE ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE THIS, R-RIGHT?

HE- HE WOULDN'T... WH-WHY WOULD...



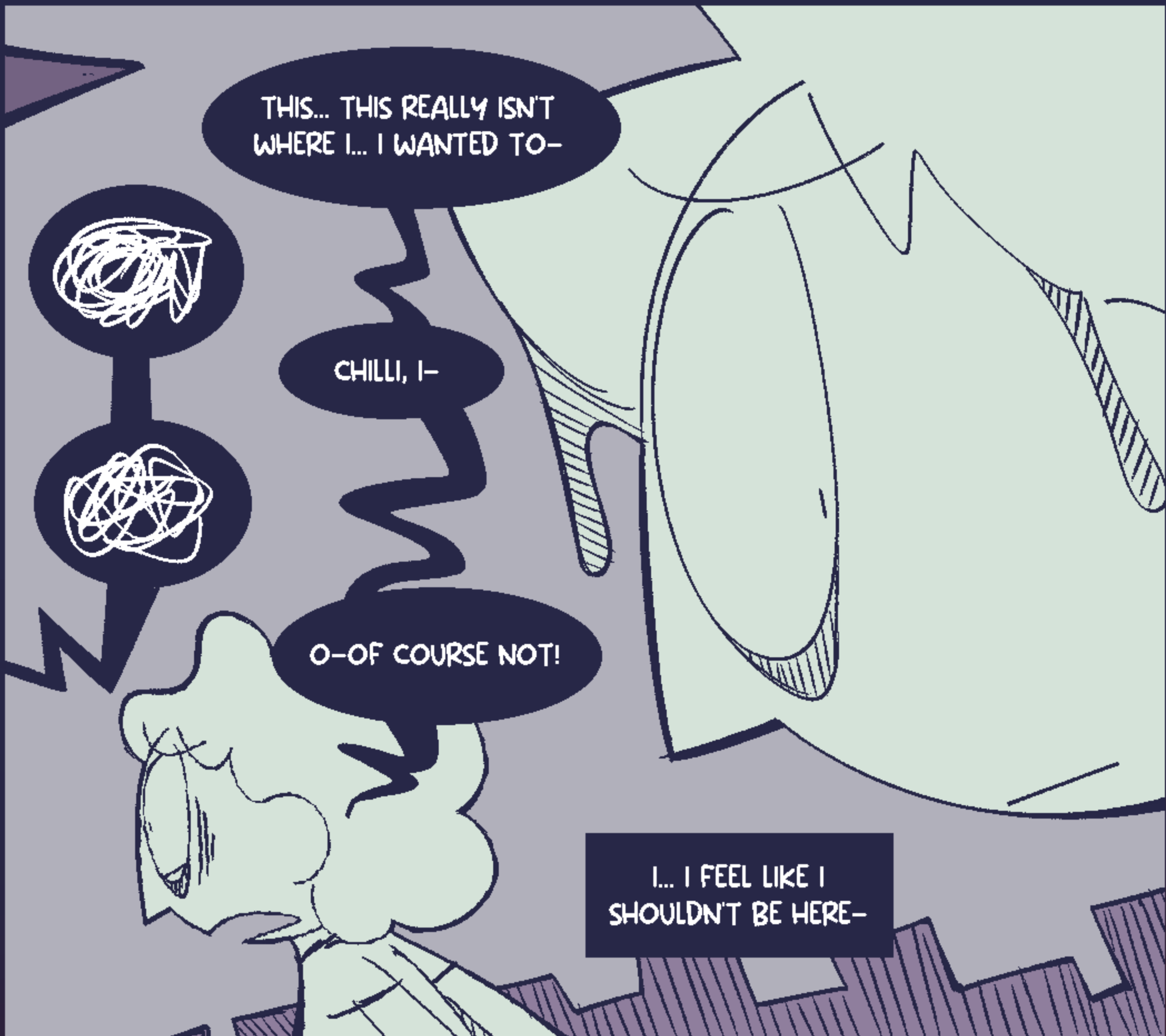




I... I DON'T WANNA
TALK ABOUT THIS HERE-

DID YOU KNOW ABOUT
THE PROPHECY OR NOT?!

TELL ME!!



THIS... THIS REALLY ISN'T
WHERE I... I WANTED TO-

CHILLI, I-

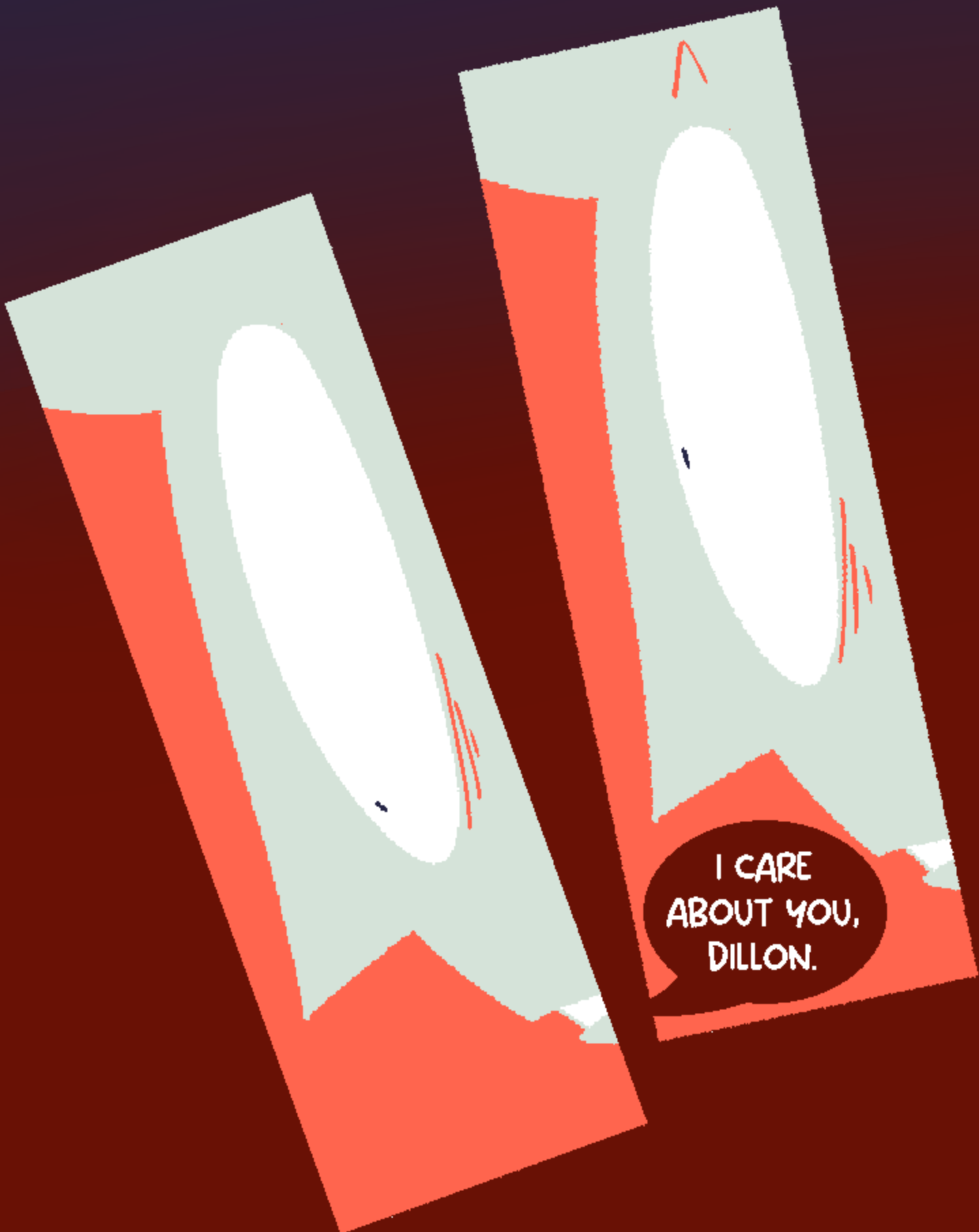
O-OF COURSE NOT!

I... I FEEL LIKE I
SHOULDN'T BE HERE-



OF COURSE I
CARE ABOUT YOU-

CARE ABOUT
CARE ABOUT
OUT YOU
YOU YOU

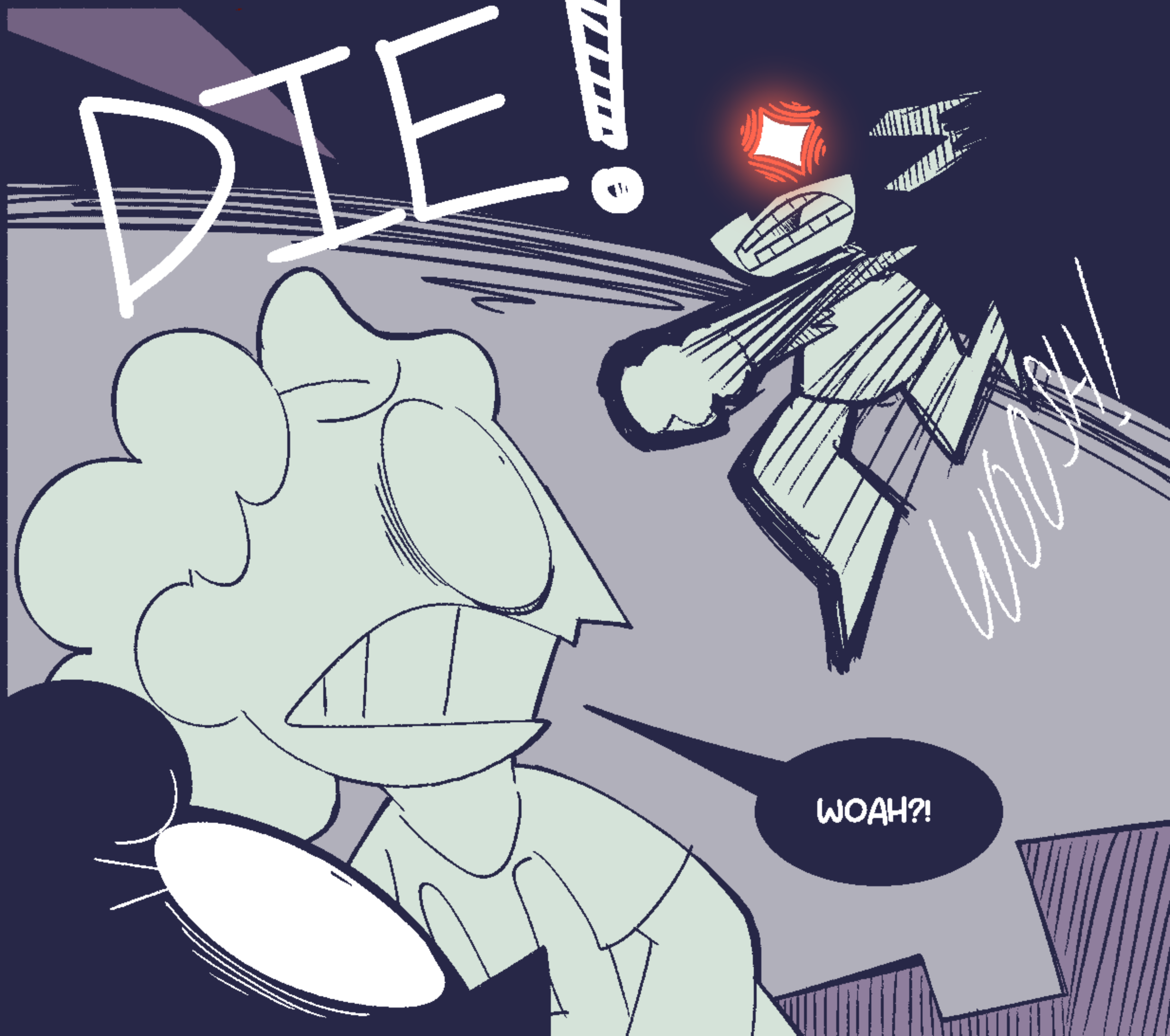
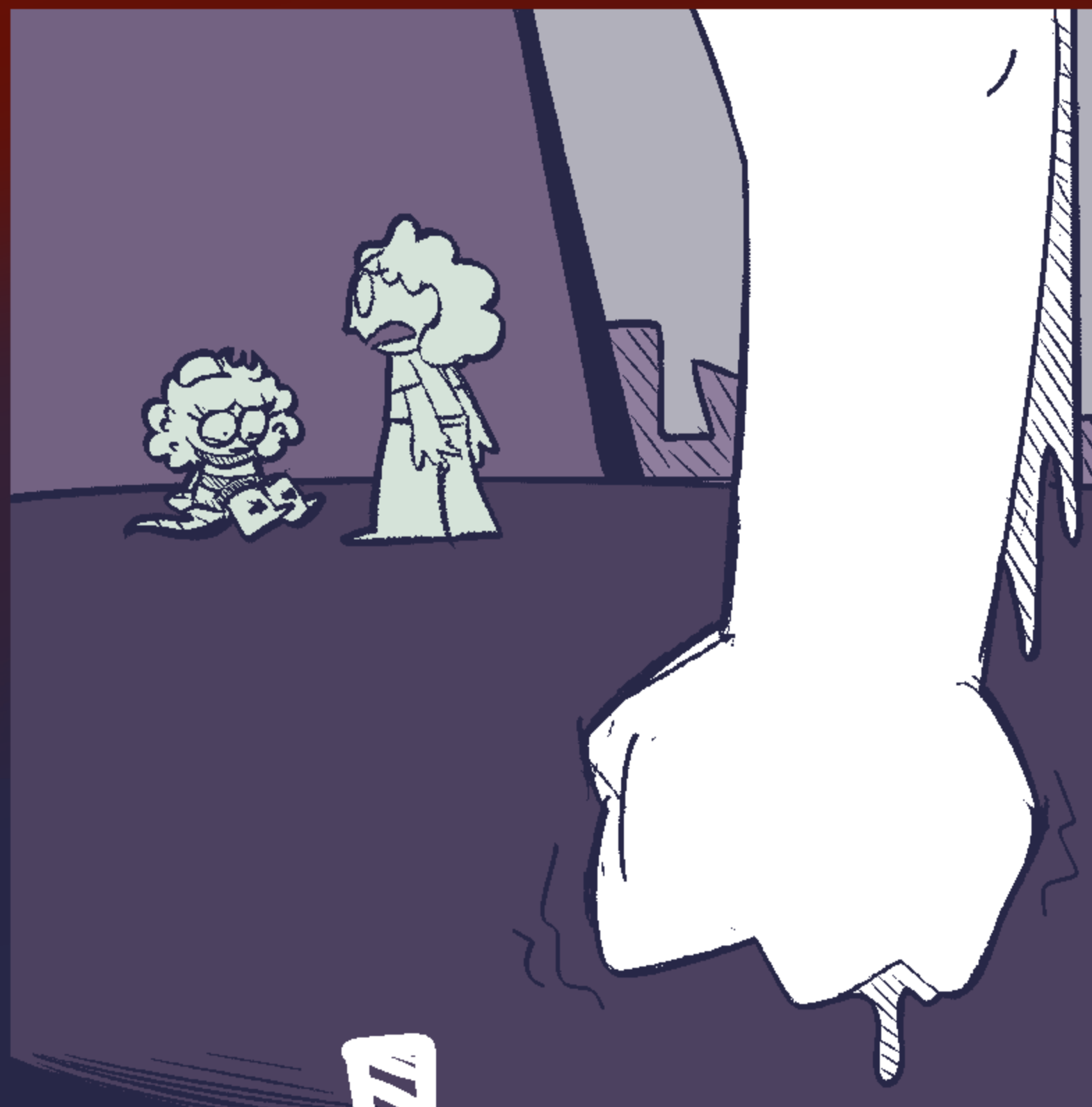
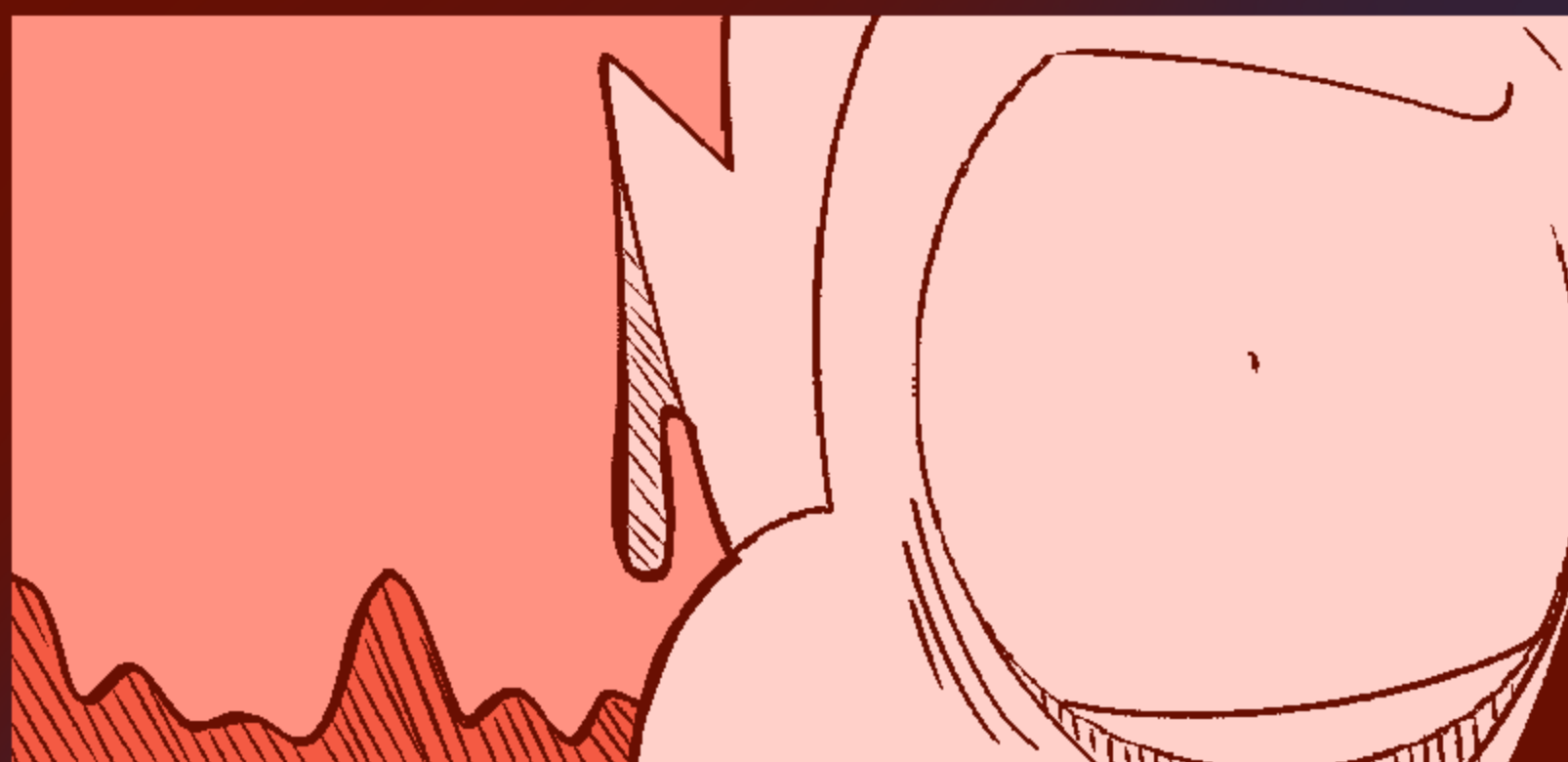


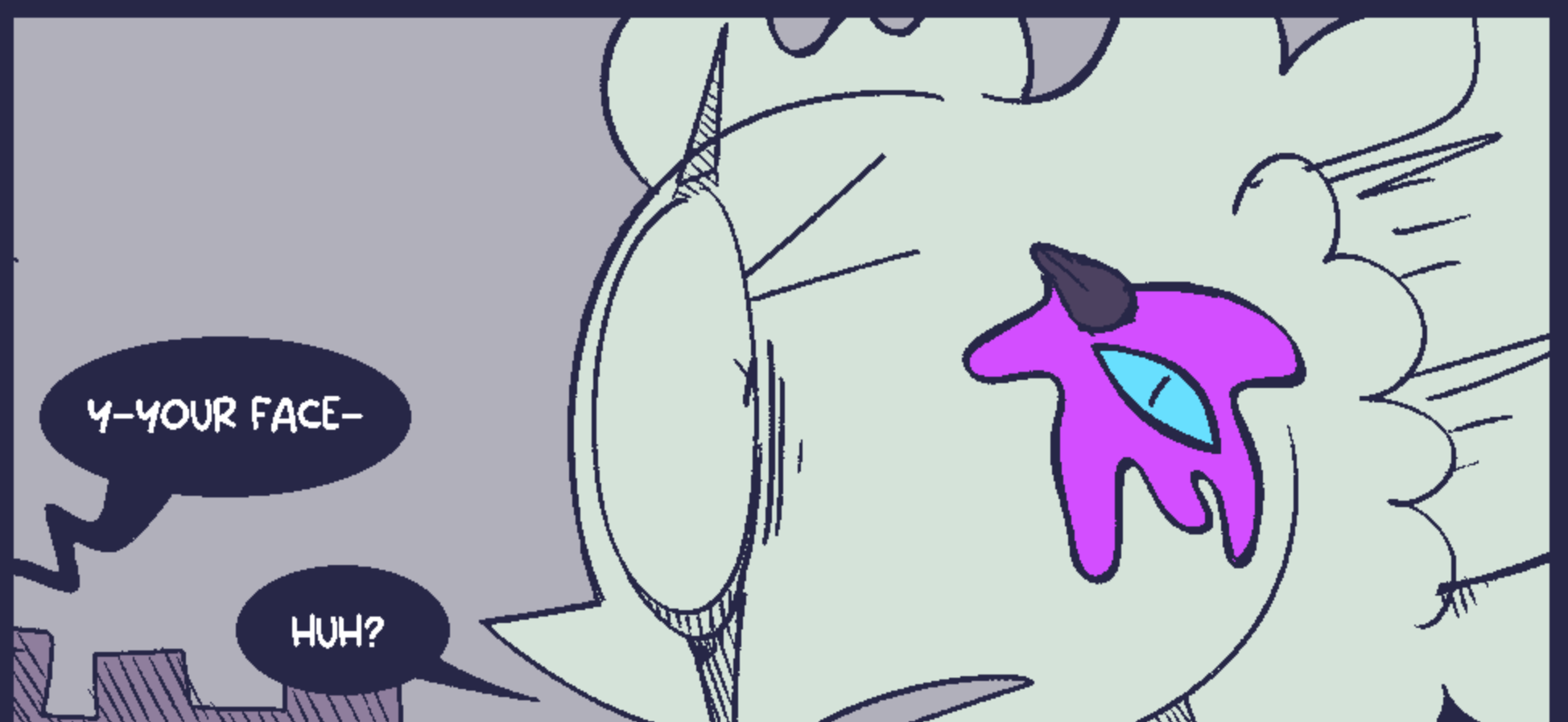
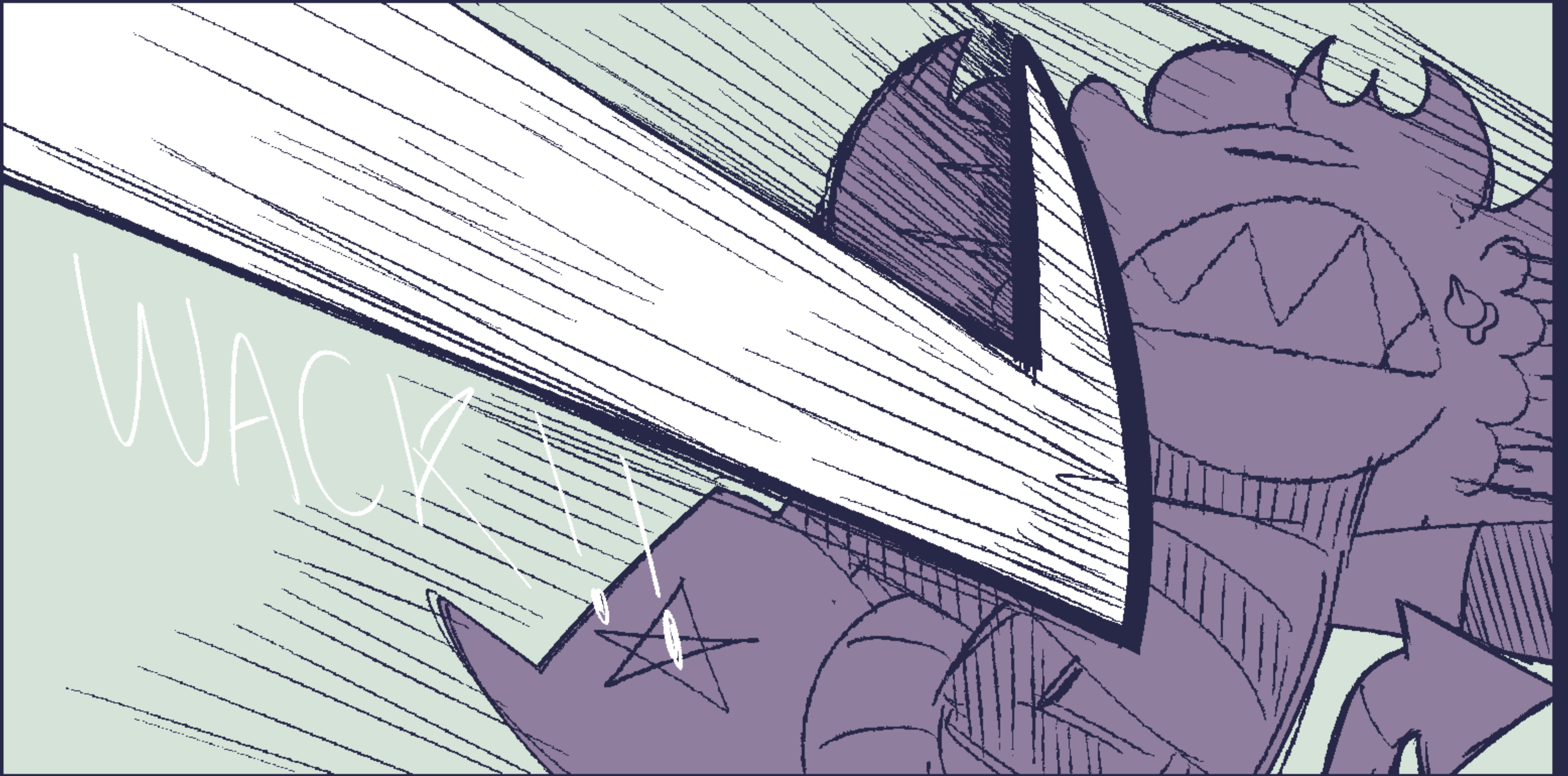
I CARE
ABOUT YOU,
DILLON.

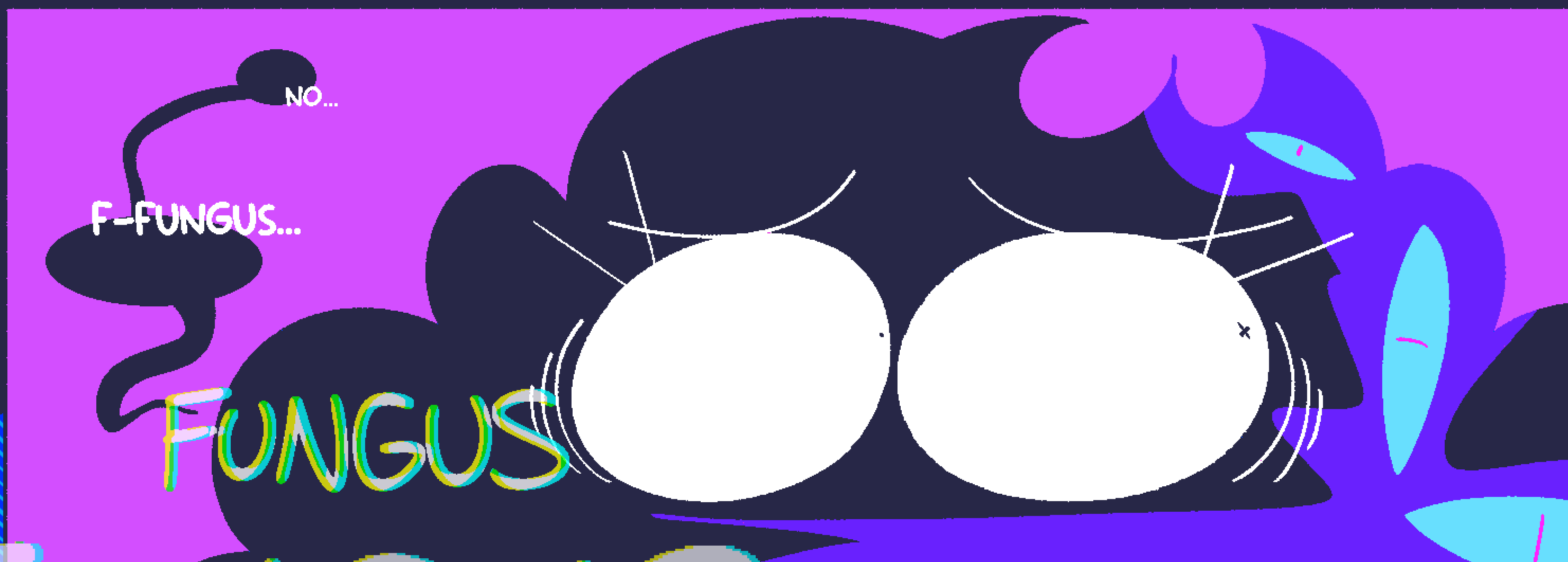
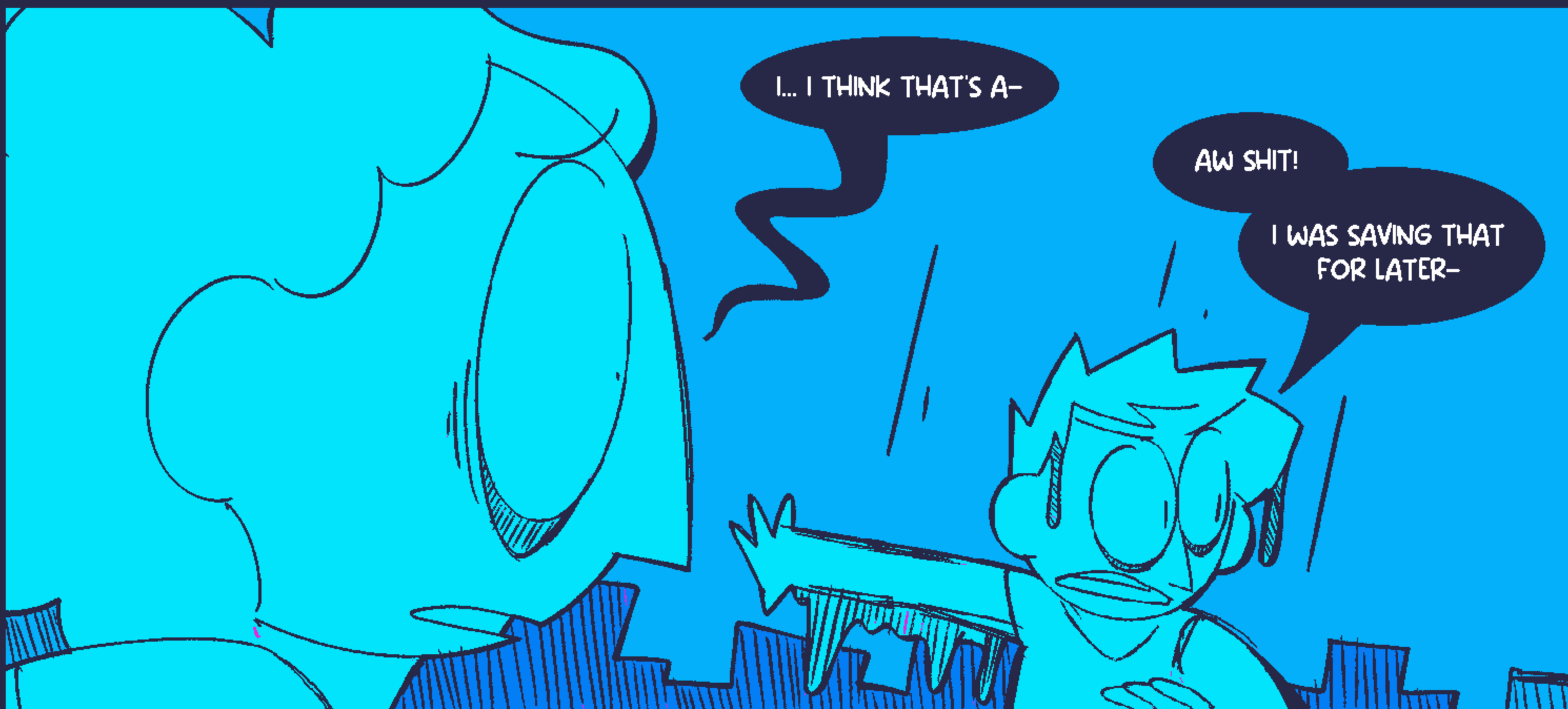


YOU ALWAYS SAY THAT,
BUT I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S
TRUE...

DILLON, IF I DIDN'T
CARE ABOUT YOU, I WOULDN'T
HAVE SPENT SO MUCH TIME
AND MONEY FIXING YOU OF
YOUR CRYPTID PROBLEM!







FUNGUS

NEXT TIME:
SEASON FINALE!

CHILLI

THE VAMPIRE OPOSSUM

SALONY CO.



#28

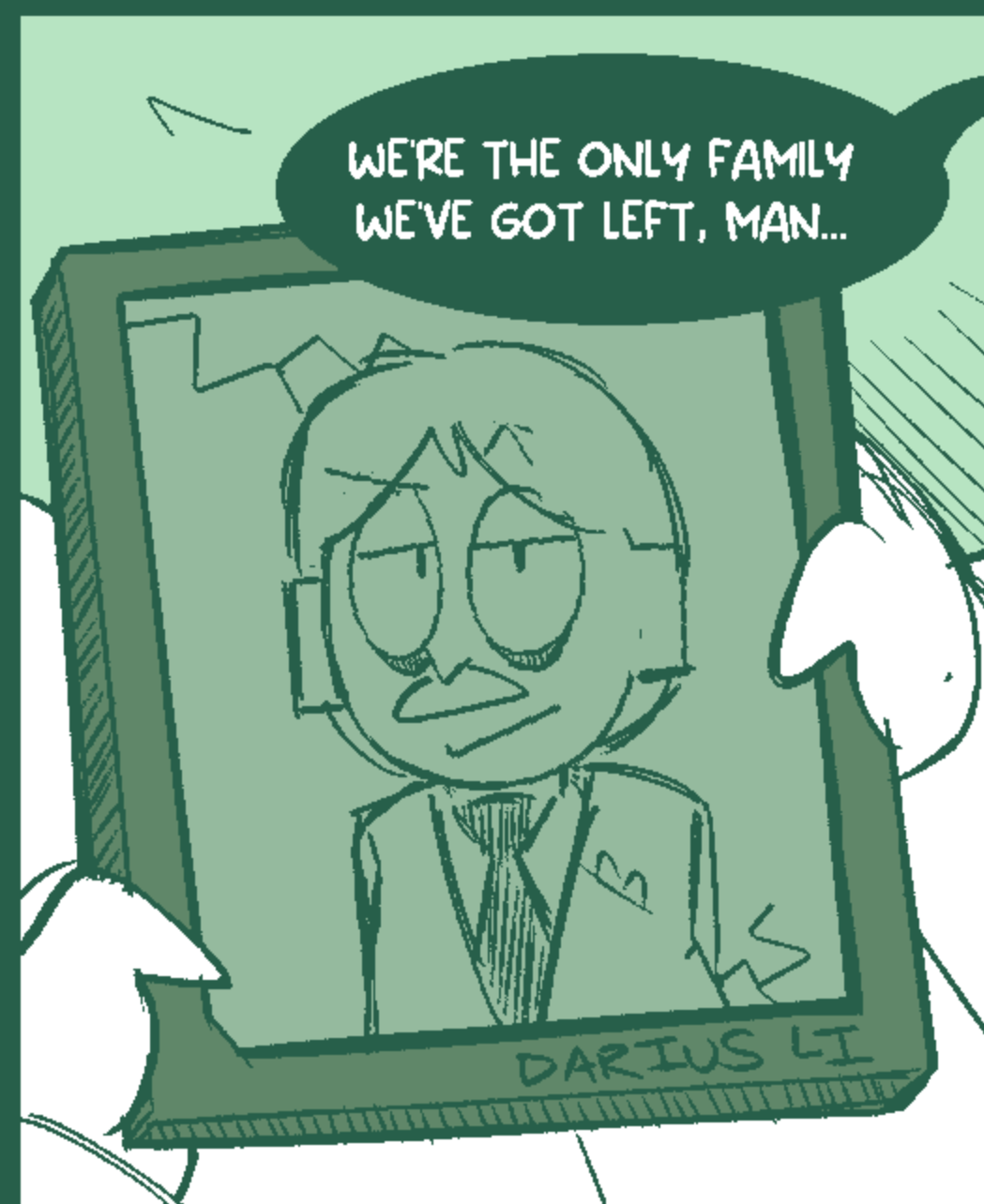


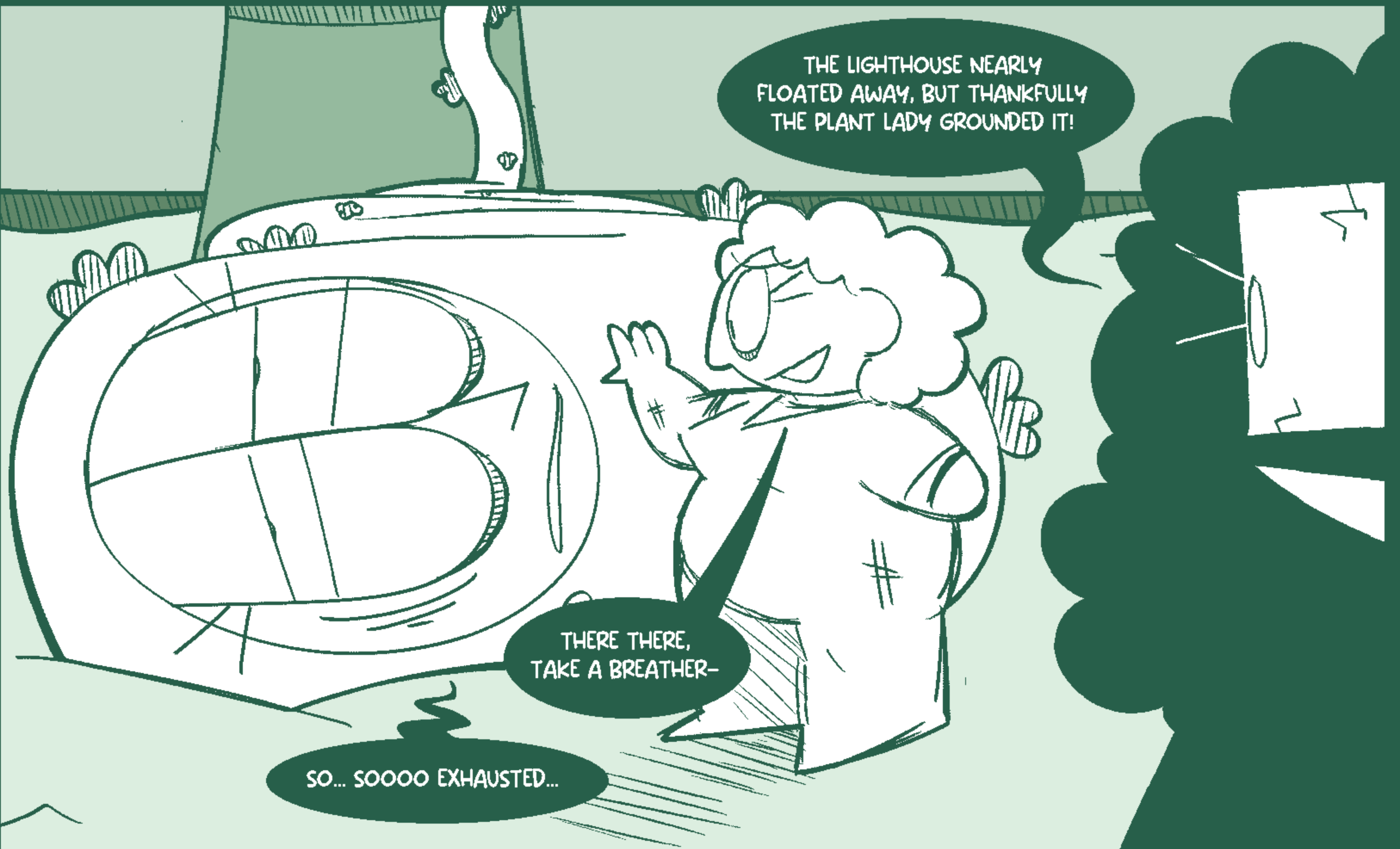
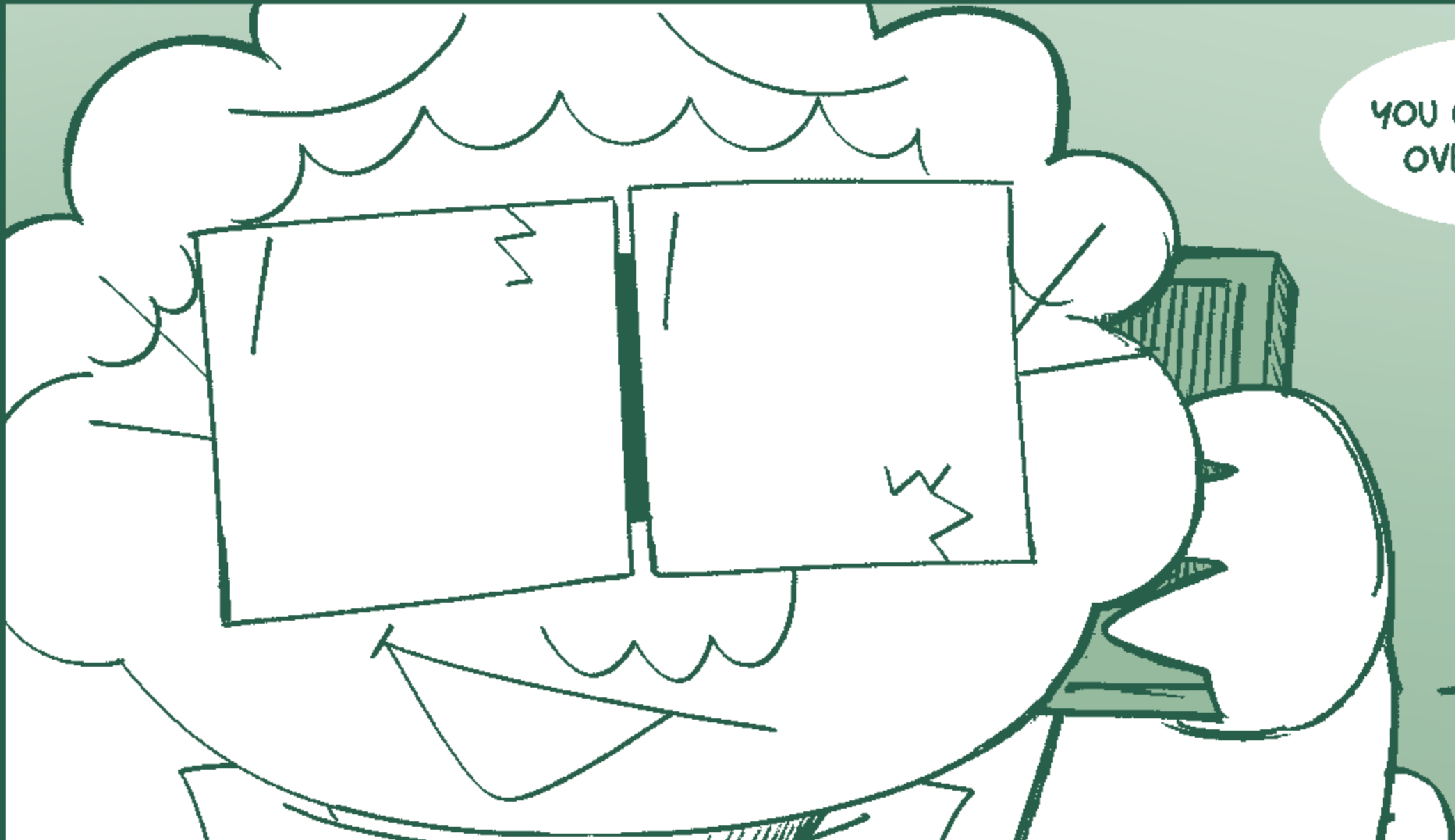
SEASON FINALE

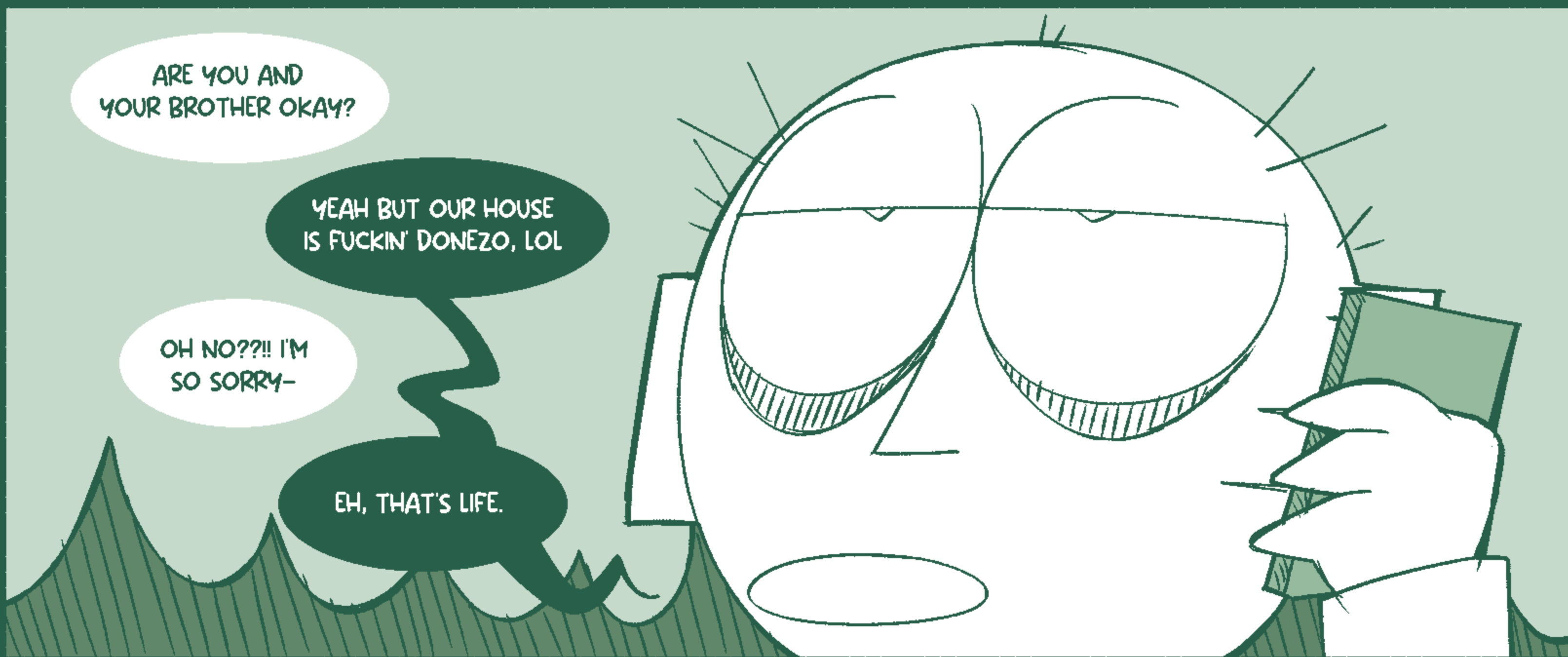
"RED MEAT", PART FOUR

TW//

**BLOOD
BRIGHT COLORS
CORPSE
CORRUPTION
DEATH
EYES
FIRE/SMOKE
GORE
GUNS
KNIFE**







ARE YOU AND YOUR BROTHER OKAY?

YEAH BUT OUR HOUSE IS FUCKIN' DONEZO, LOL

OH NO??!! I'M SO SORRY-

EH, THAT'S LIFE.



IS ILI WITH YOU GUYS?

NO, WE DON'T KNOW WHERE SHE-

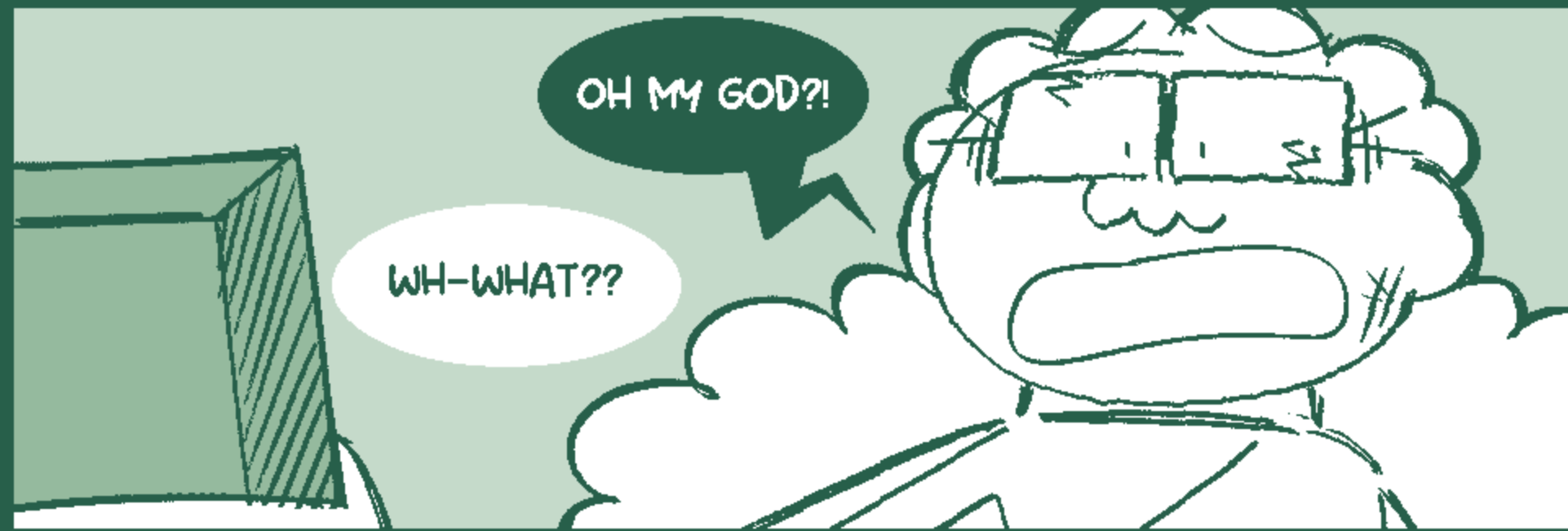
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OOP, HOLD ON! SHE JUST TEXTED ME!

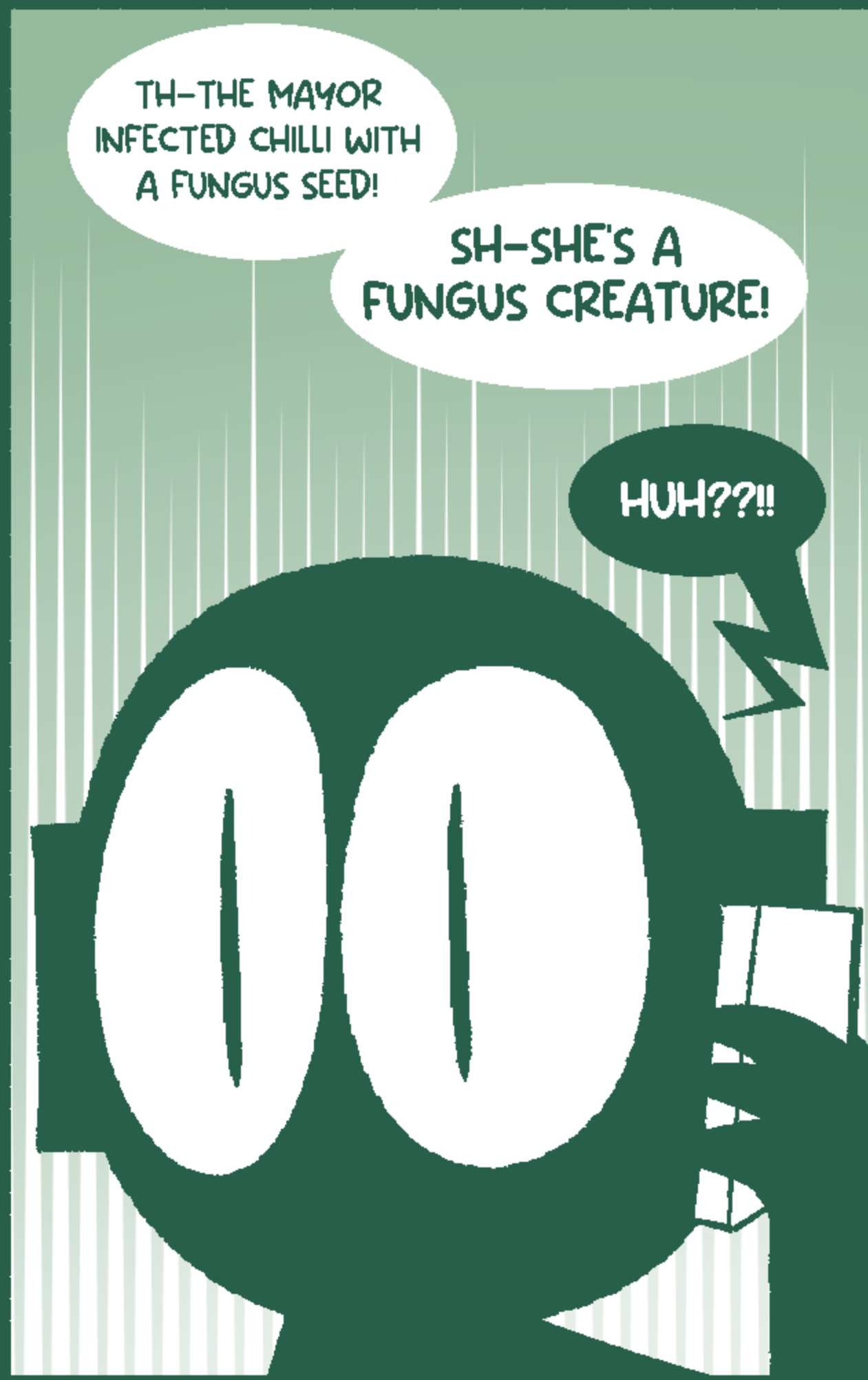


OH GOOD, SHE'S WITH CHILLI!



OH MY GOD?!

WH-WHAT??



TH-THE MAYOR INFECTED CHILLI WITH A FUNGUS SEED!

SH-SHE'S A FUNGUS CREATURE!

HUH??!!

GOOD GOING,
GEORGE!

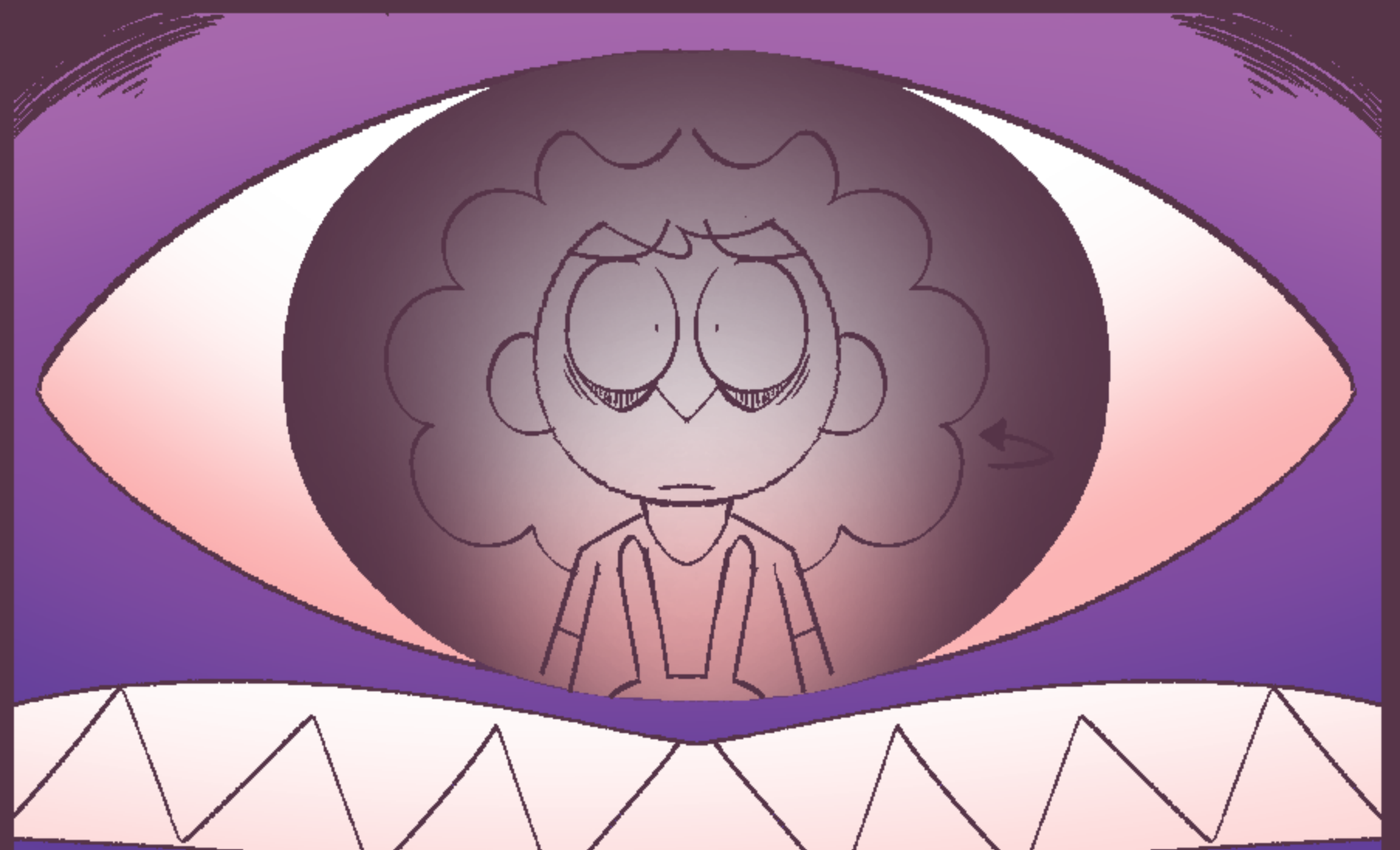
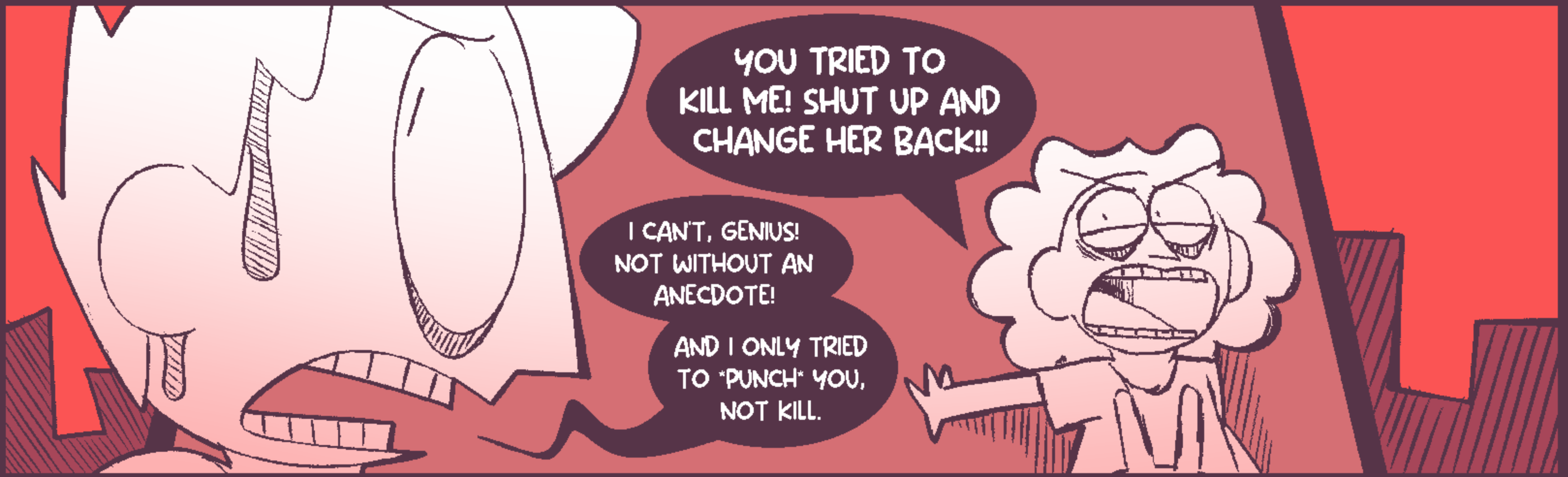
THAT WAS MY ONLY
FUNGUS SEED, AND YOU
MADE ME LOSE IT BECAUSE
YOU REMINDED ME OF MY
DEAD FATHER!

I WAS GONNA LIKE,
USE IT ON A STRAY DOG,
AND SEE WHAT KINDA COOL
MONSTER IT'D TURN INTO!

MAYBE USE IT AS
A BODYGUARD TO ESCAPE
THE COVE, I DON'T KNOW!

AND NOW CHILLI'S
A FUNGUS MONSTER!
THIS IS ALL YOUR
FAULT!





I'M SORRY.

I LIED TO YOU. NOT MALICIOUSLY,
BUT IT WAS STILL HURTFUL TO DO.

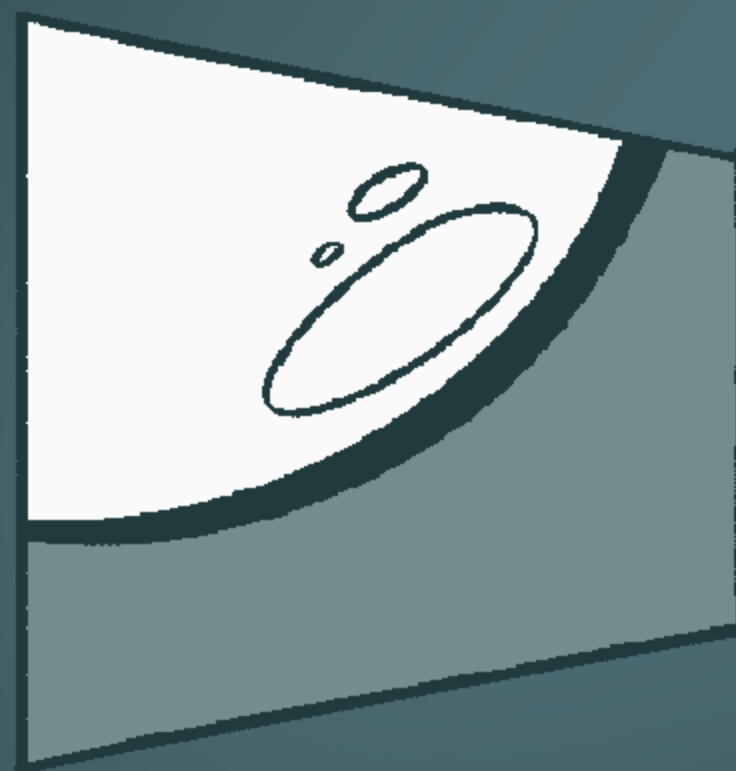
YOU DESERVE TO KNOW...
THE FULL TRUTH.



THAT NIGHT...
I COULDN'T TAKE IT
ANYMORE.

I HAD A BREAKDOWN.
I WAS SICK OF THE WORLD,
AND OF LIFE.

I WAS READY TO GIVE UP.
BUT THAT'S WHEN YOUR
MOTHER—



—TOLD ME EVERYTHING.

THAT SHE WAS A DEMON.
ONE-HALF OF THE DAUGHTER OF SATAN.
THAT THERE WAS A PROPHECY... THAT WOULD
ENSURE THE WORLD'S DESTRUCTION...

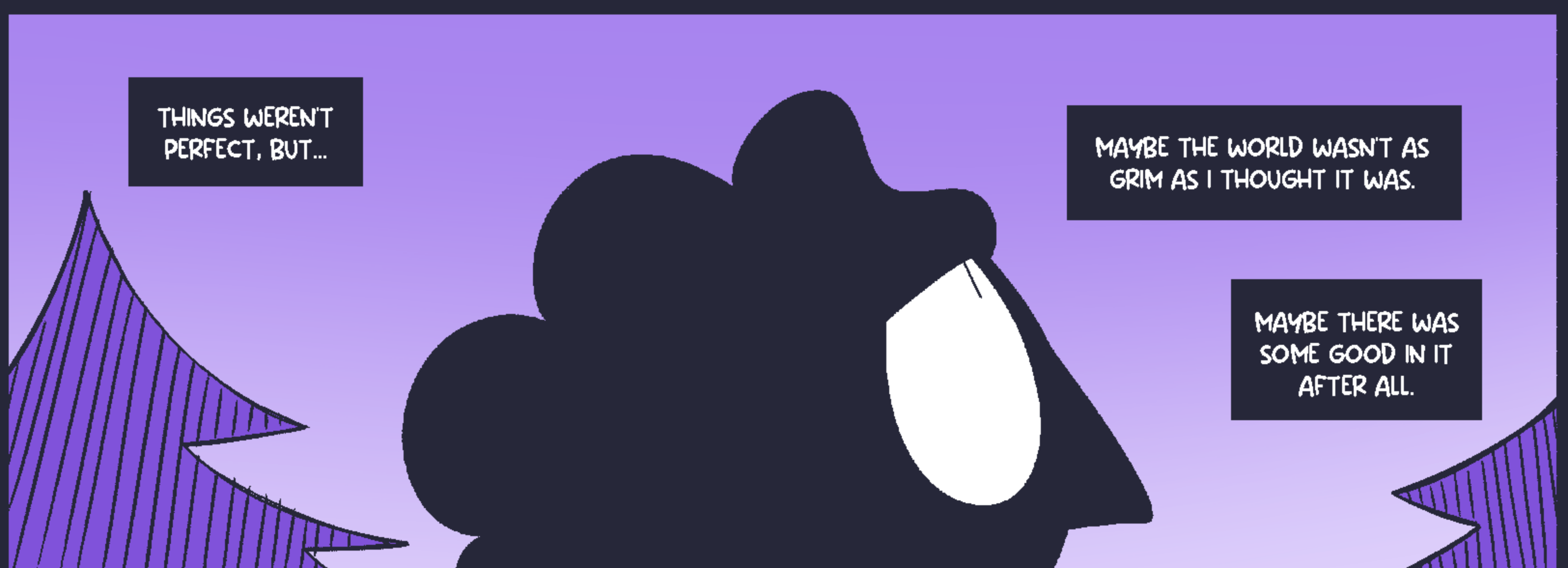
AND THAT I COULD
TAKE PART IN IT.

I WANTED NOTHING MORE THAN
FOR THE WORLD TO BURN. AND YOUR
MOTHER... WAS MY ONLY LIGHT.
IT WAS BLINDING.



SO... I AGREED TO TAKE PART.

BUT THEN, AS THE MONTHS
WENT BY, MY LIFE... SLOWLY...
BEGAN TO LOOK UP.



FINALLY...

YOU WERE BORN.

AND AS I HELD YOU IN MY ARMS,
I THOUGHT ABOUT YOUR FUTURE...

I WAS EXCITED ABOUT THE LIFE
YOU'D LEAD, AND WHAT YOU'D
GROW UP TO BE.

YOUR FIRST STEPS, YOUR
FIRST WORDS... THE FRIENDS
YOU'D MAKE, THE HOBBIES
YOU'D BE INTO.

NO MATTER HOW YOU'D
LIVE, I'D BE THERE BY YOUR SIDE,
SUPPORTING AND LOVING YOU.

BUT... YOU WEREN'T
BORN TO LIVE—

YOU WERE BORN TO DESTROY.
I HELPED BRING YOU INTO THIS WORLD
FOR STUPID, SELFISH REASONS.

REASONS I DIDN'T EVEN
AGREE WITH ANYMORE!

HOW COULD I DO THAT TO YOU?
YOU DESERVED BETTER THAN THAT.
YOU DESERVED... TO LIVE.



I WOULDN'T TELL YOUR MOTHER ABOUT MY CHANGE OF HEART, BUT-

RIGHT THEN AND THERE, I VOWED YOU'D NEVER GROW UP TO BECOME WHAT THE PROPHECY SAID YOU'D BECOME...

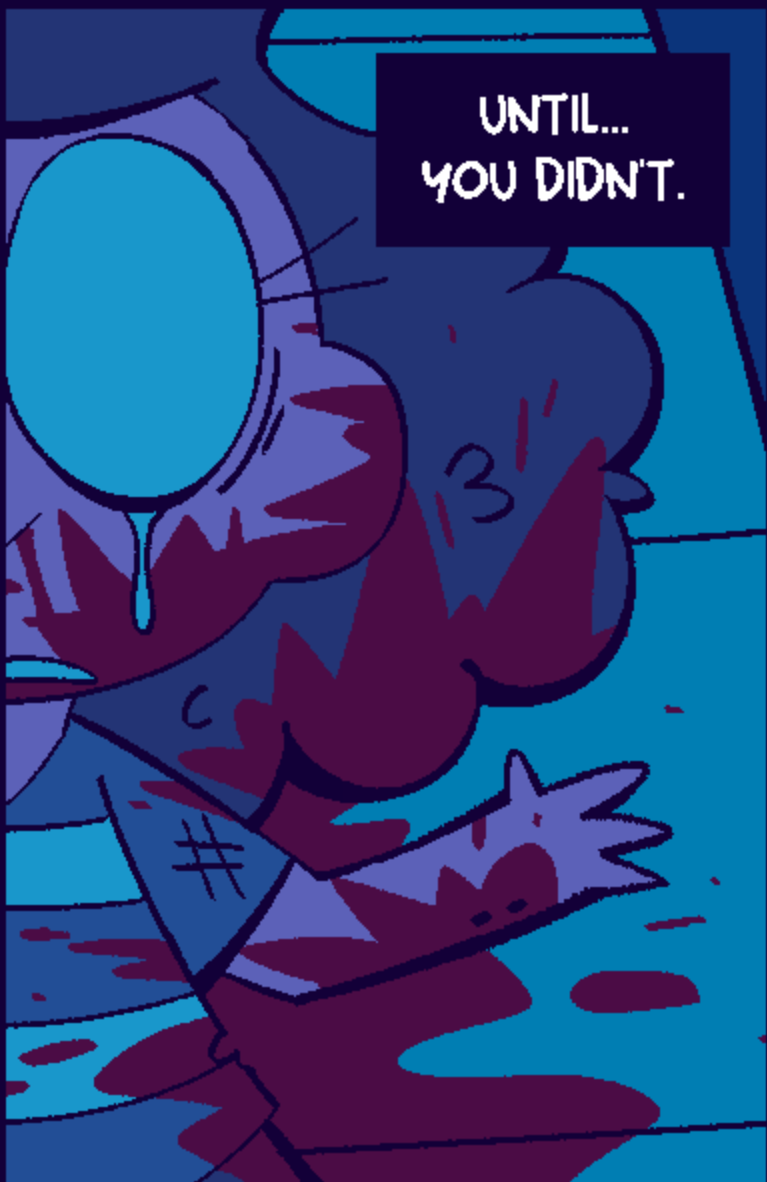
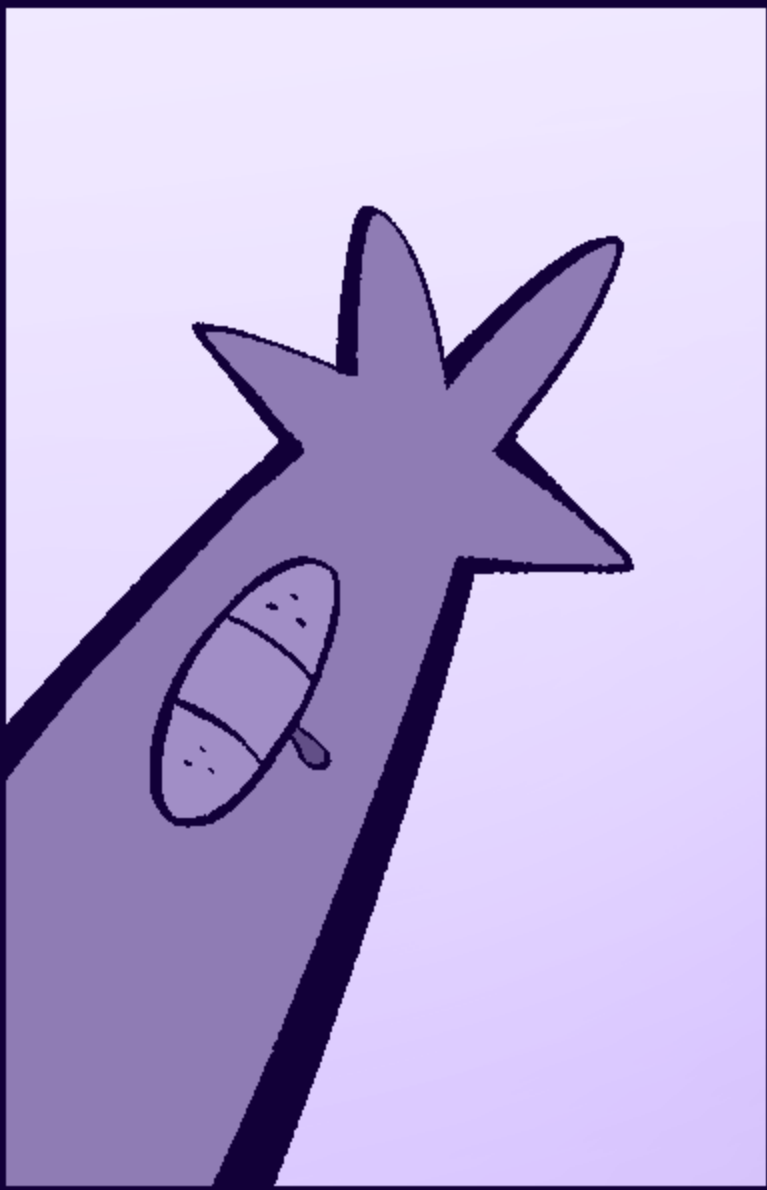
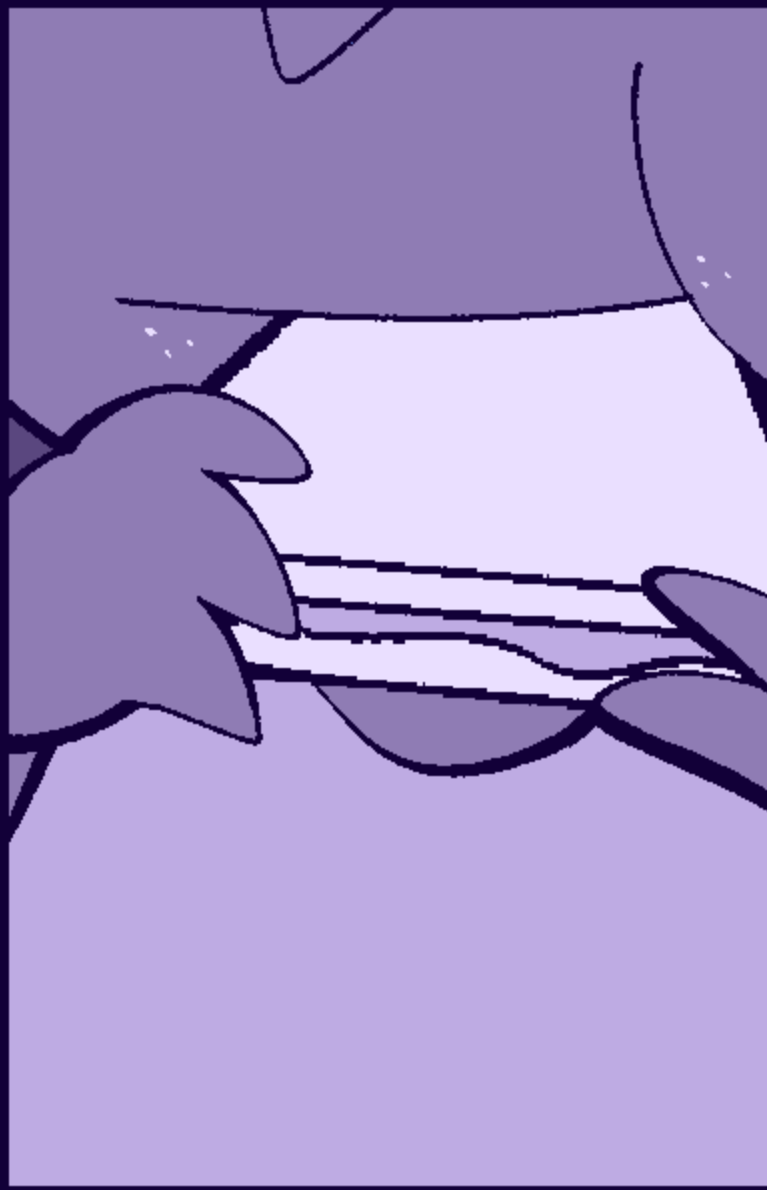
I WAS DETERMINED TO GIVE YOU THE BEST LIFE I COULD.

I TOLD YOUR MOTHER THAT I WANTED US TO RAISE YOU AS NORMAL AS POSSIBLE. NO DEMONS. NO PROPHECY.

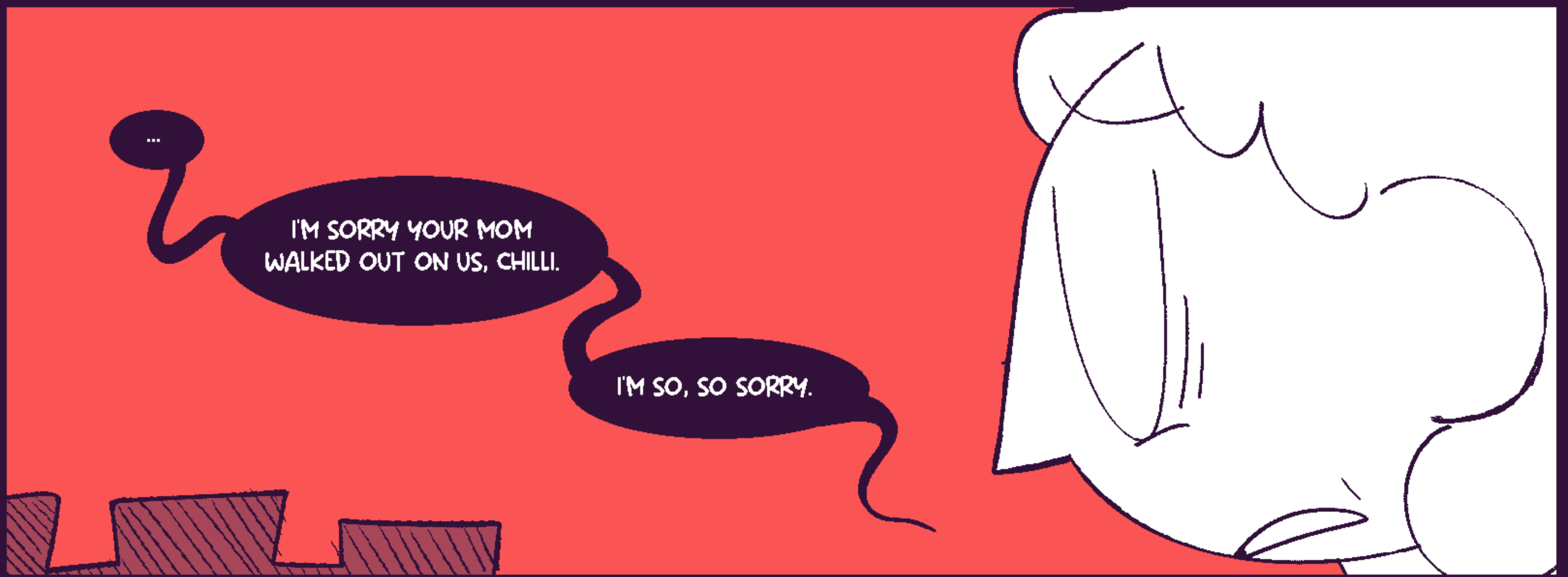
TO HER CREDIT, SHE WAS UNDERSTANDING. SHE AGREED.



AND SO... YOU LIVED.

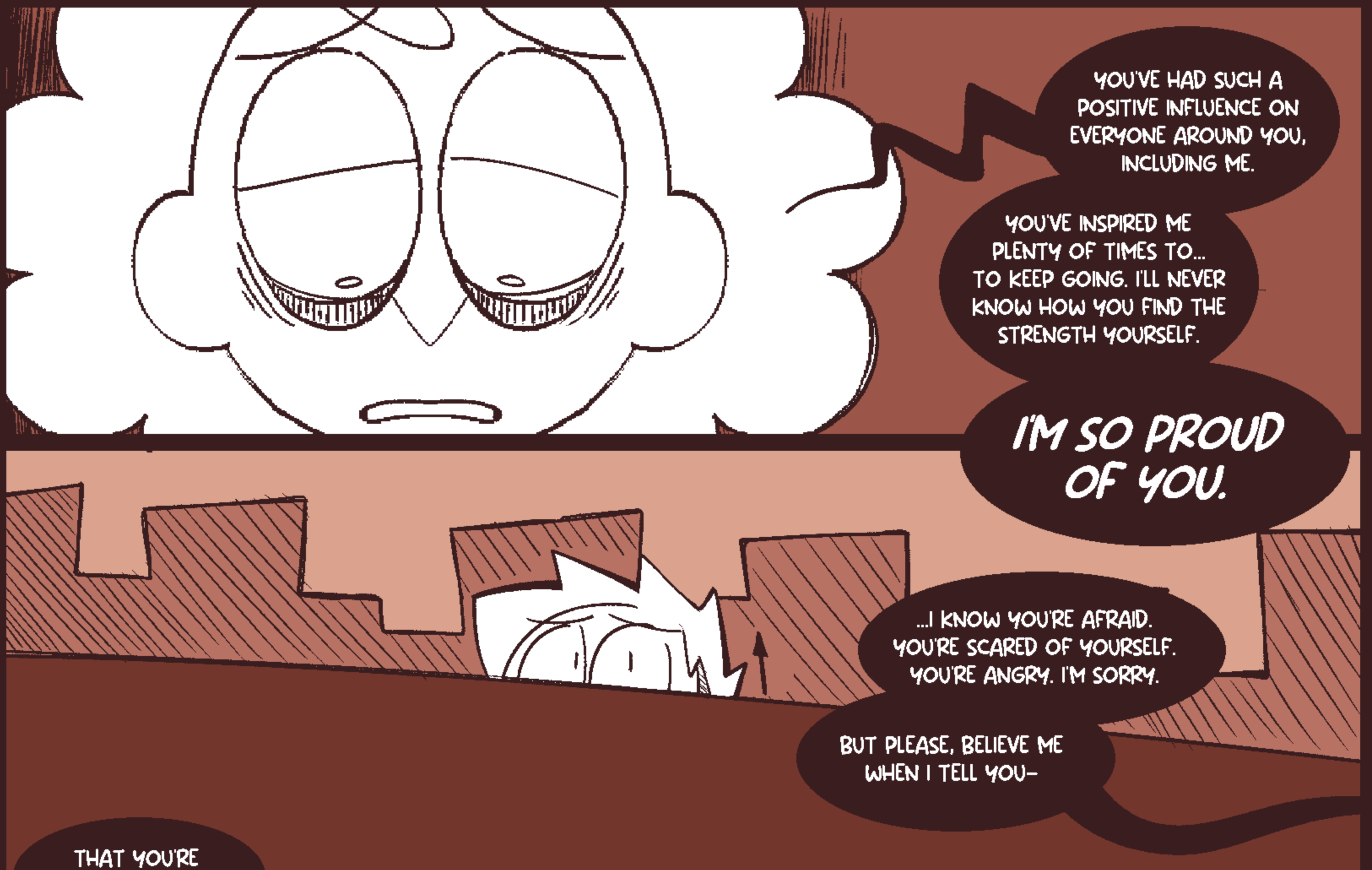


UNTIL... YOU DIDN'T.



BUT IF SHE REALLY THOUGHT,
AFTER RAISING YOU FOR NINE YEARS,
AFTER SEEING YOU GROW AND LEARN AND
EMBRACE THE GOOD IN THE WORLD—

—THAT YOU WERE STILL
"DESTINED" TO DESTROY IT?
SHE WAS FOOLING HERSELF.



YOU'VE HAD SUCH A
POSITIVE INFLUENCE ON
EVERYONE AROUND YOU,
INCLUDING ME.

YOU'VE INSPIRED ME
PLENTY OF TIMES TO...
TO KEEP GOING. I'LL NEVER
KNOW HOW YOU FIND THE
STRENGTH YOURSELF.

*I'M SO PROUD
OF YOU.*

...I KNOW YOU'RE AFRAID.
YOU'RE SCARED OF YOURSELF.
YOU'RE ANGRY. I'M SORRY.

BUT PLEASE, BELIEVE ME
WHEN I TELL YOU—

THAT YOU'RE
NOT A MONSTER—

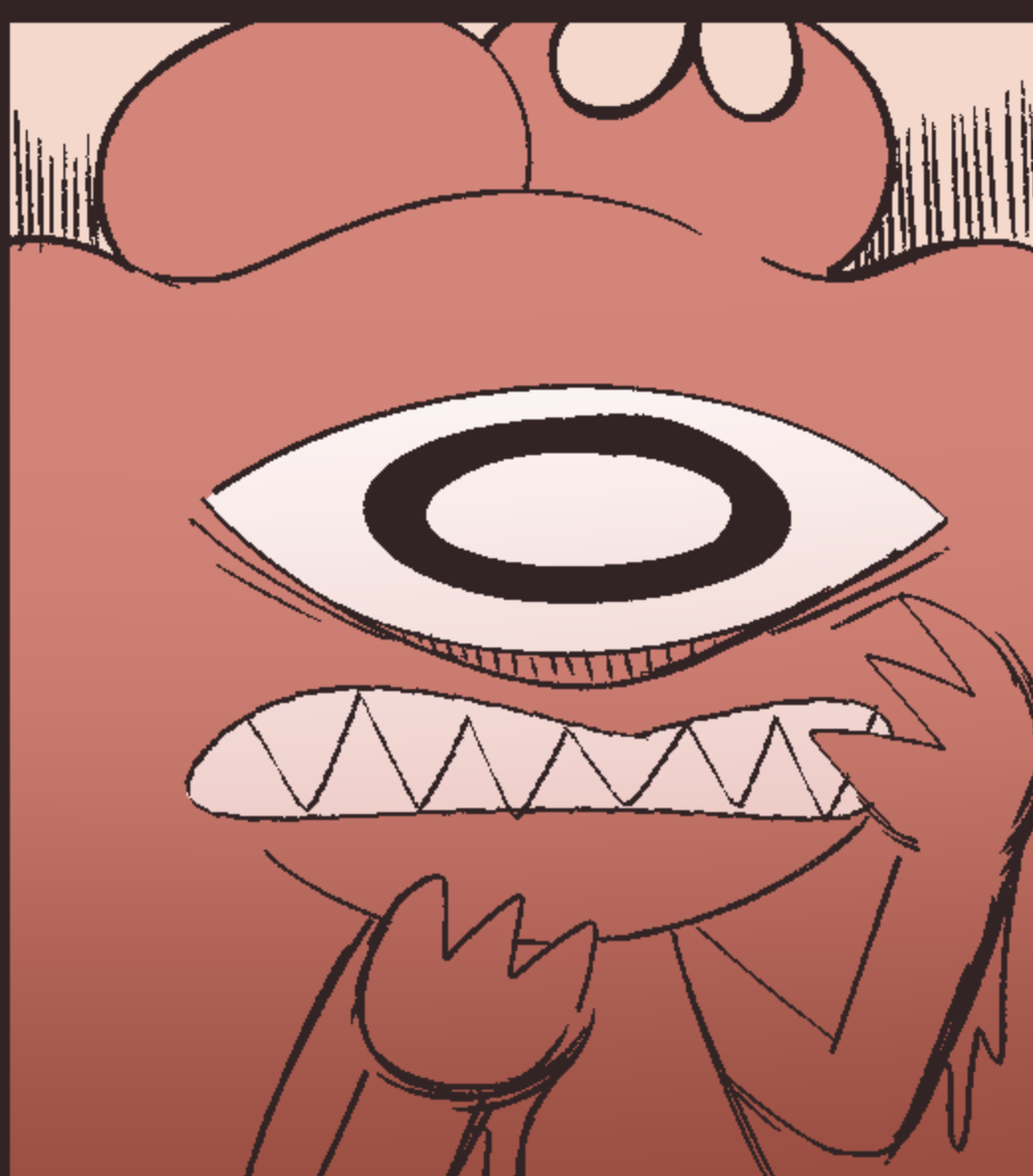
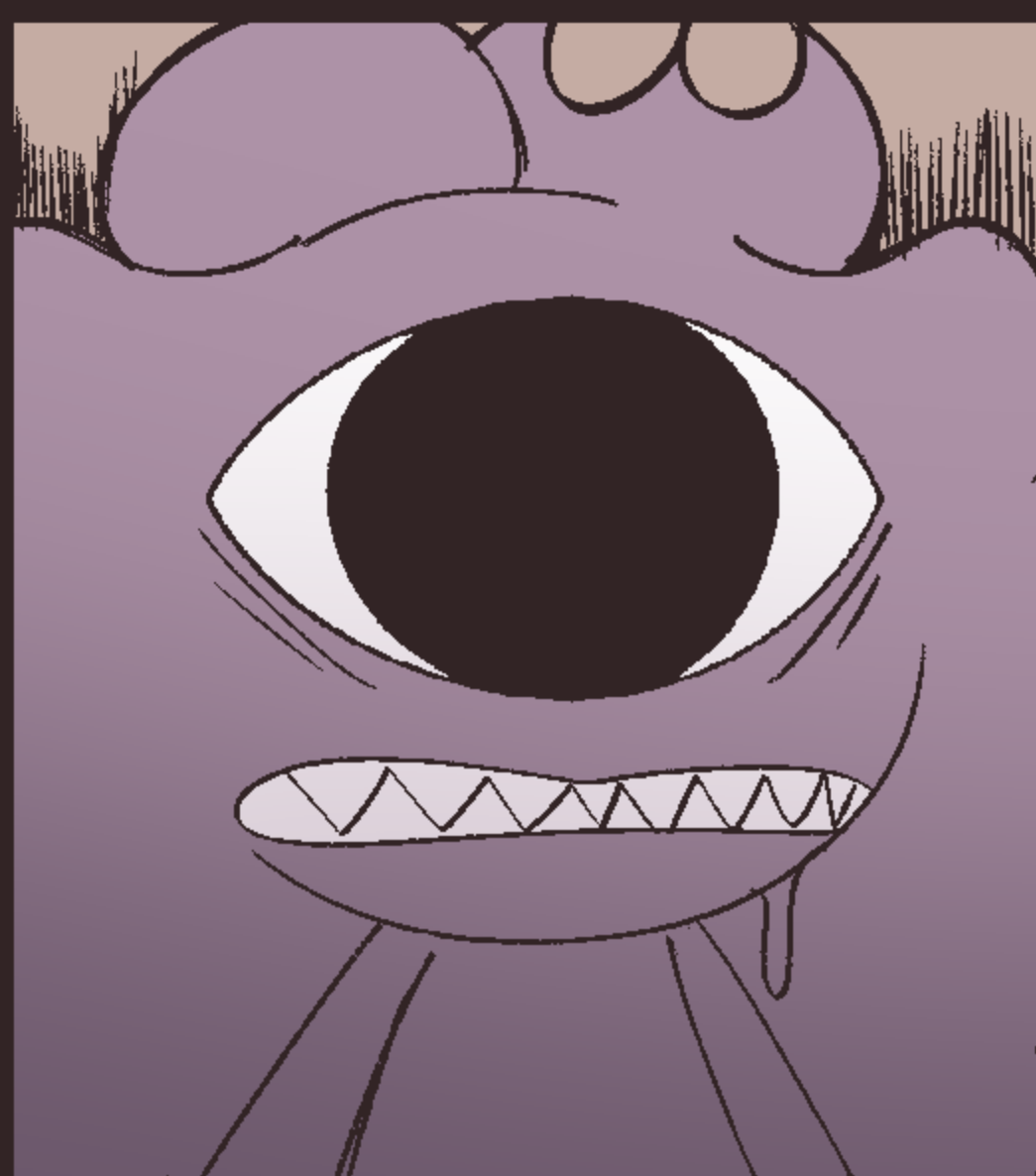
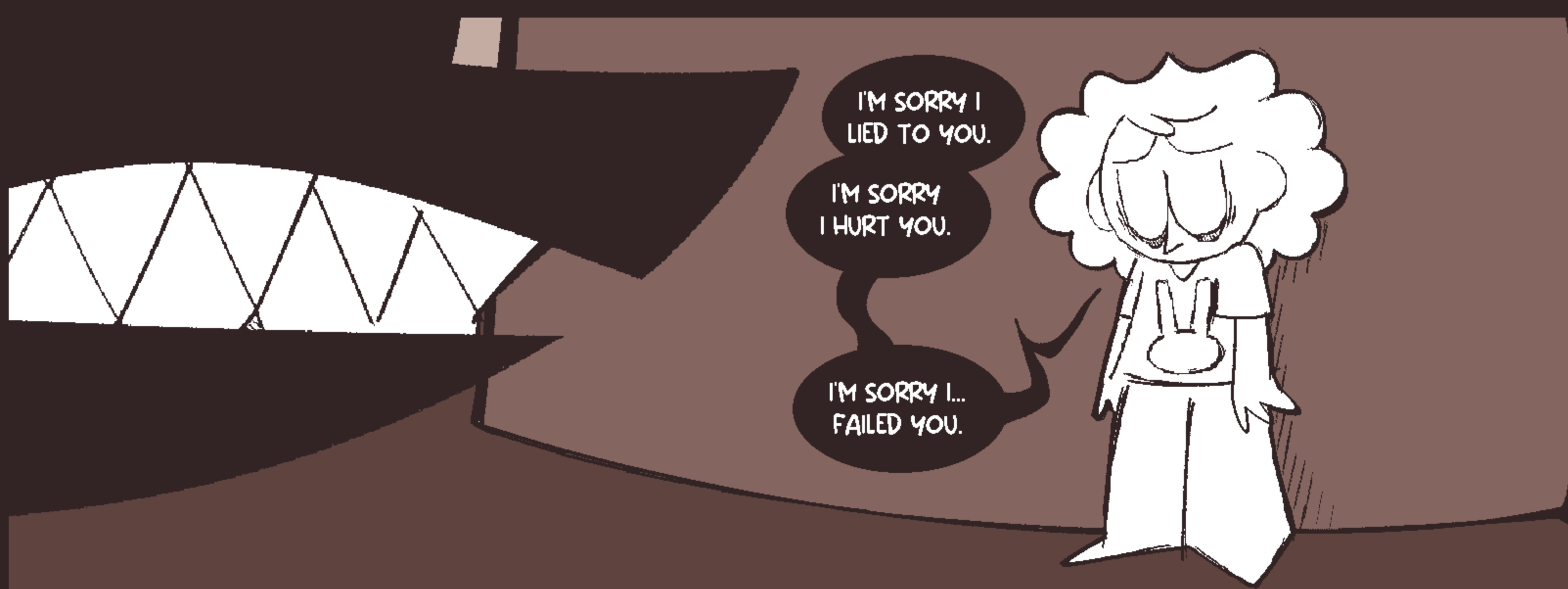
OR A WEAPON—

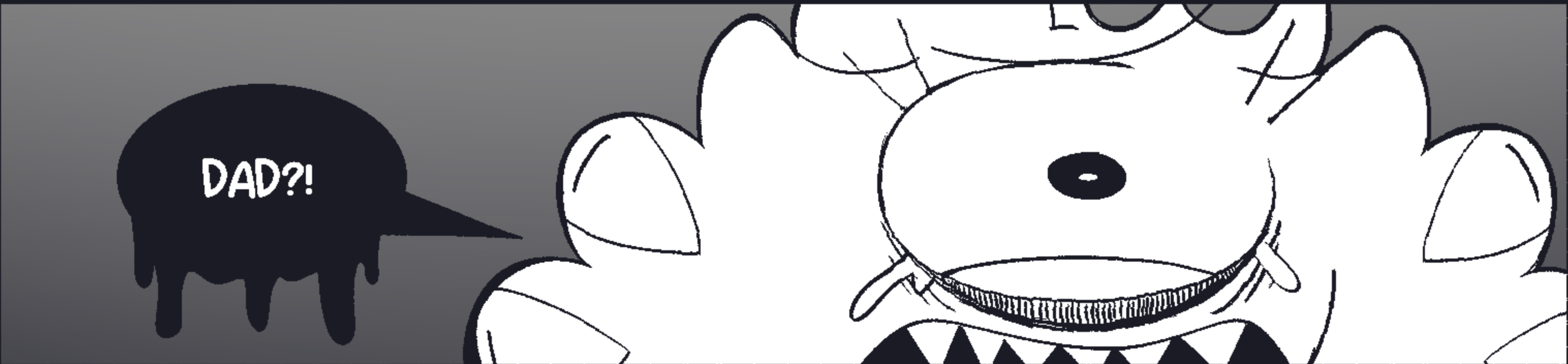
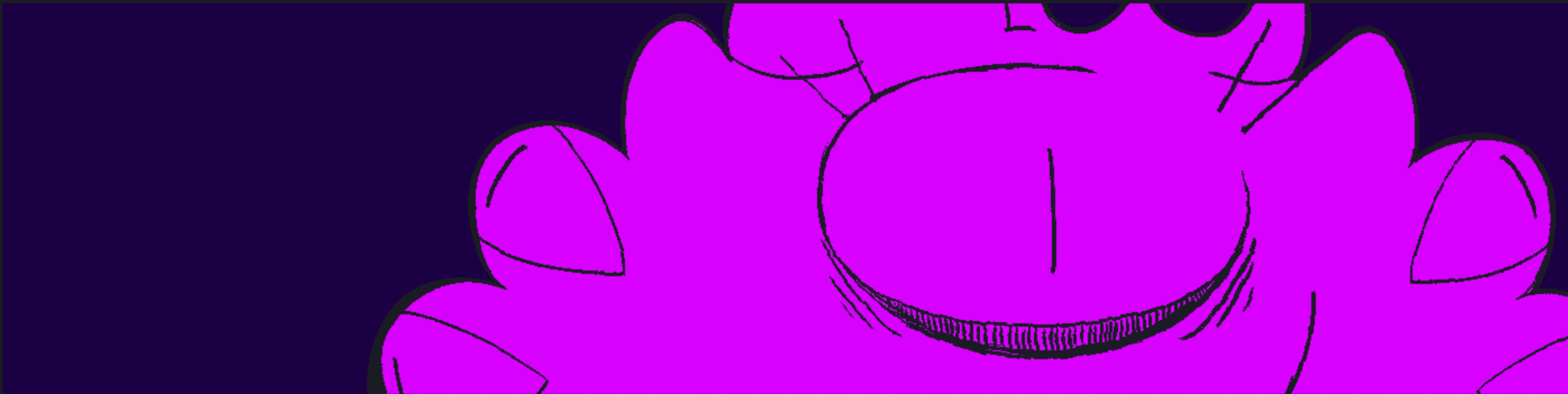
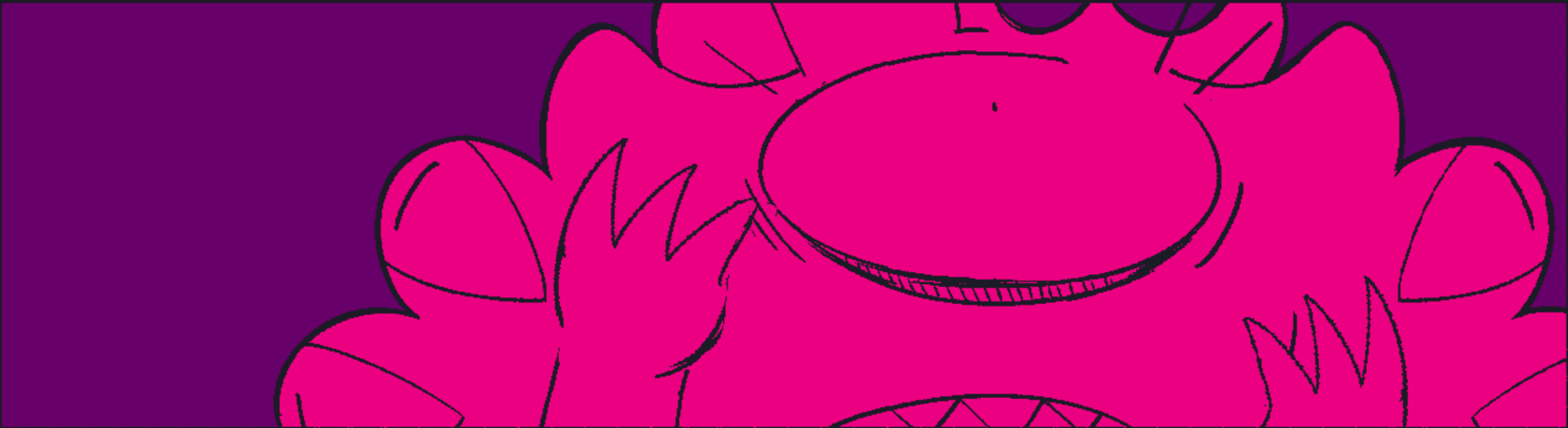
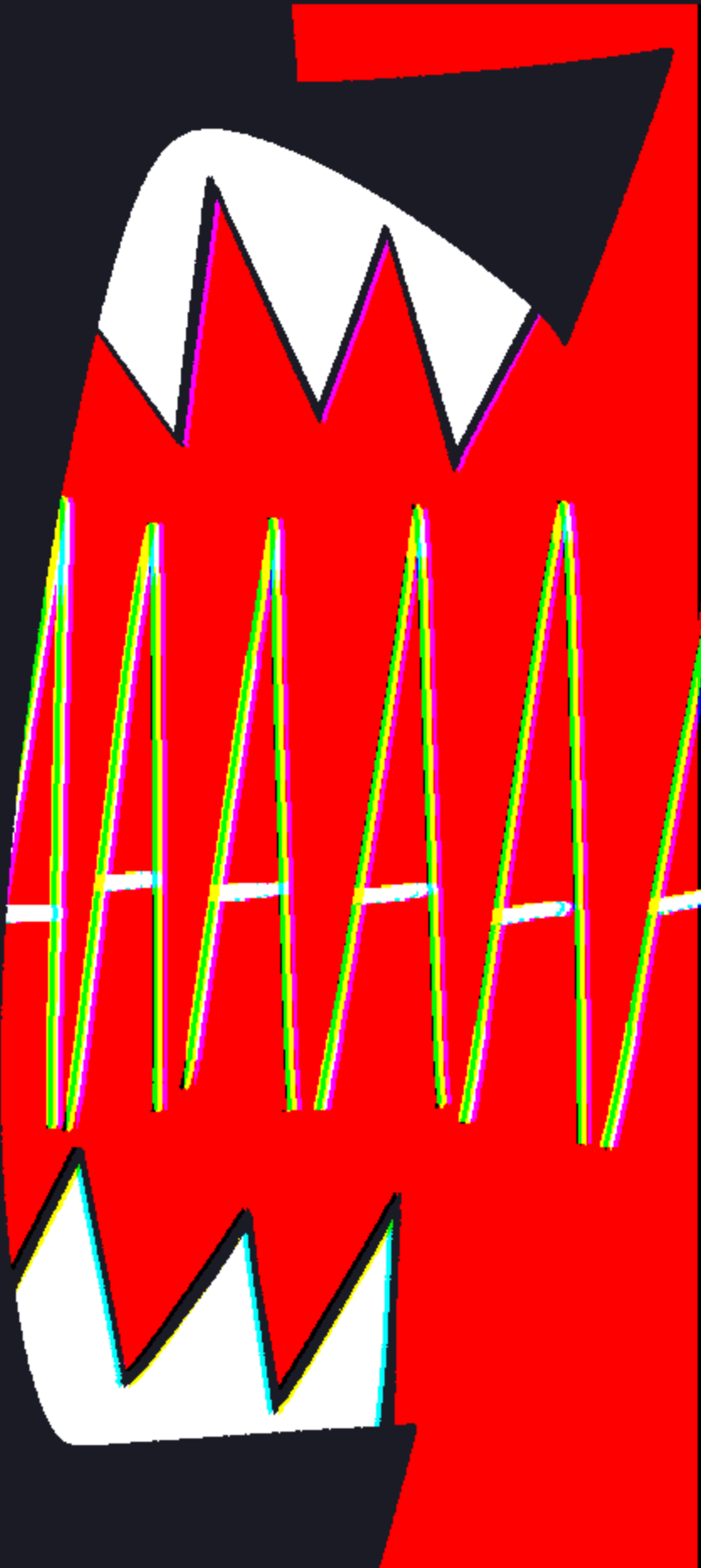
—OR A TICKING
TIME BOMB~

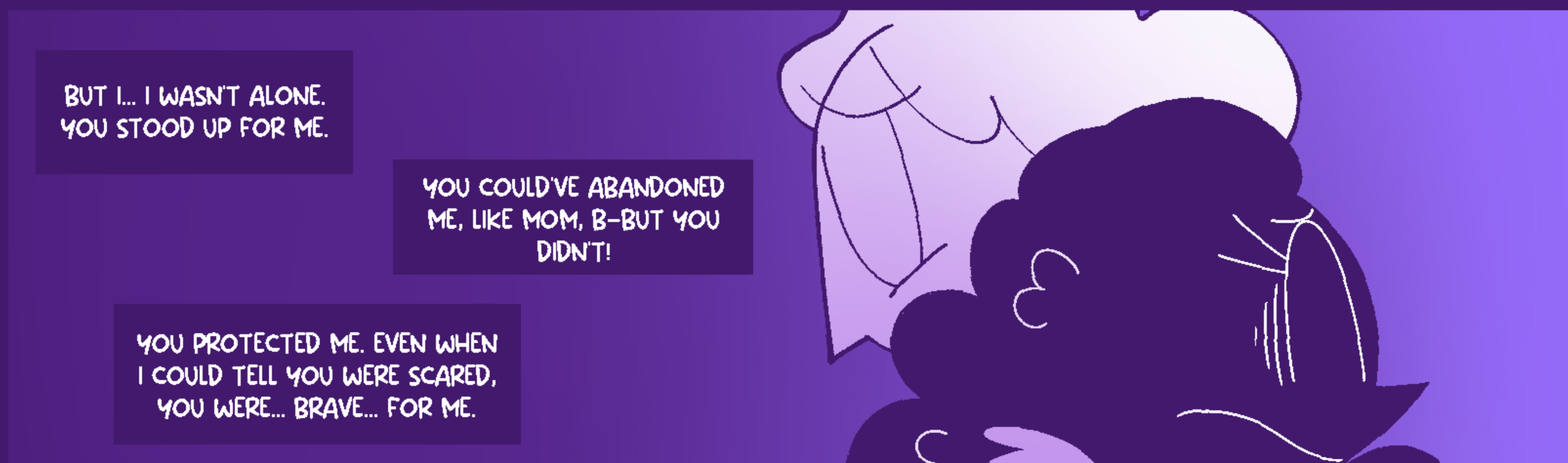
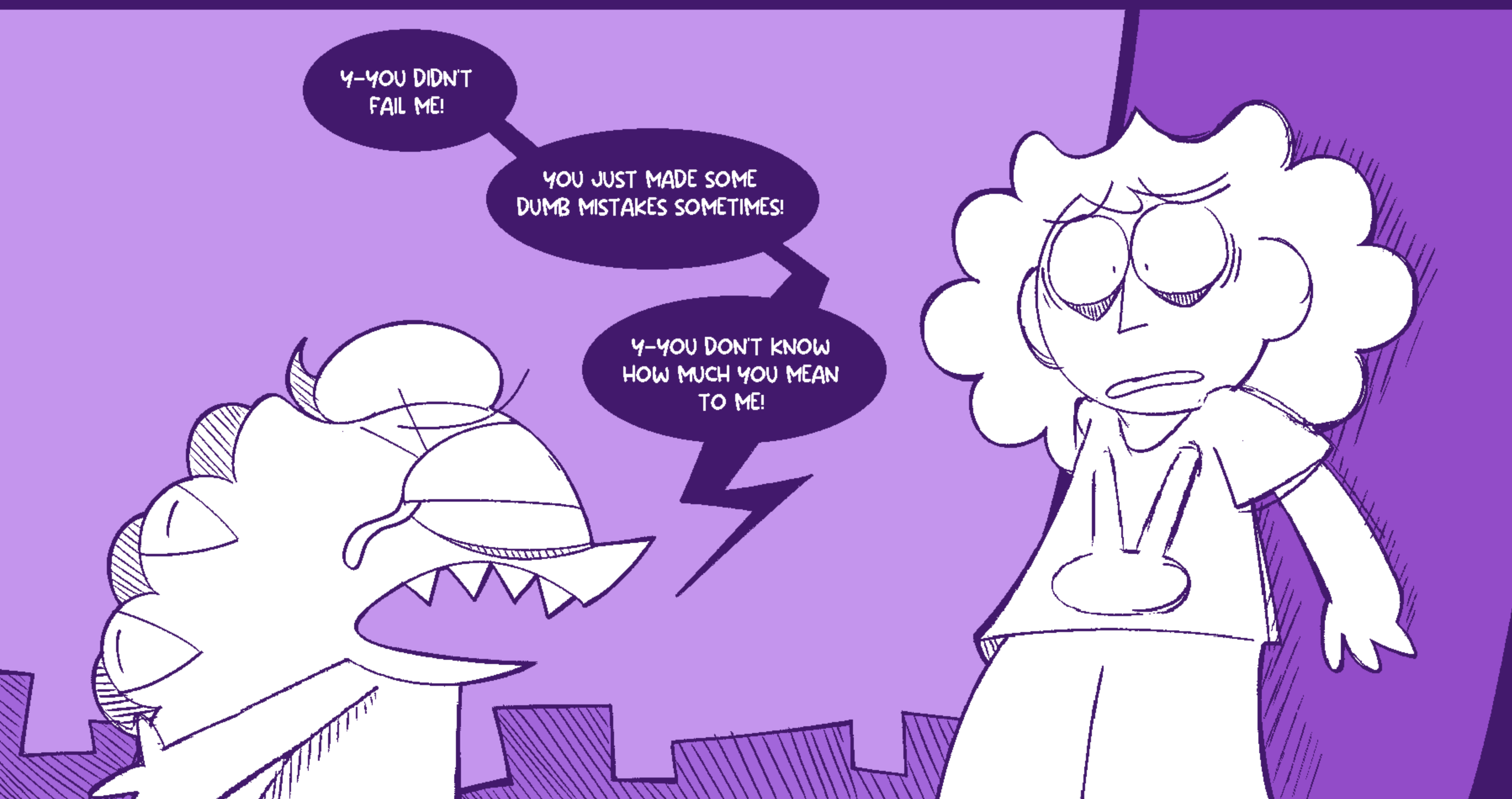
AND I KNOW FOR
A FACT, THAT YOU'RE NOT
DESTINED TO DESTROY
THE WORLD!

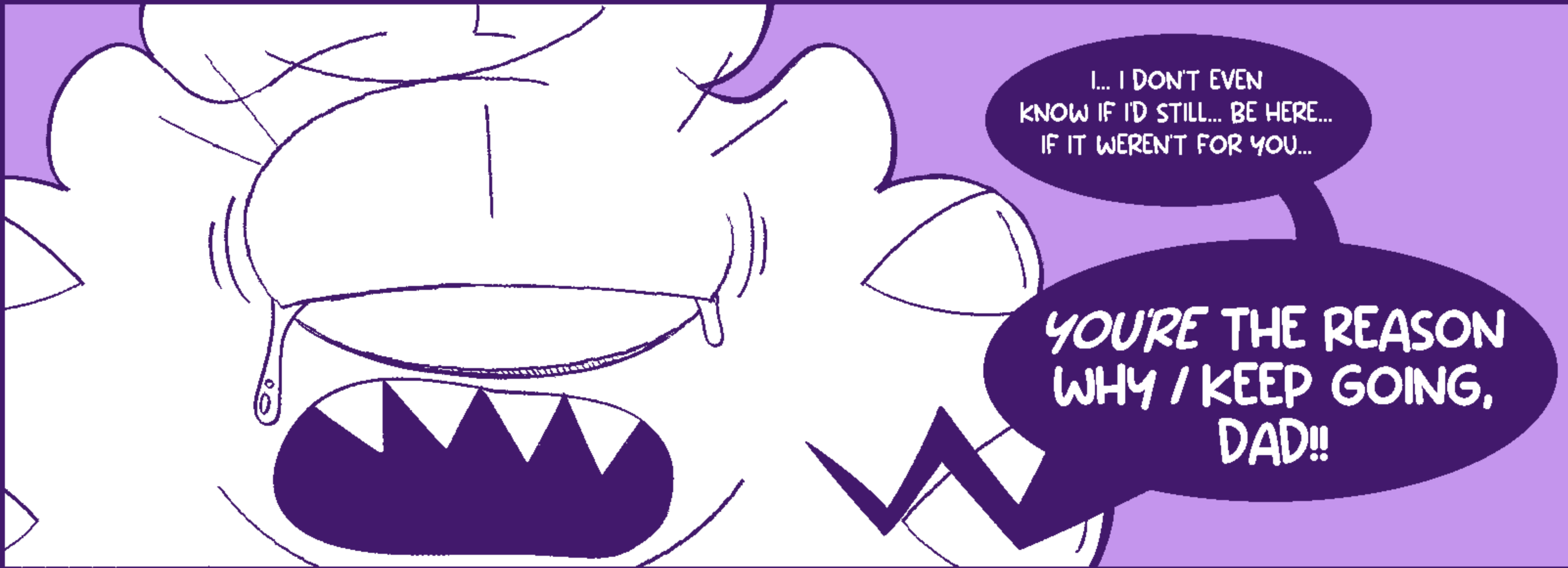
ALL THAT YOU ARE,
IS... CHILLI.

AND YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE,
WHO GETS TO DECIDE WHAT
THAT MEANS.



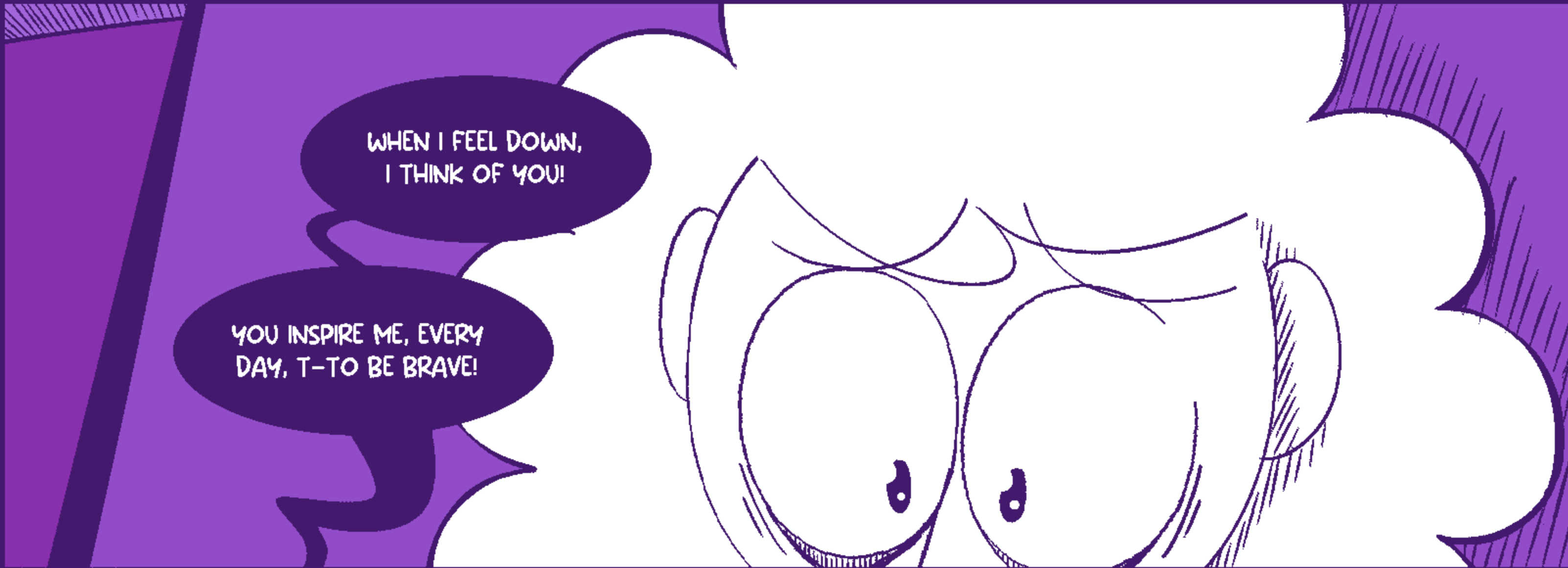






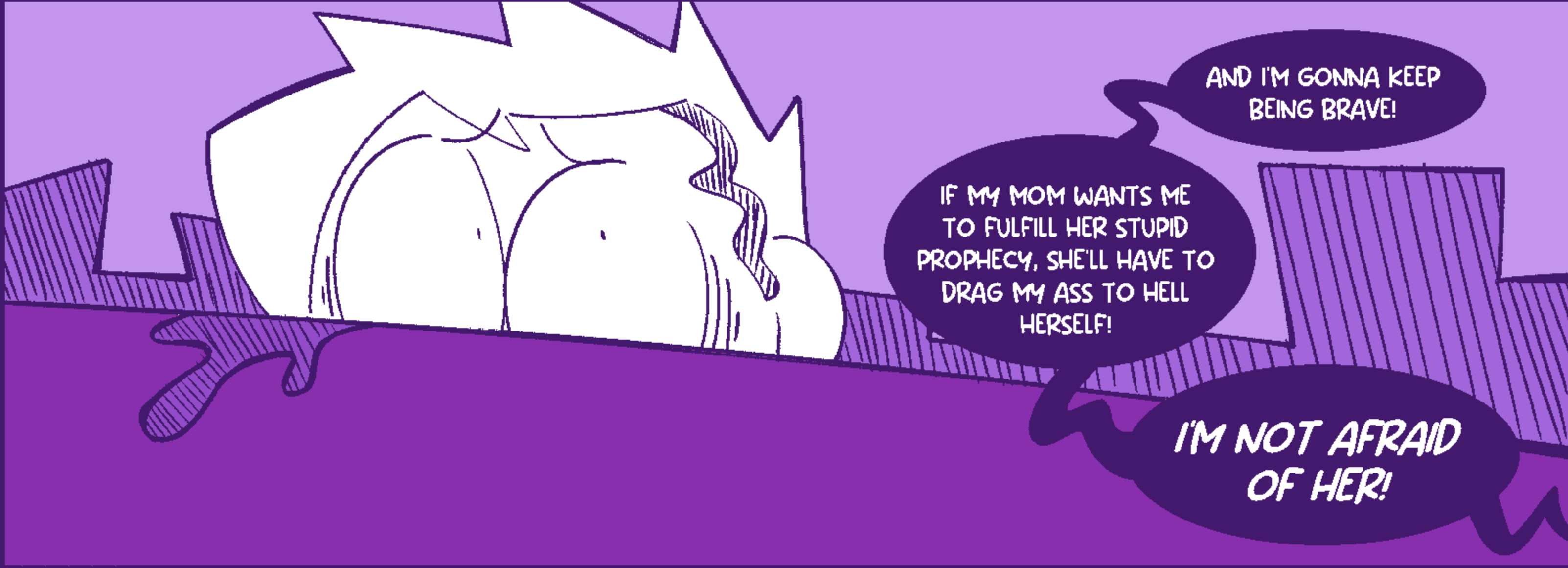
I... I DON'T EVEN
KNOW IF I'D STILL... BE HERE...
IF IT WEREN'T FOR YOU...

**YOU'RE THE REASON
WHY I KEEP GOING,
DAD!!**



WHEN I FEEL DOWN,
I THINK OF YOU!

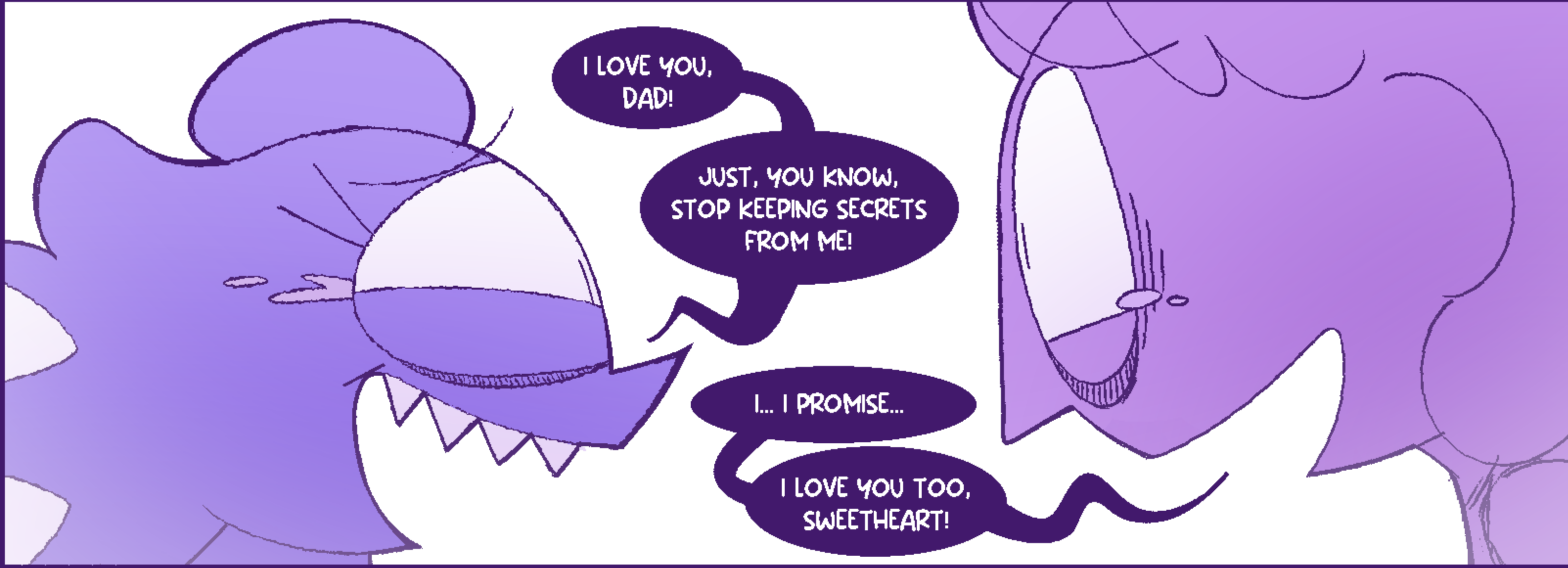
YOU INSPIRE ME, EVERY
DAY, T-TO BE BRAVE!



AND I'M GONNA KEEP
BEING BRAVE!

IF MY MOM WANTS ME
TO FULFILL HER STUPID
PROPHECY, SHE'LL HAVE TO
DRAG MY ASS TO HELL
HERSELF!

**I'M NOT AFRAID
OF HER!**

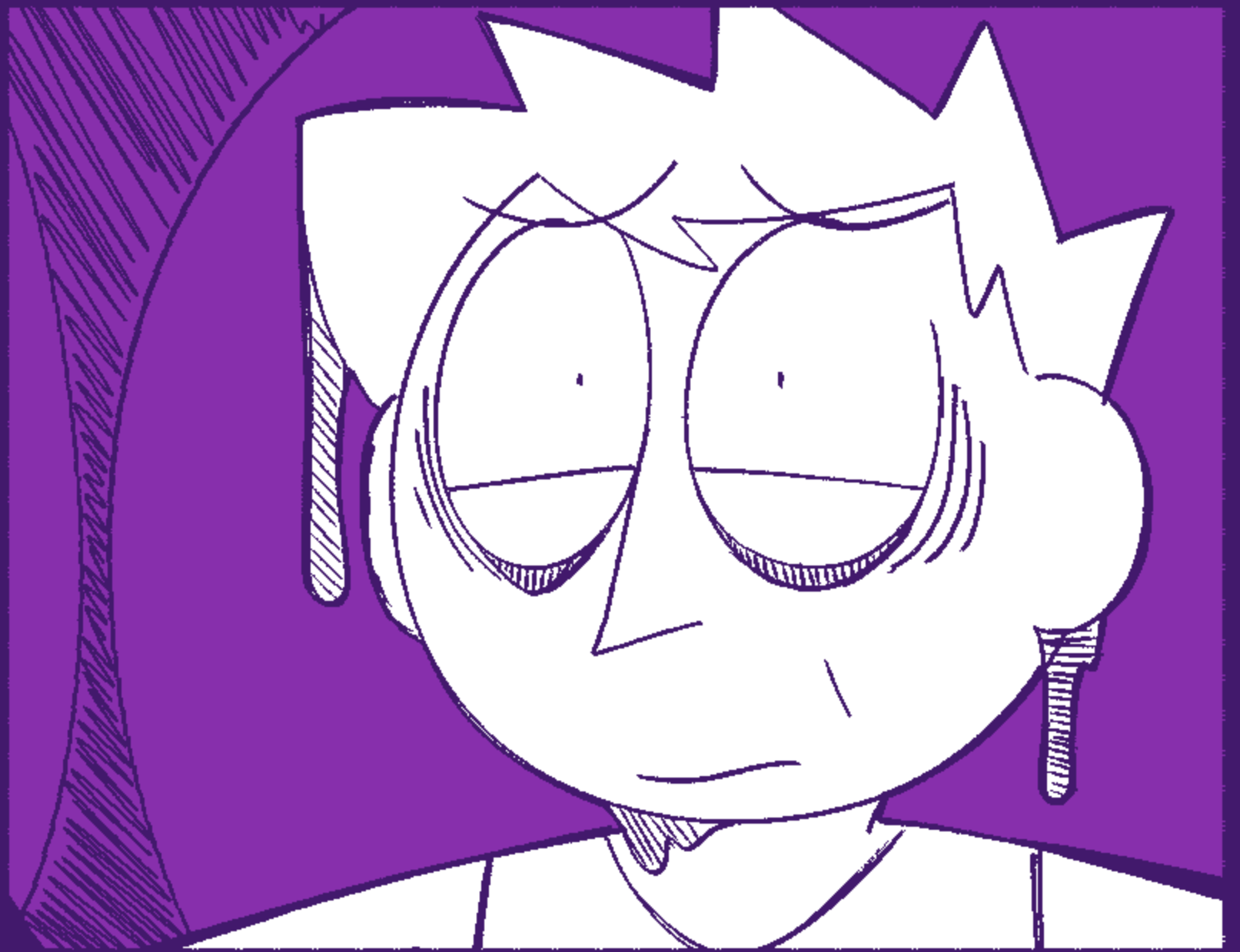
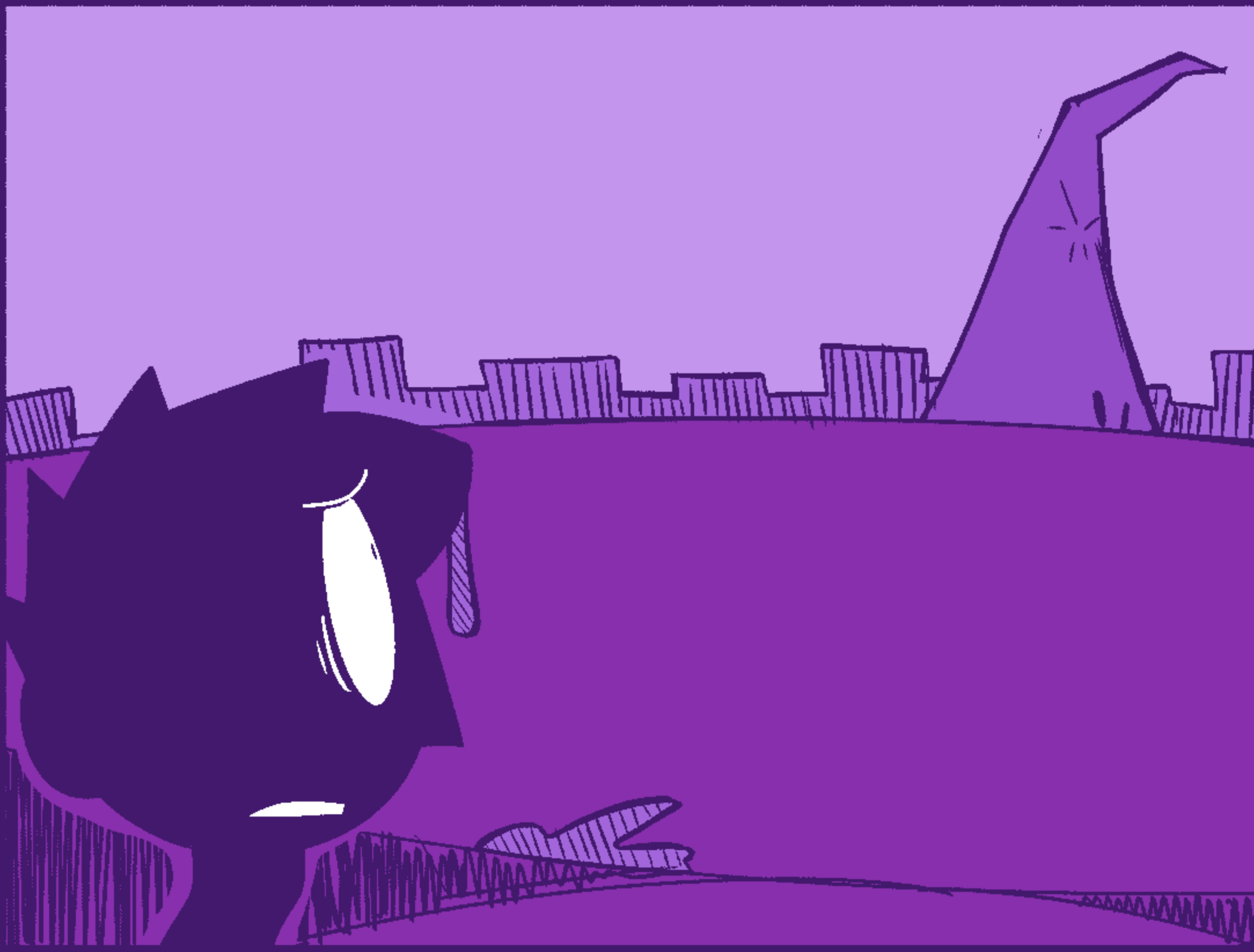


I LOVE YOU,
DAD!

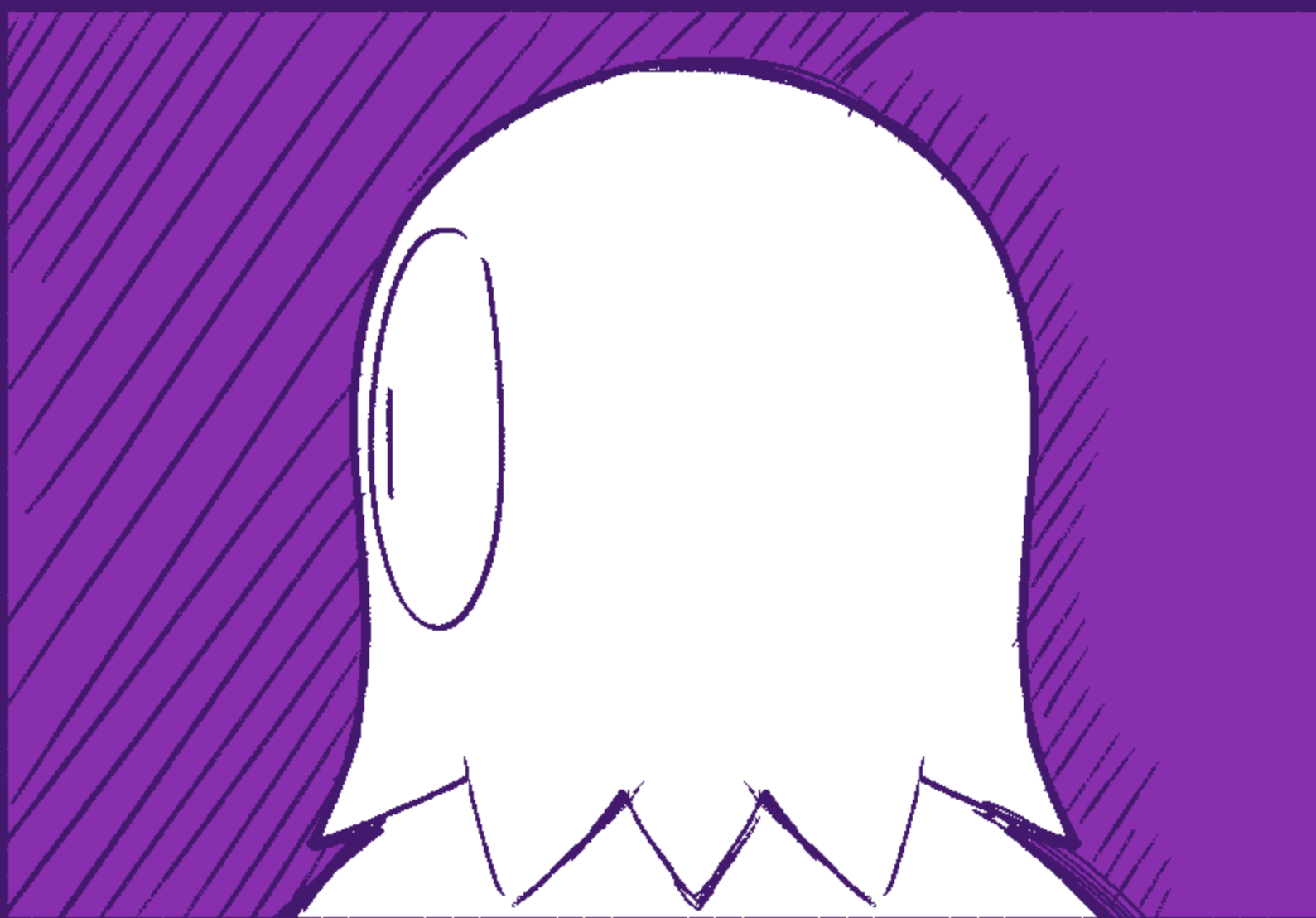
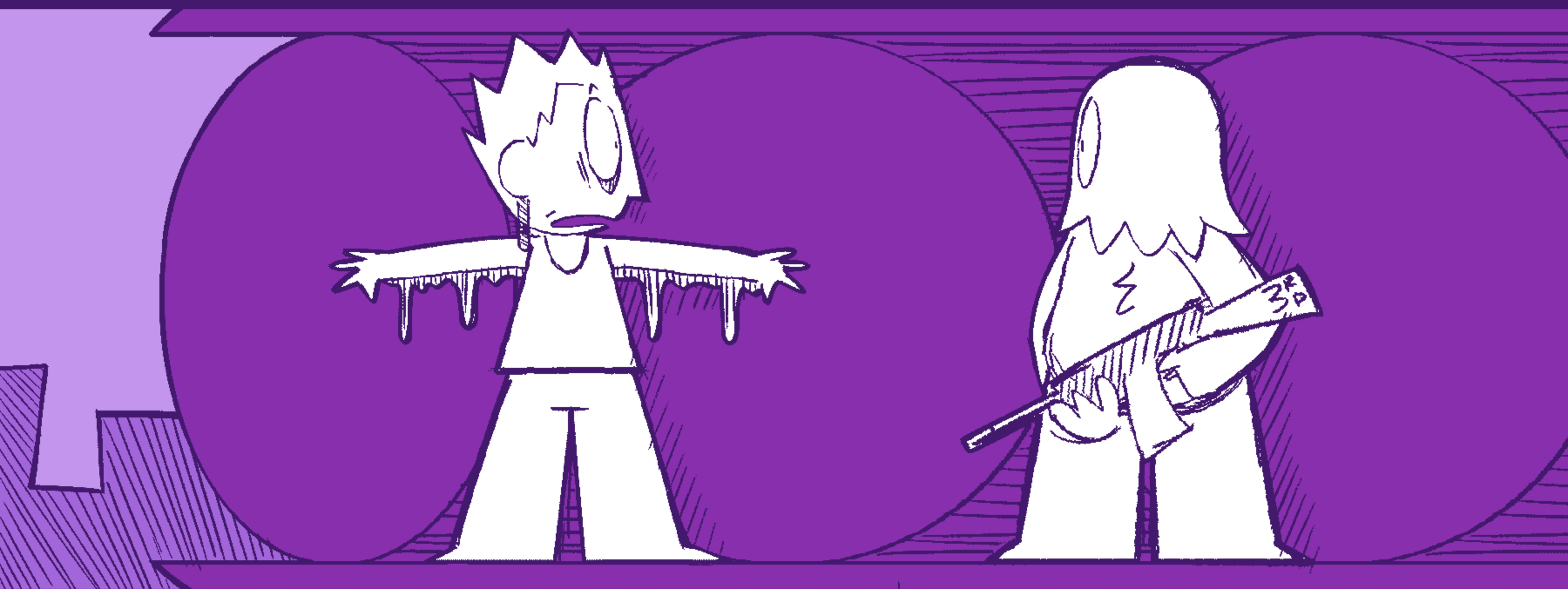
JUST, YOU KNOW,
STOP KEEPING SECRETS
FROM ME!

I... I PROMISE...

I LOVE YOU TOO,
SWEETHEART!



DILLON.





I'M NOT INTERESTED IN
YOUR FLIMSY EXCUSES.

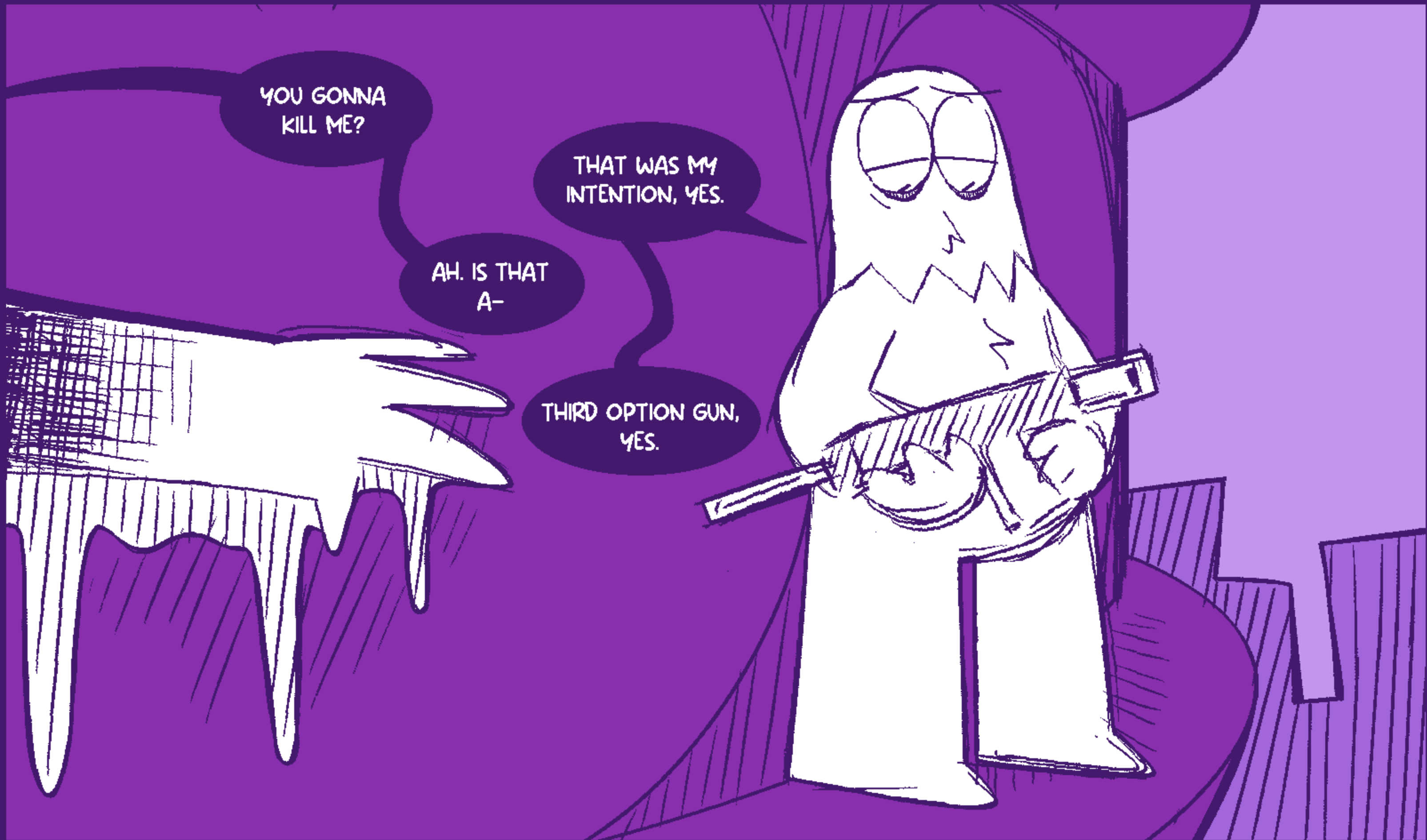
REGARDLESS OF ANYTHING,
SHE'S DEAD, BECAUSE OF YOU.

YOU KILLED
HER.



ALRIGHT.
SURE.

I KILLED HER.

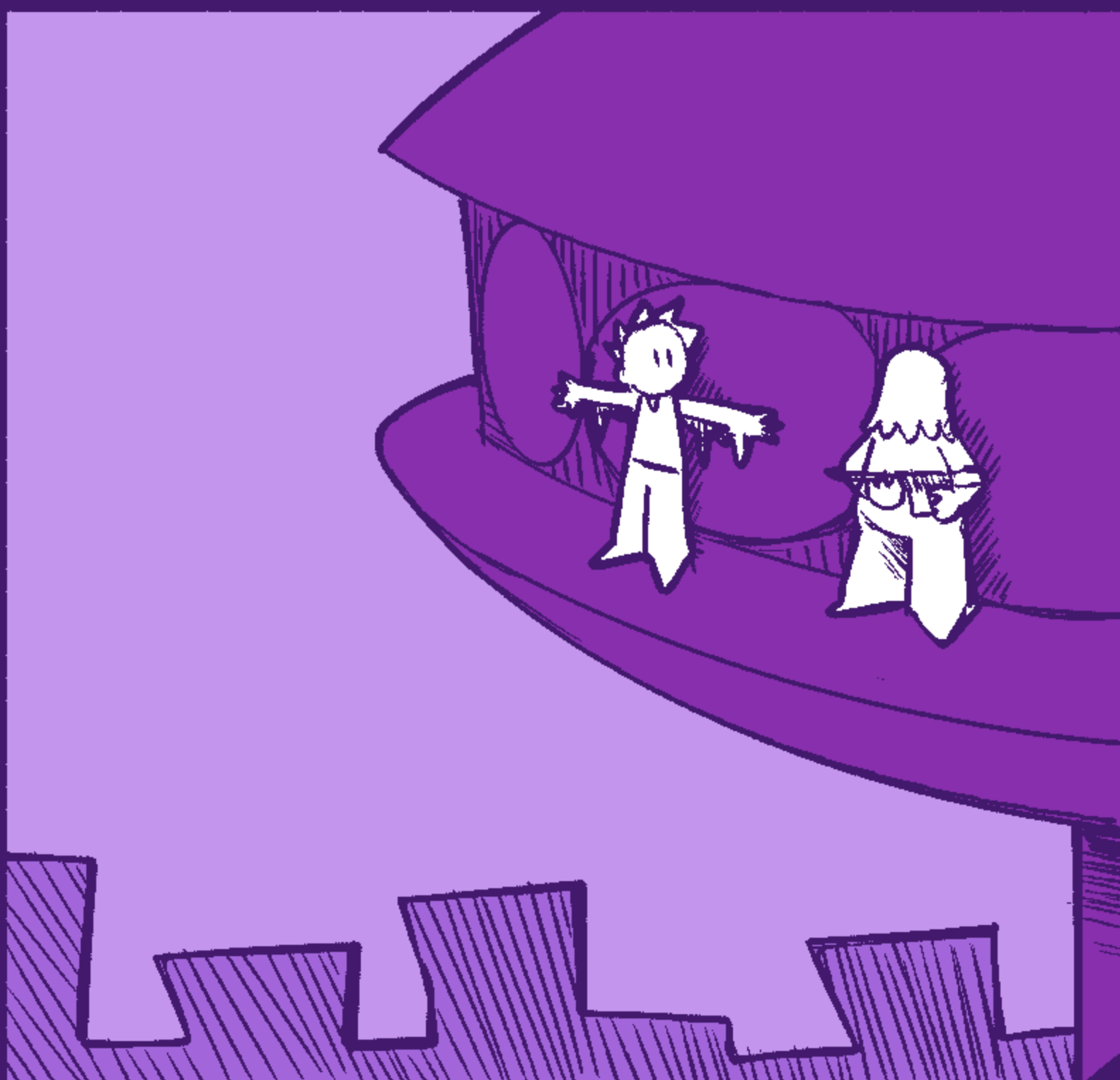
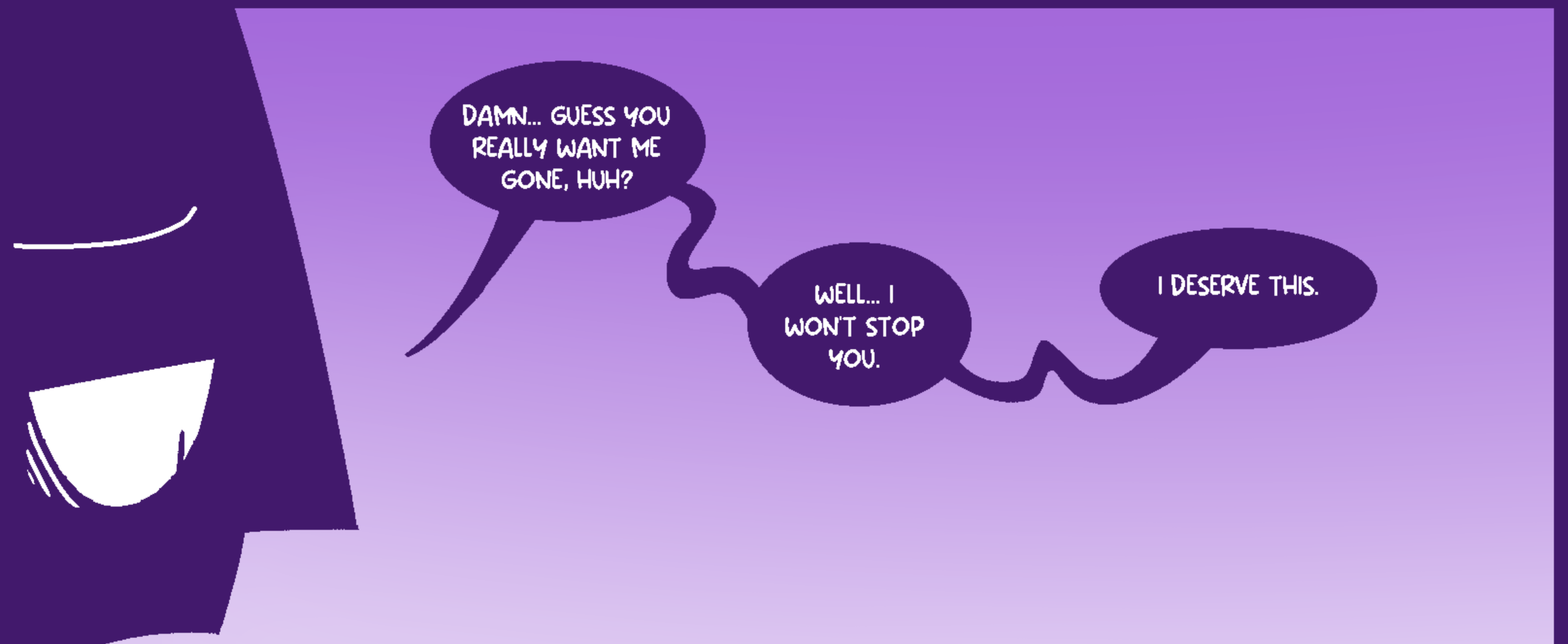


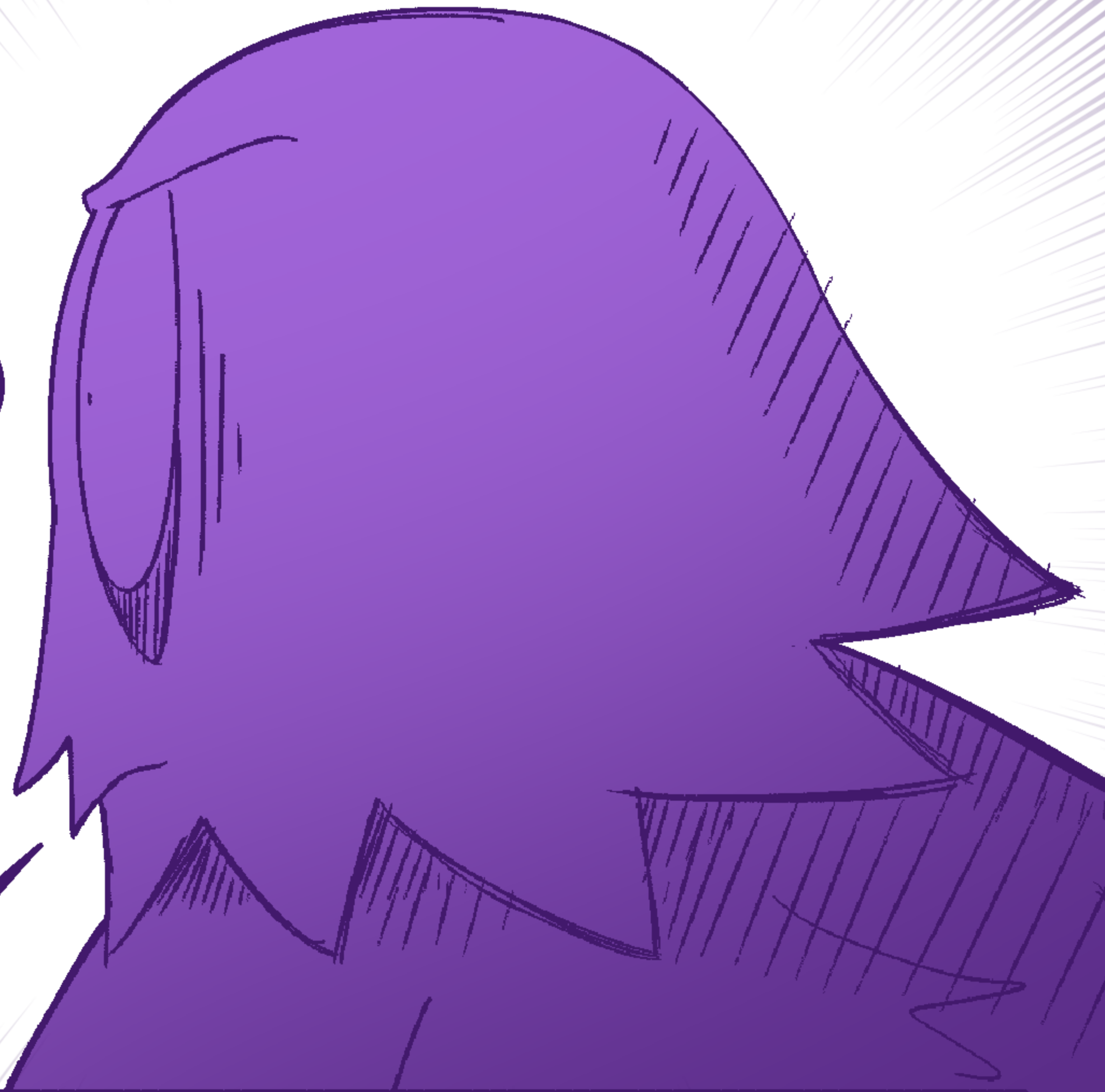
YOU GONNA
KILL ME?

AH. IS THAT
A-

THAT WAS MY
INTENTION, YES.

THIRD OPTION GUN,
YES.





MY WIFE'S GONE,
DILLON!

WIPED FROM
EXISTENCE!

I CAN'T GET
"CLOSURE!"



AND IF BEING WIPED FROM EXISTENCE
GIVES *YOU* CLOSURE, THEN I REFUSE TO
GIVE *YOU* THAT SATISFACTION!

I'M NOT LETTING YOU ESCAPE
THE SHITTY THINGS YOU'VE DONE!

UH... YOU
DROPPED YOUR GU-



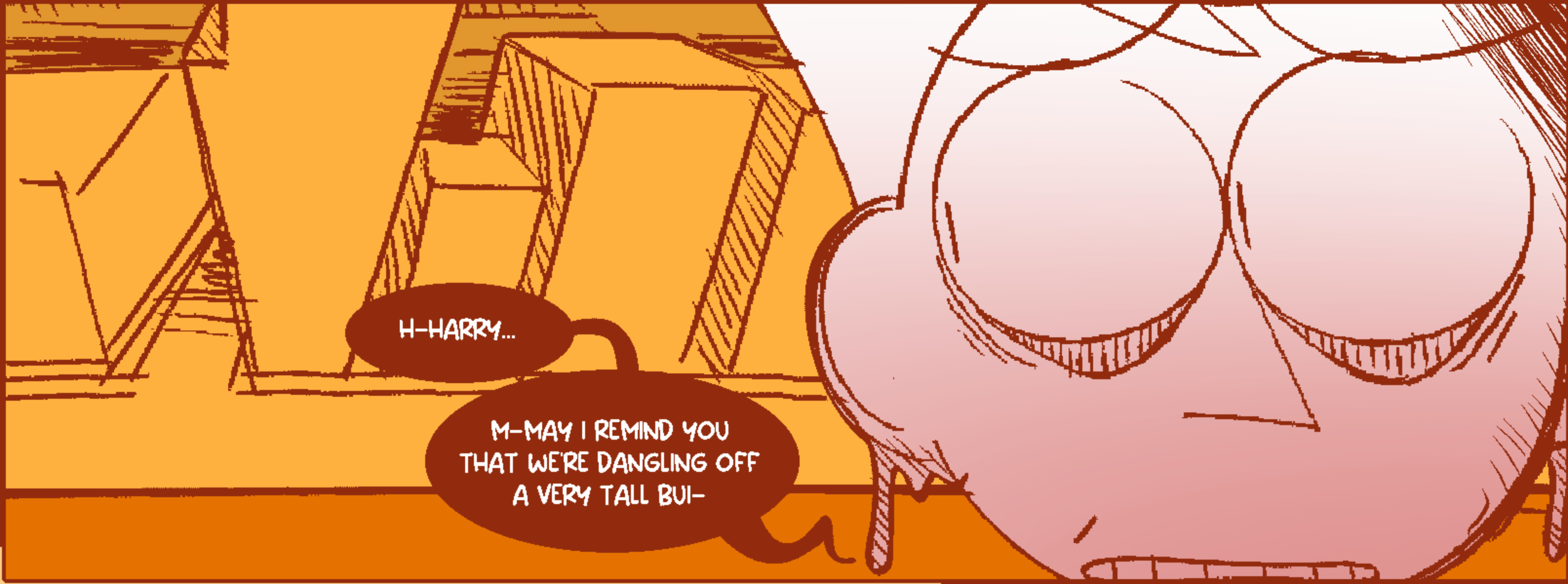
I'M GONNA DO WHATEVER I CAN
TO MAKE SURE YOU SPEND ALL OF
ETERNITY SUFFERING IN THE DEEPEST
PARTS OF HELL!



ONLY THEN, COULD I
POSSIBLY COME CLOSE TO
HAVING "CLOSURE!"



UHHHHH...

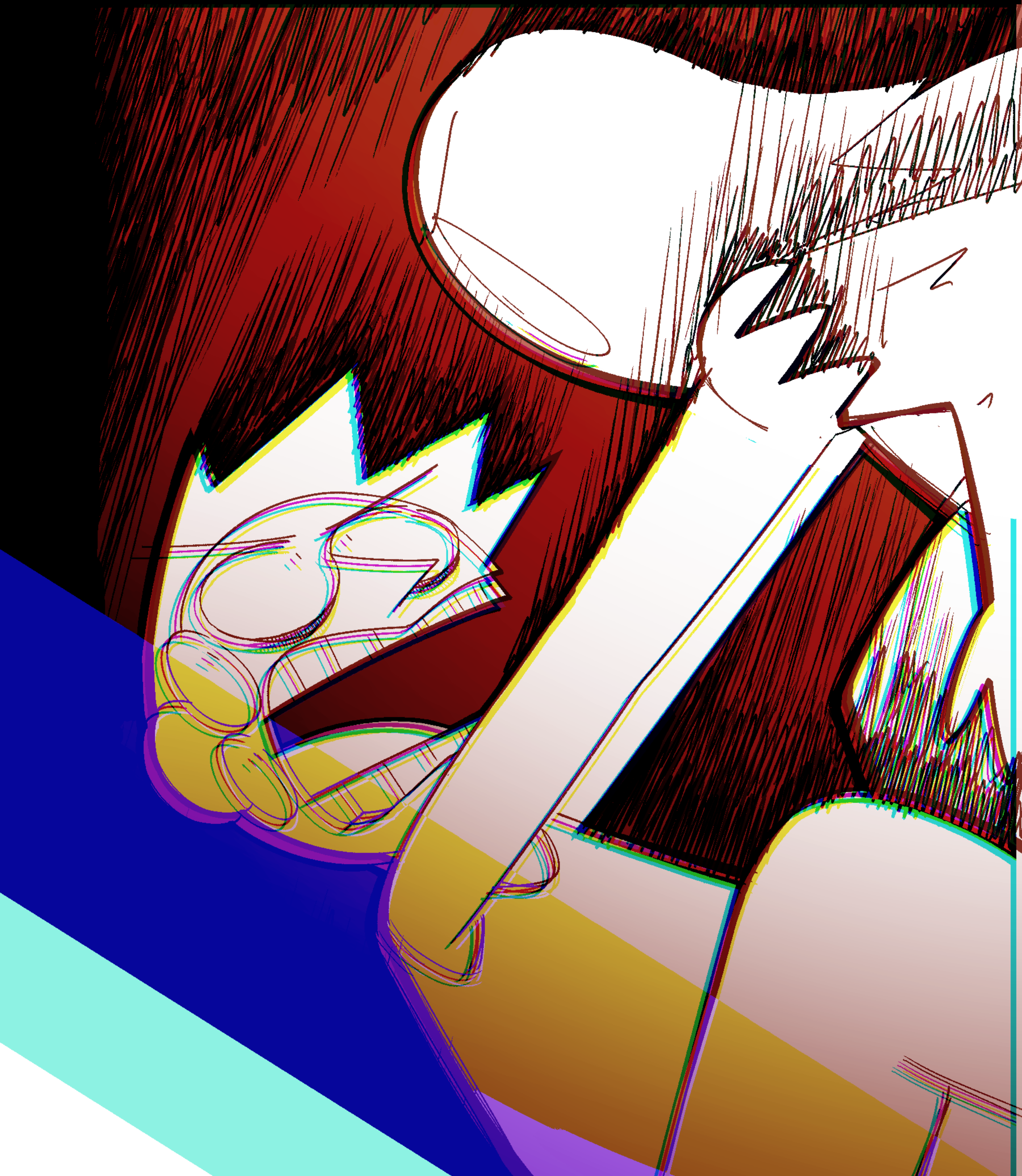


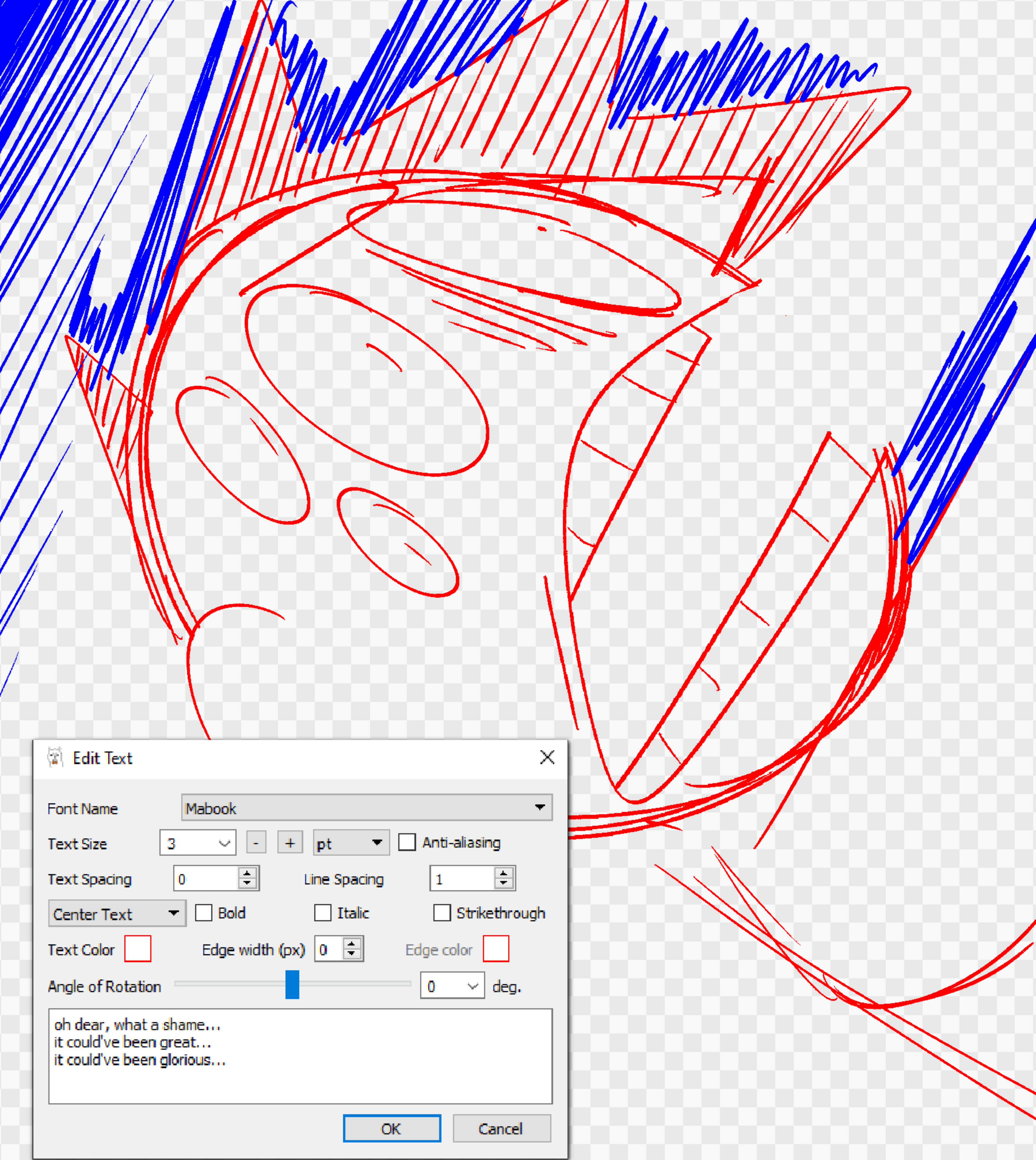


PUNCH!!

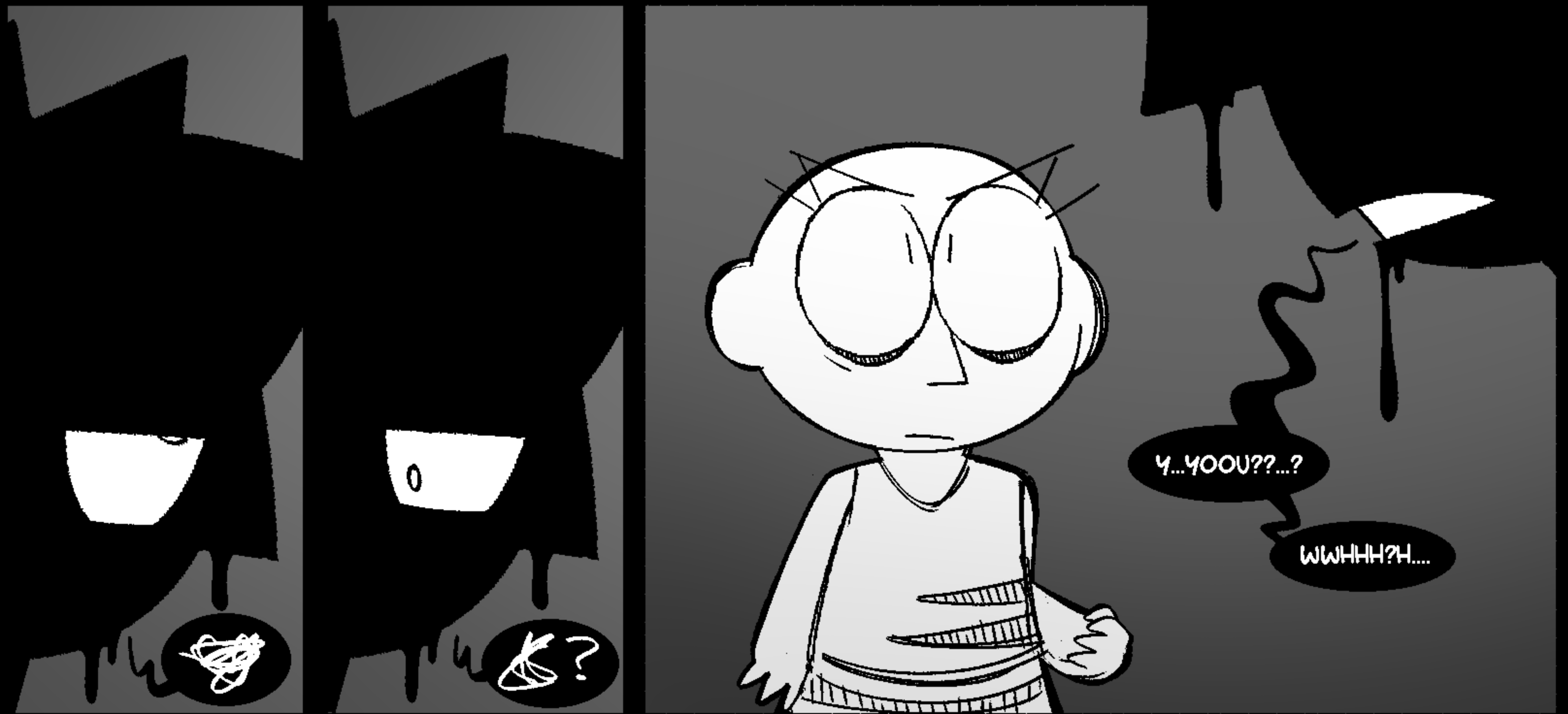
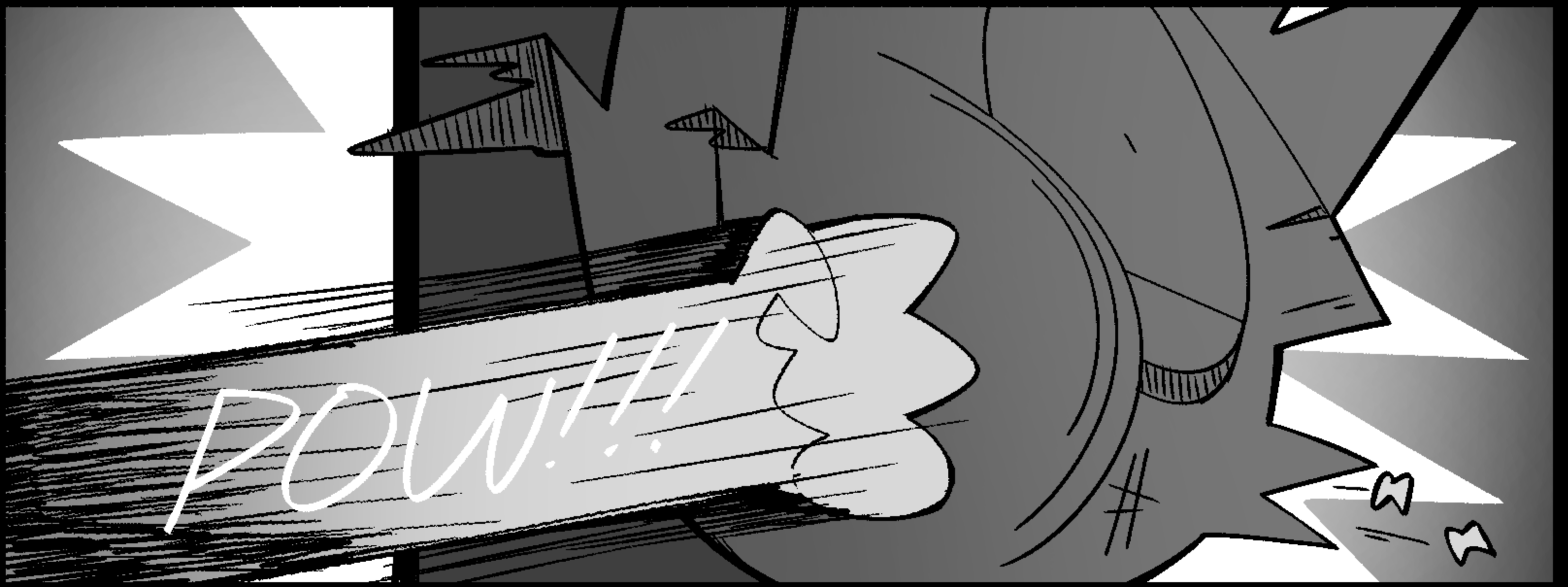
30001

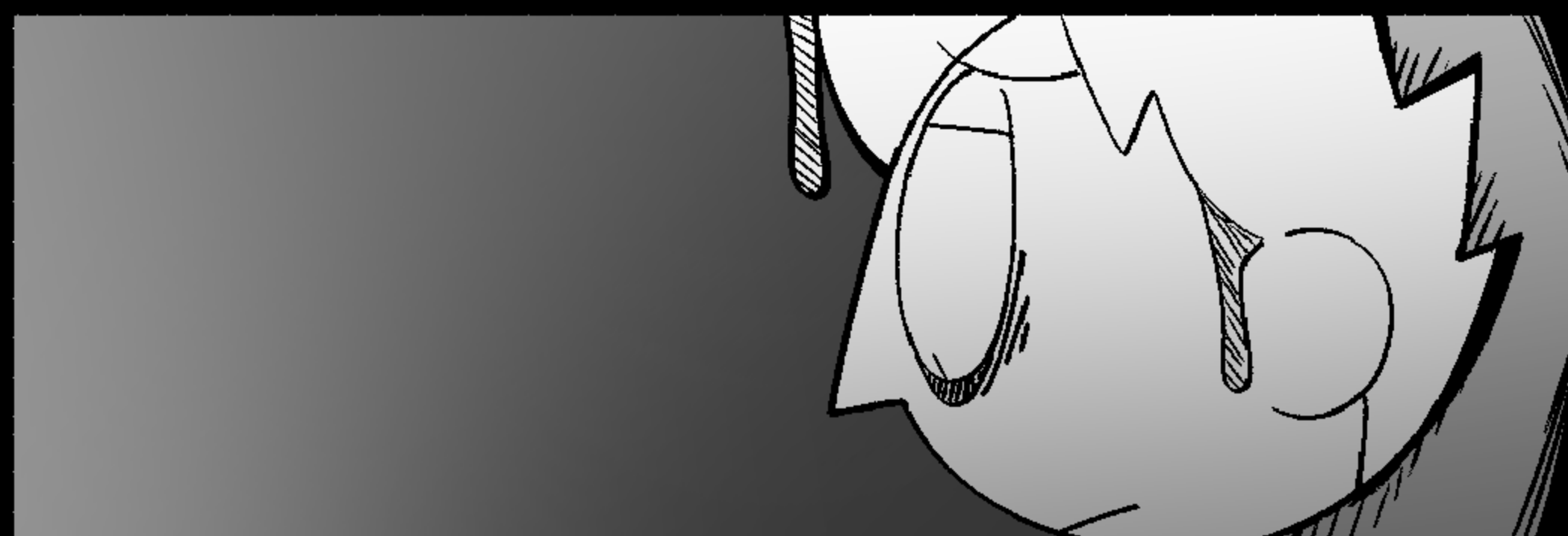
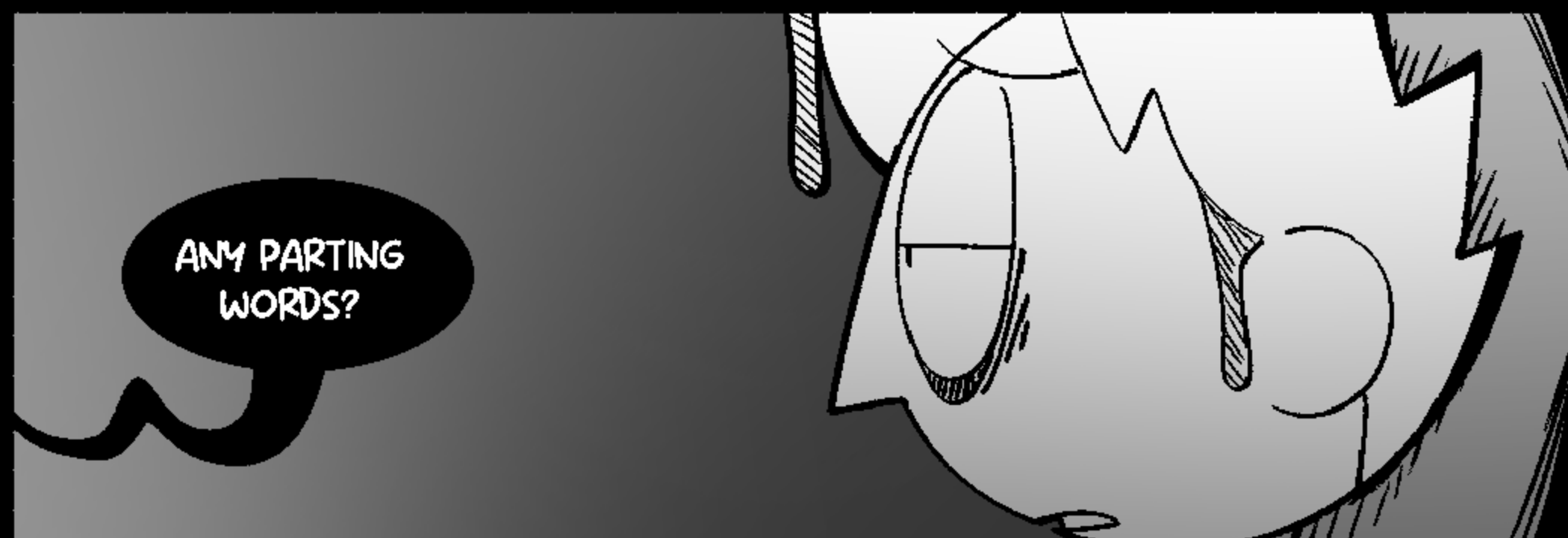
POW!!

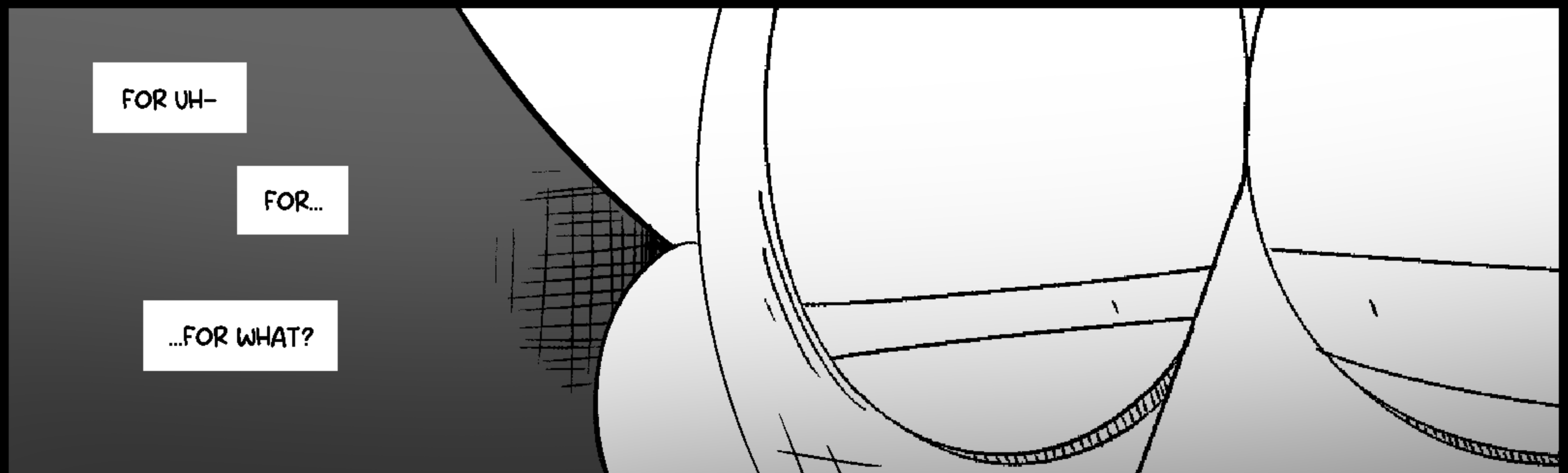
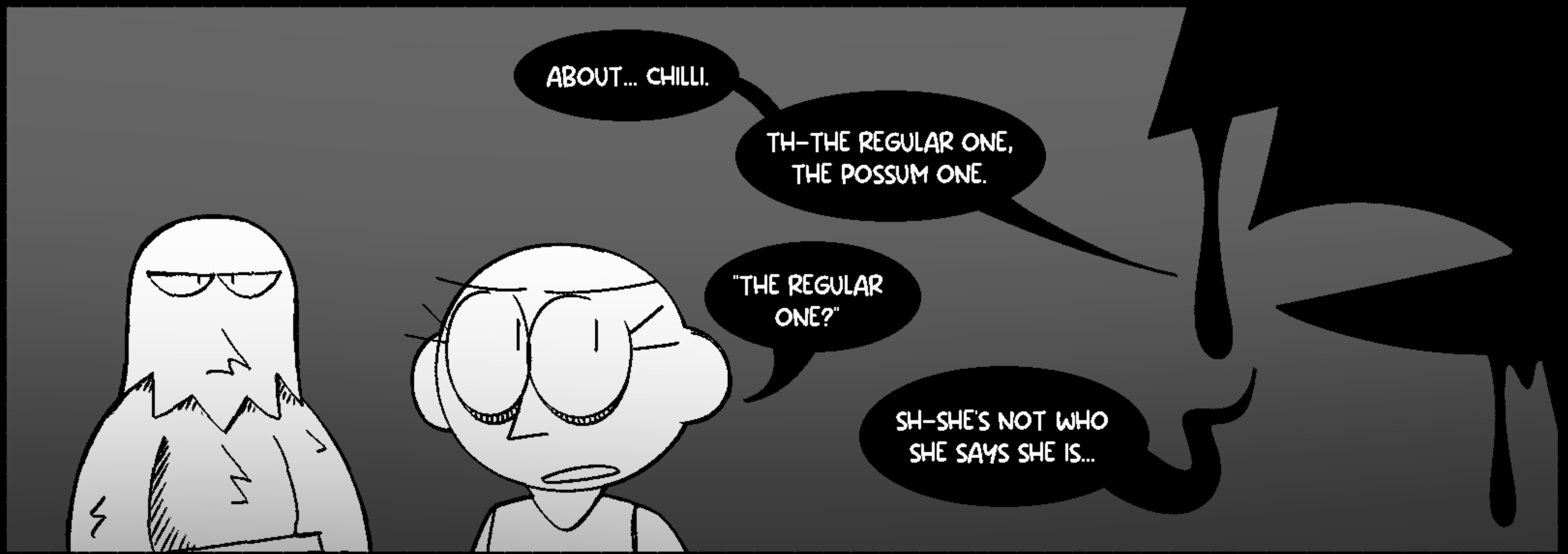




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SHE REMINDS ME OF
WHEN I WAS HER AGE.

SHE'S GOT A...
A GOOD LIFE. I HOPE
SHE KNOWS THAT.

I WISH I HADN'T TRIED
TO TAKE IT AWAY FROM HER.



I'M SORRY.

TO UH... TO
BOTH HER AND HER
FATHER.

...AND THE
HUMAN ONE.



FUCK YOU.

ANYTHING
ELSE?



OH YEAH, UH-

MAKE SURE MY SON
CHARLEY KNOWS I'M
DEAD.

I DON'T THINK HE'D
CARE, BUT... IT'D
PROBABLY BE GOOD
FOR HIM TO KNOW.

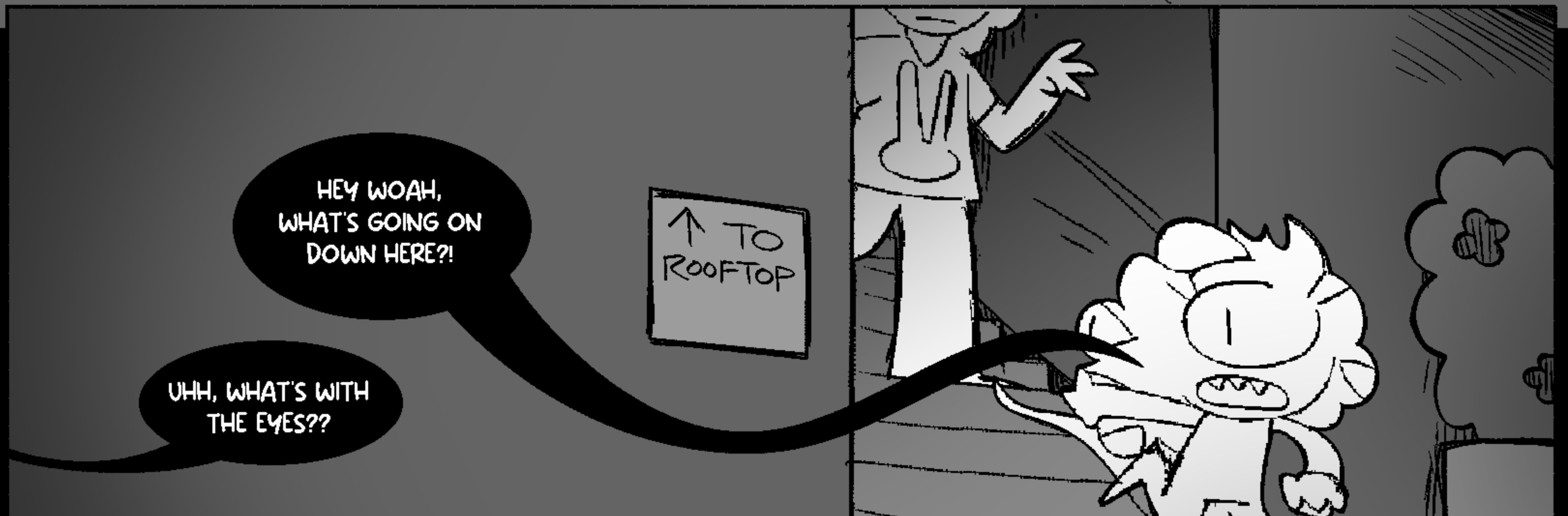
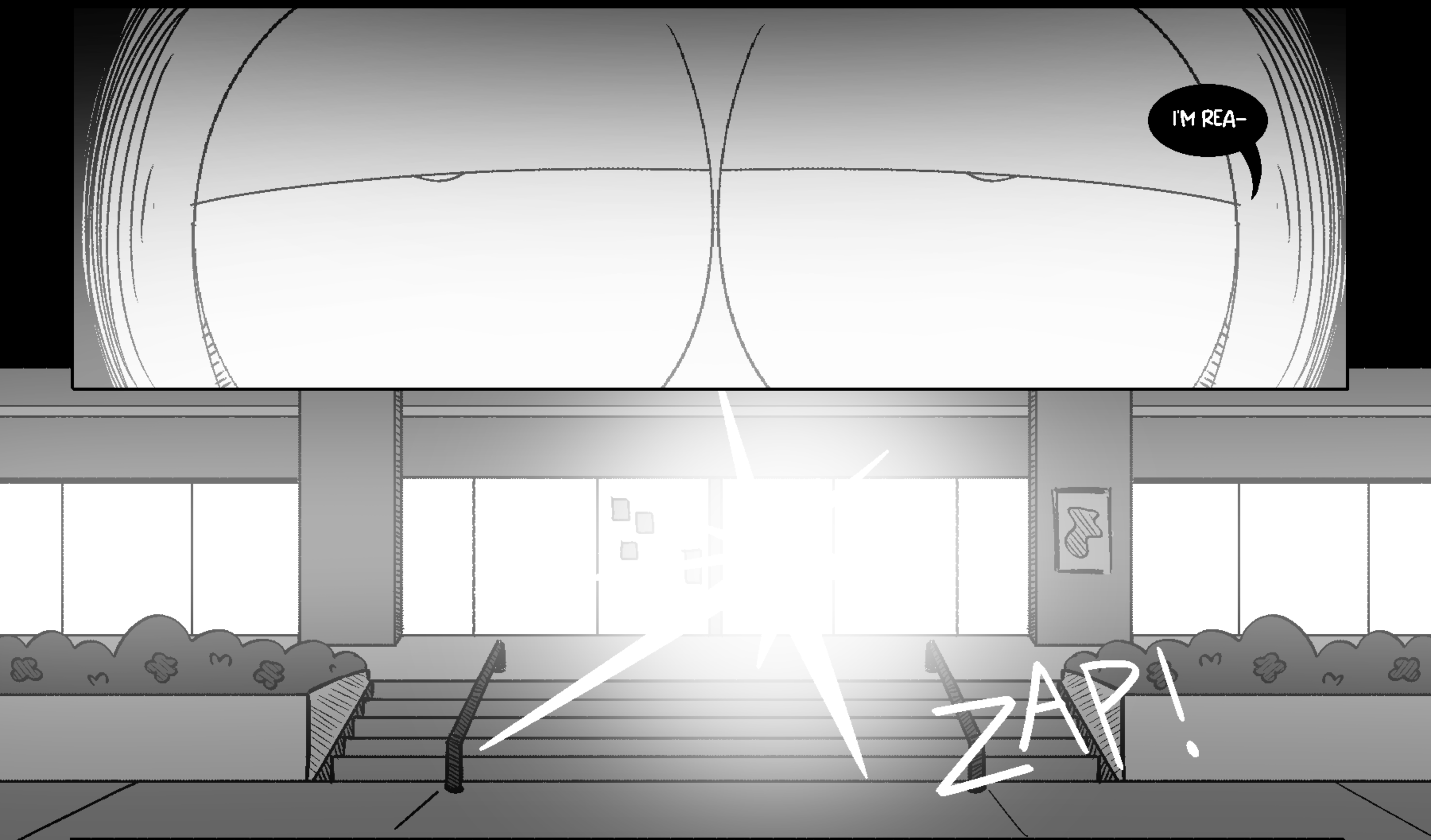
COULD YA
TELL HIM, HARRY?

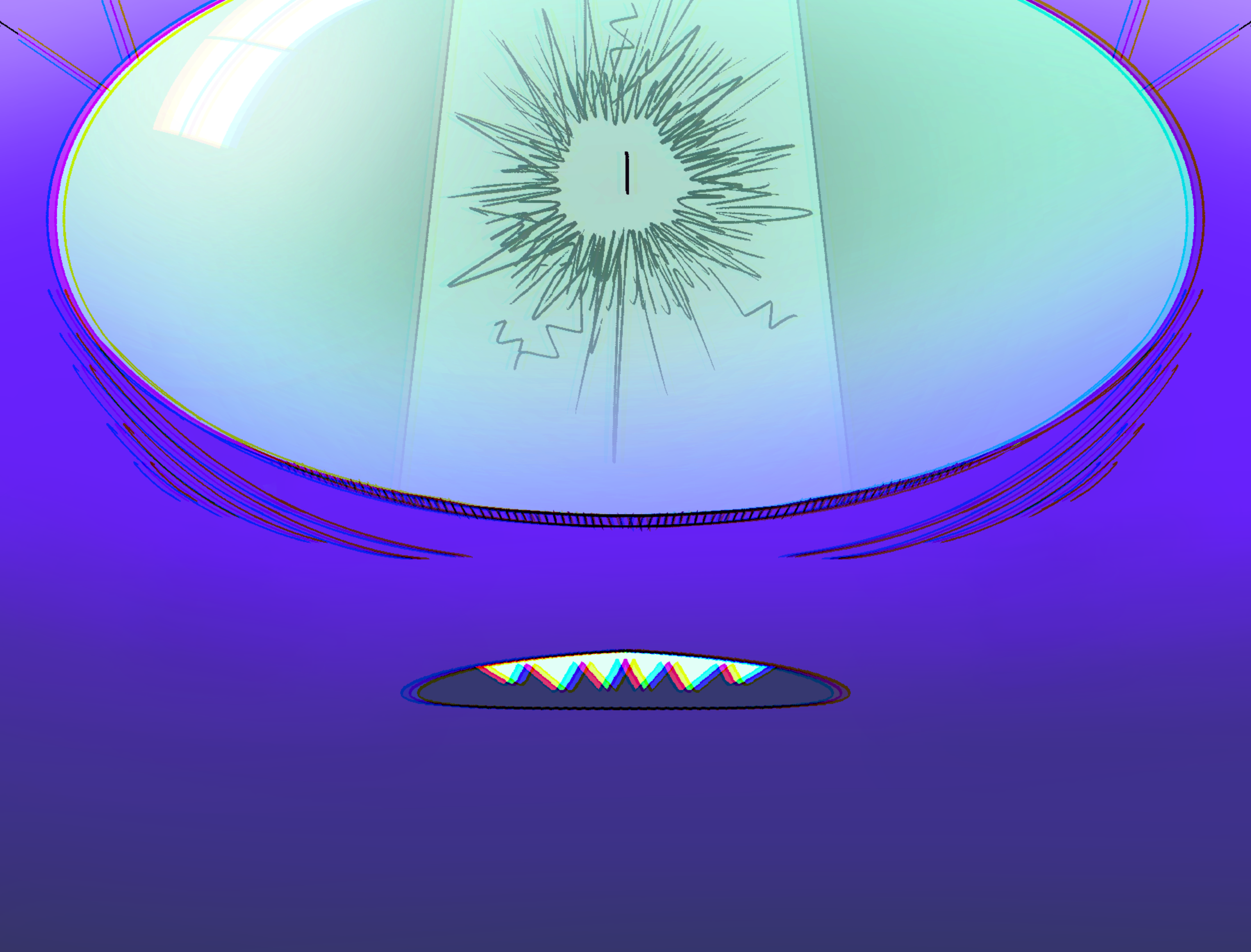


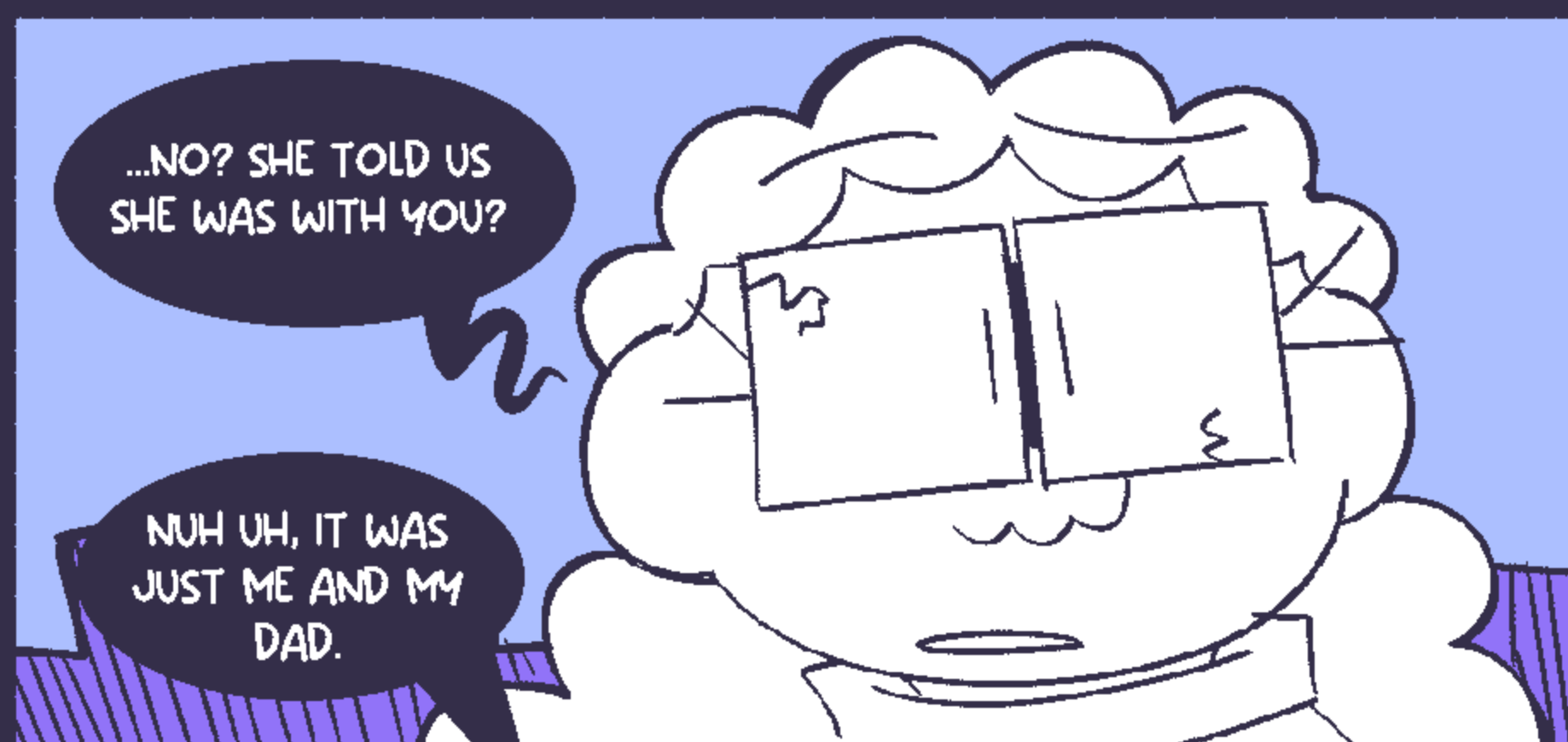
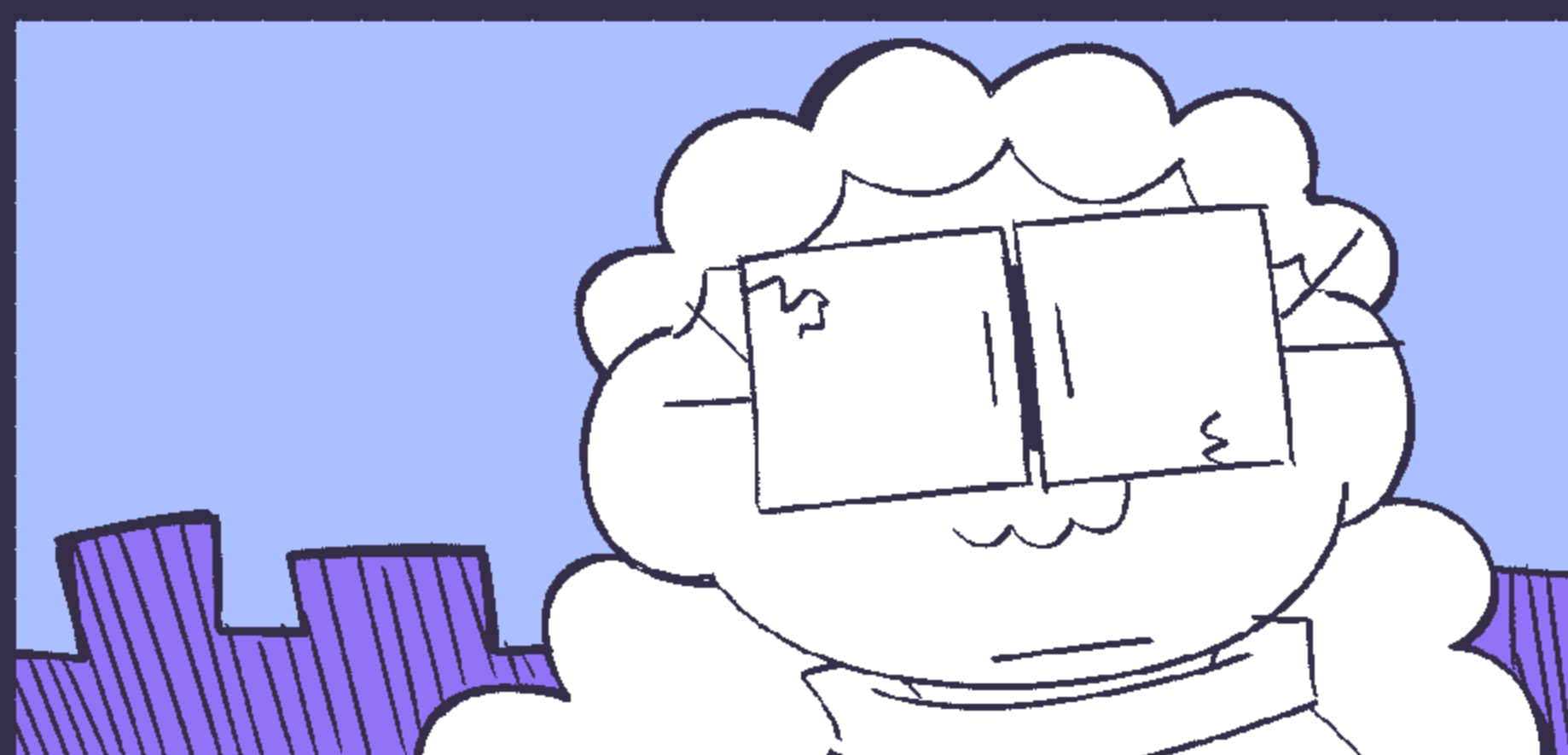
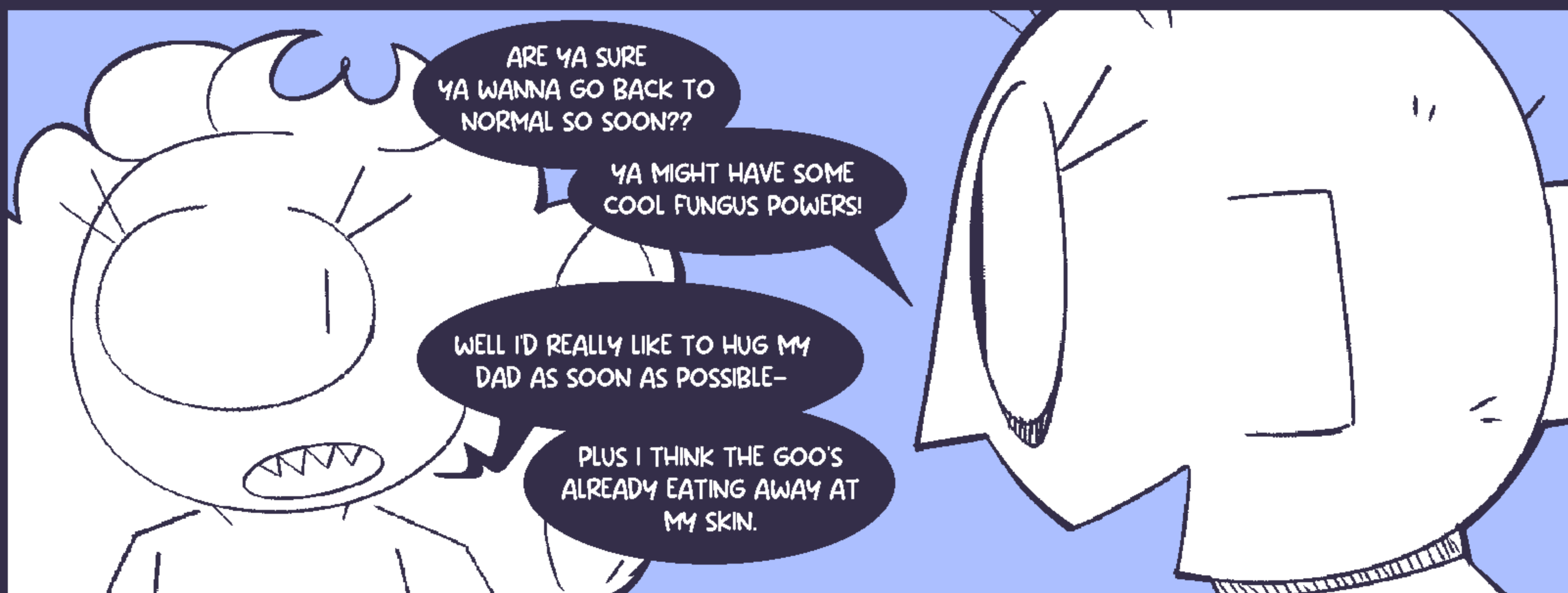
...SURE, DILLON.

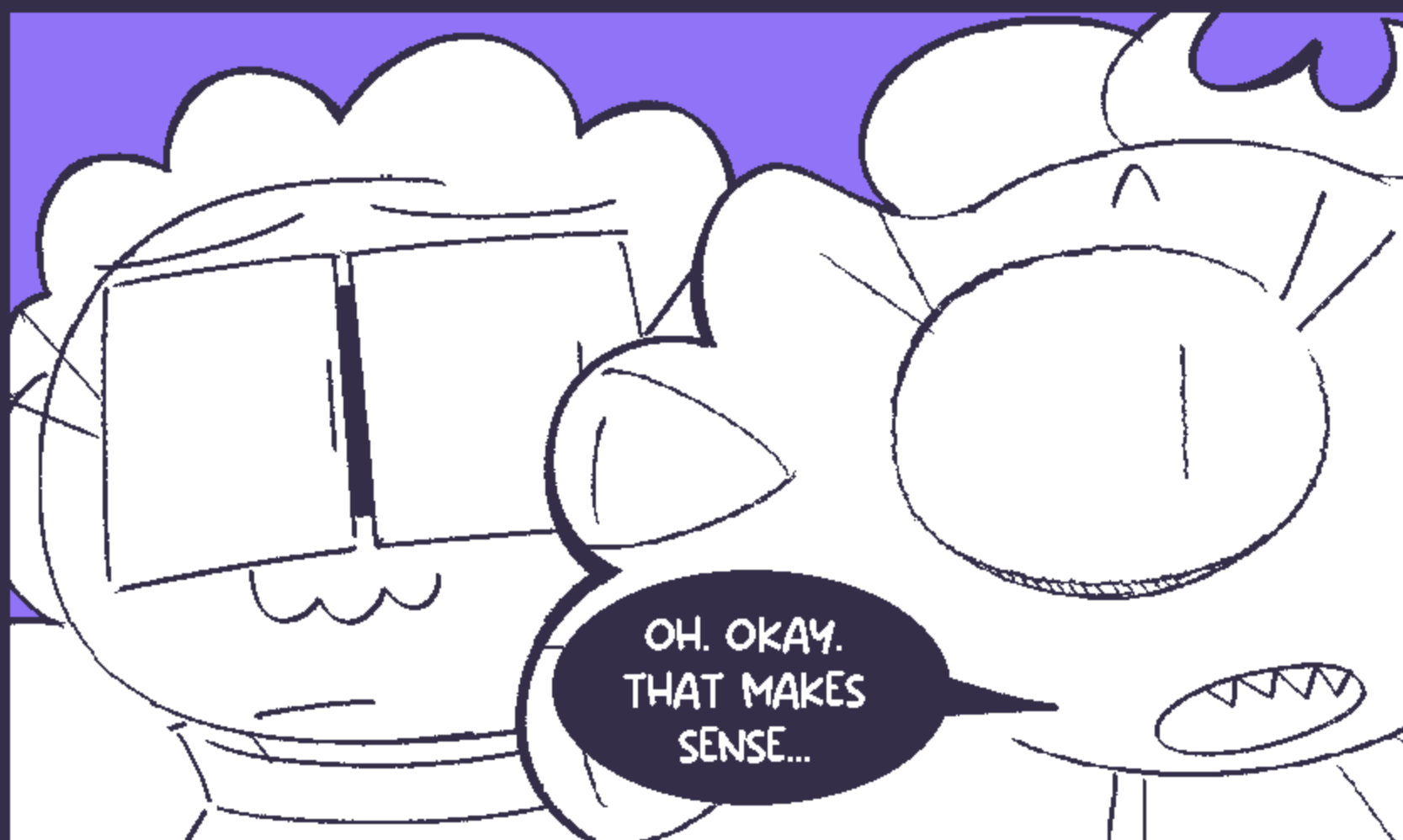
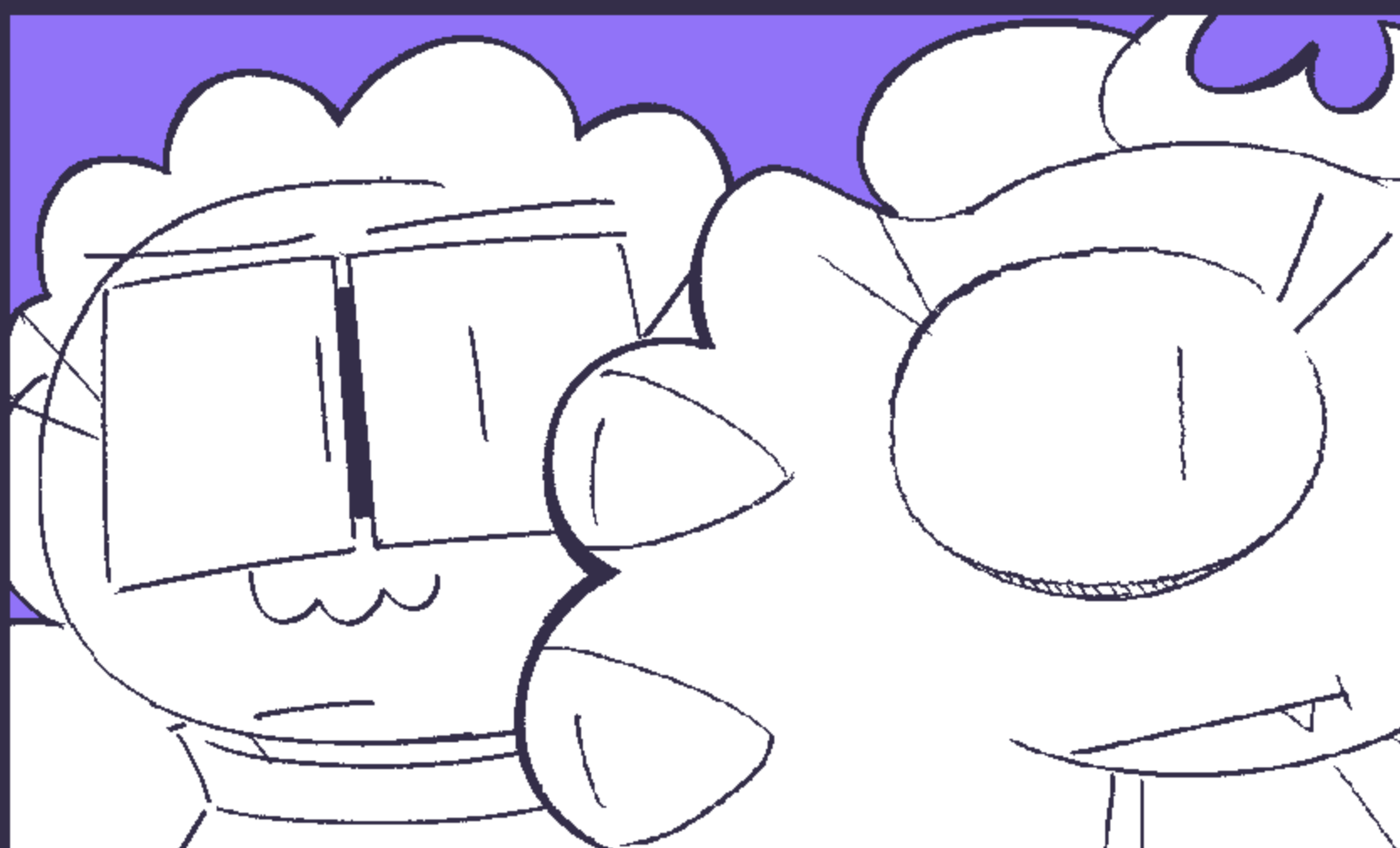
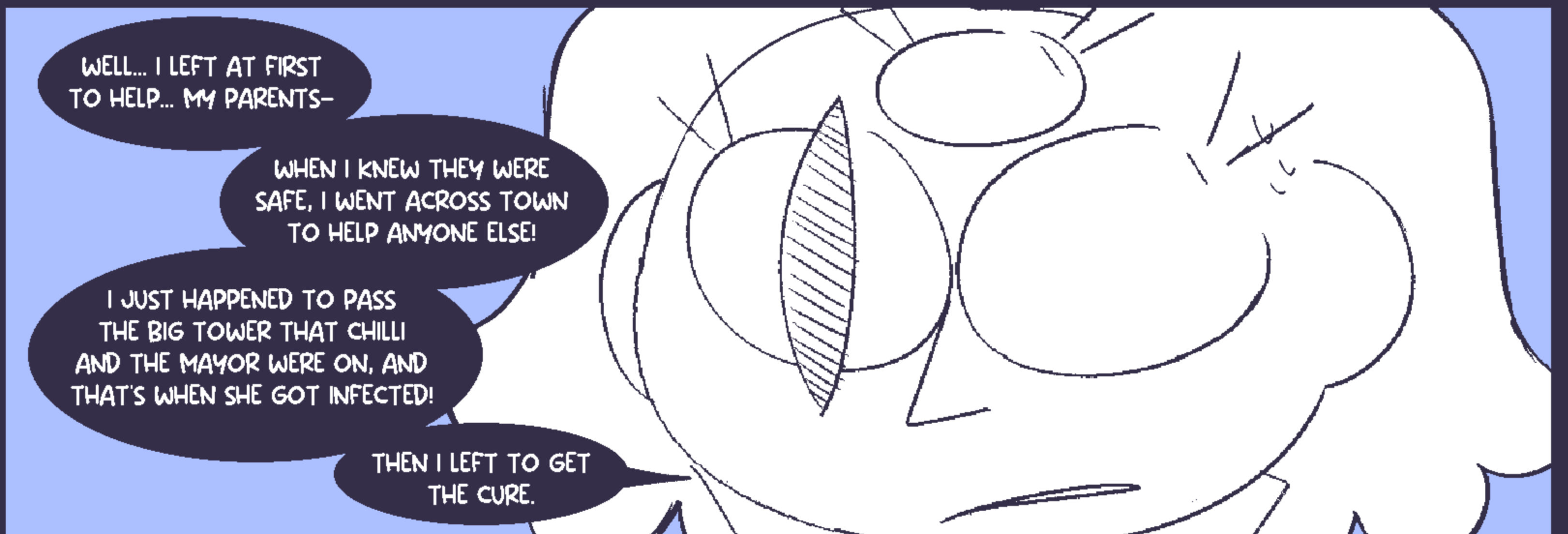
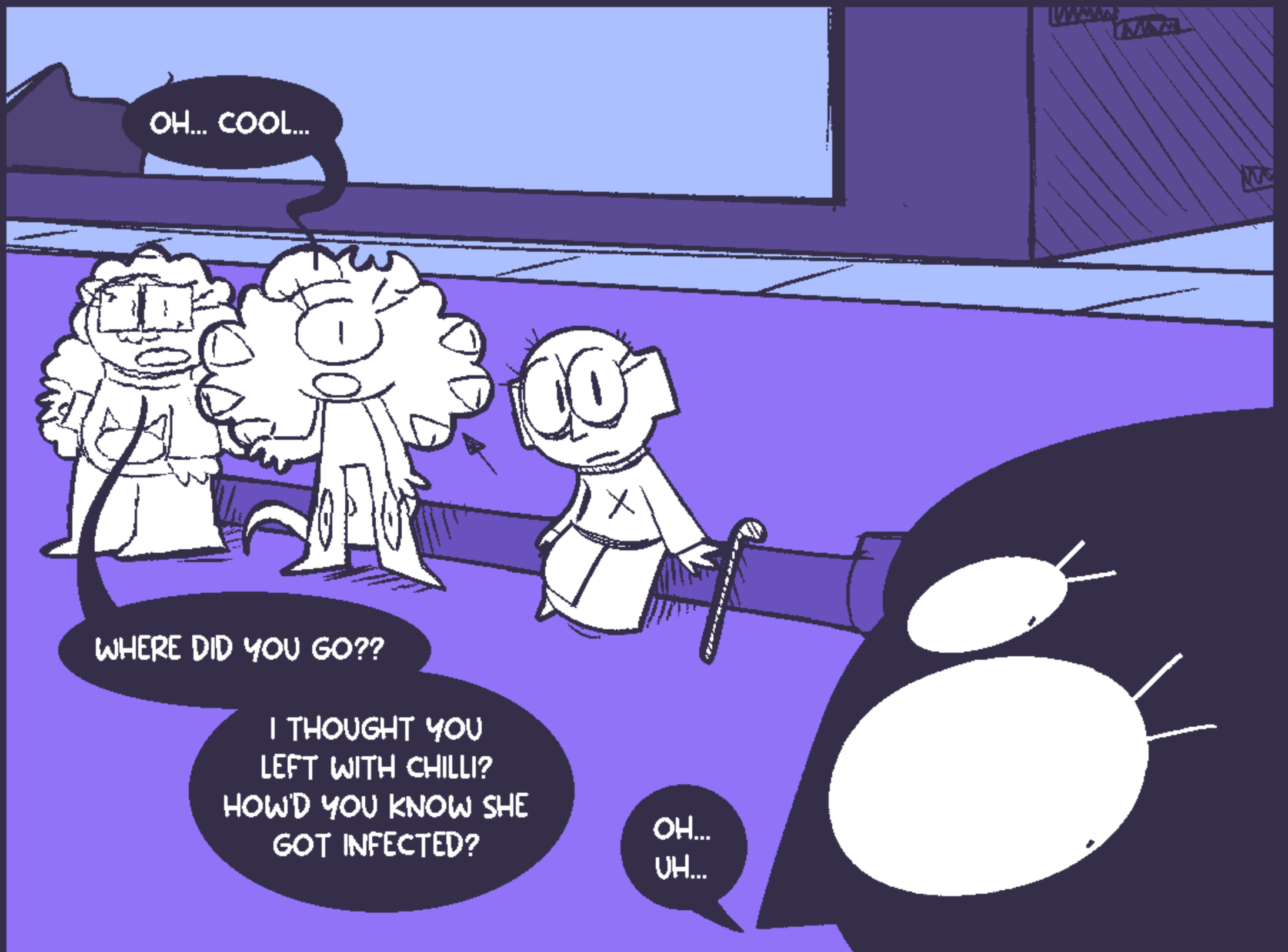
ARE YOU
READY?

...YEAH...









WOOSH!

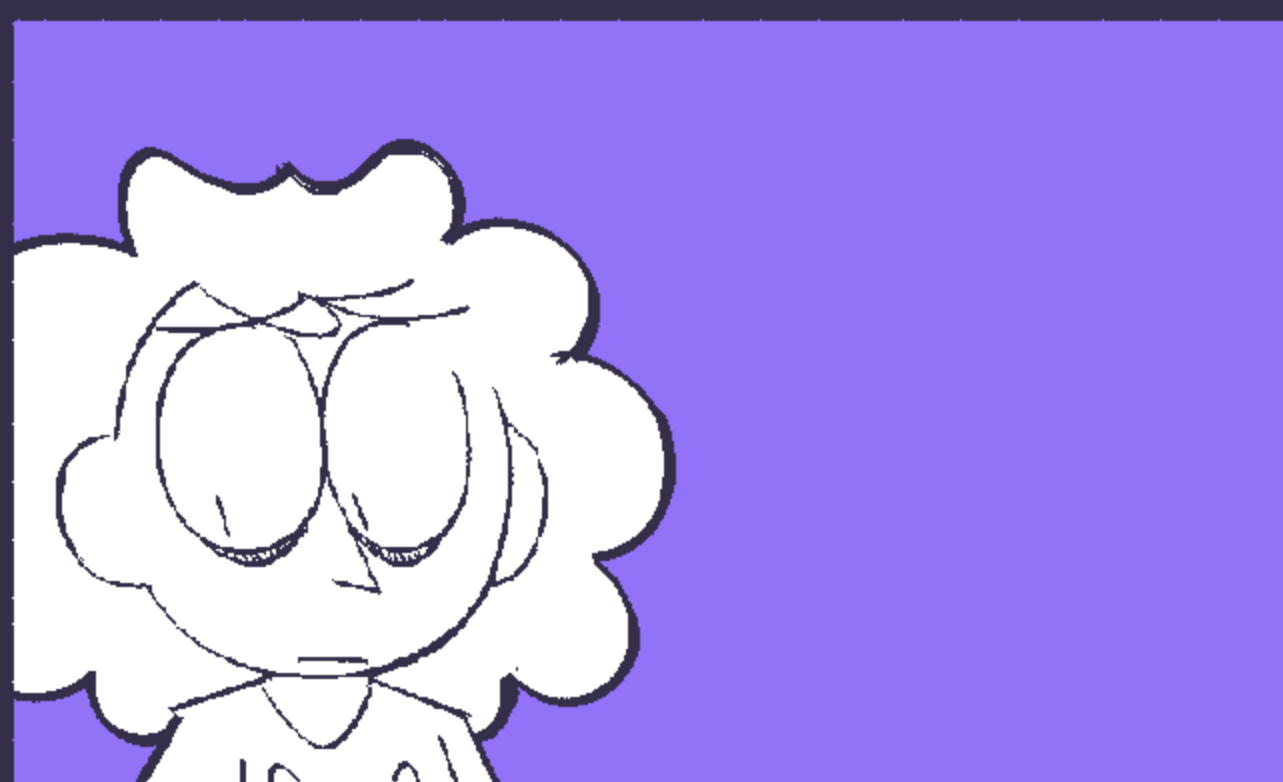
SO UH, HARRY?
WHAT'S NEXT FOR YOU?

HMM... I'M NOT SURE.
IN ALL HONESTY, I NEVER
THOUGHT I'D GET THIS FAR
IN MY PURSUIT FOR REVENGE.

I NEVER PLANNED FOR
AFTERWARDS.

AND NOW THAT IT IS
"AFTERWARDS," I FEEL... LOST.

I'M WITHOUT A PURPOSE.



WELL... THERE MAY BE
AN ELECTION SOON FOR
A NEW MAYOR...

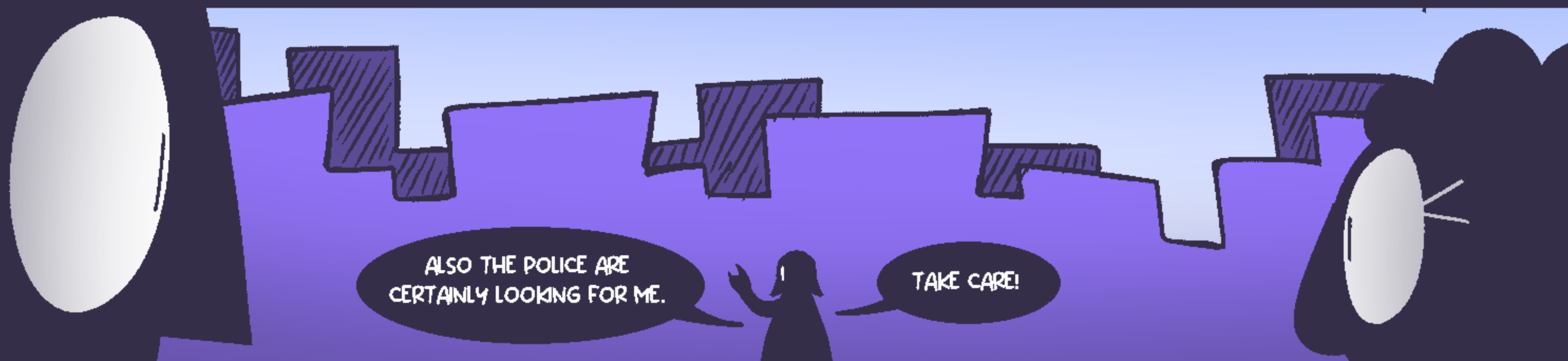
HEH... I'LL
PASS.



I NEED TO GET OUT
OF THE COVE, ANYWAY...

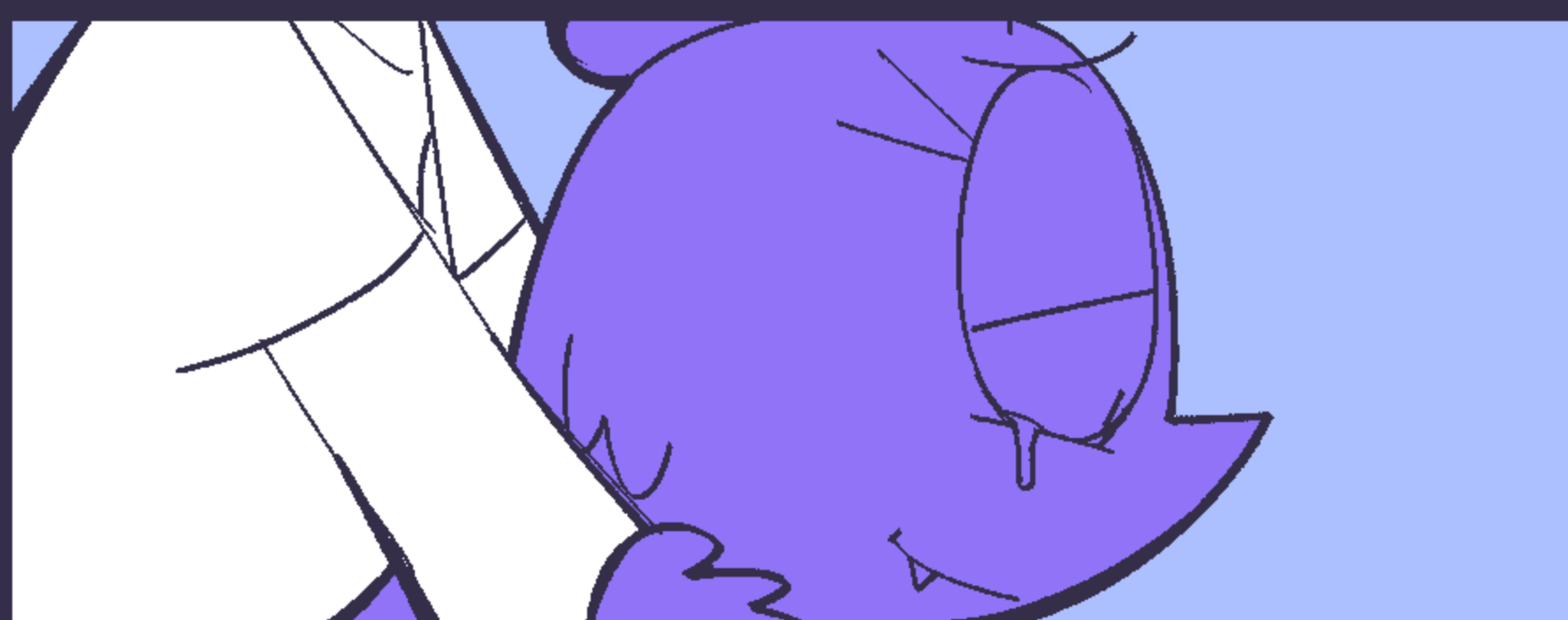
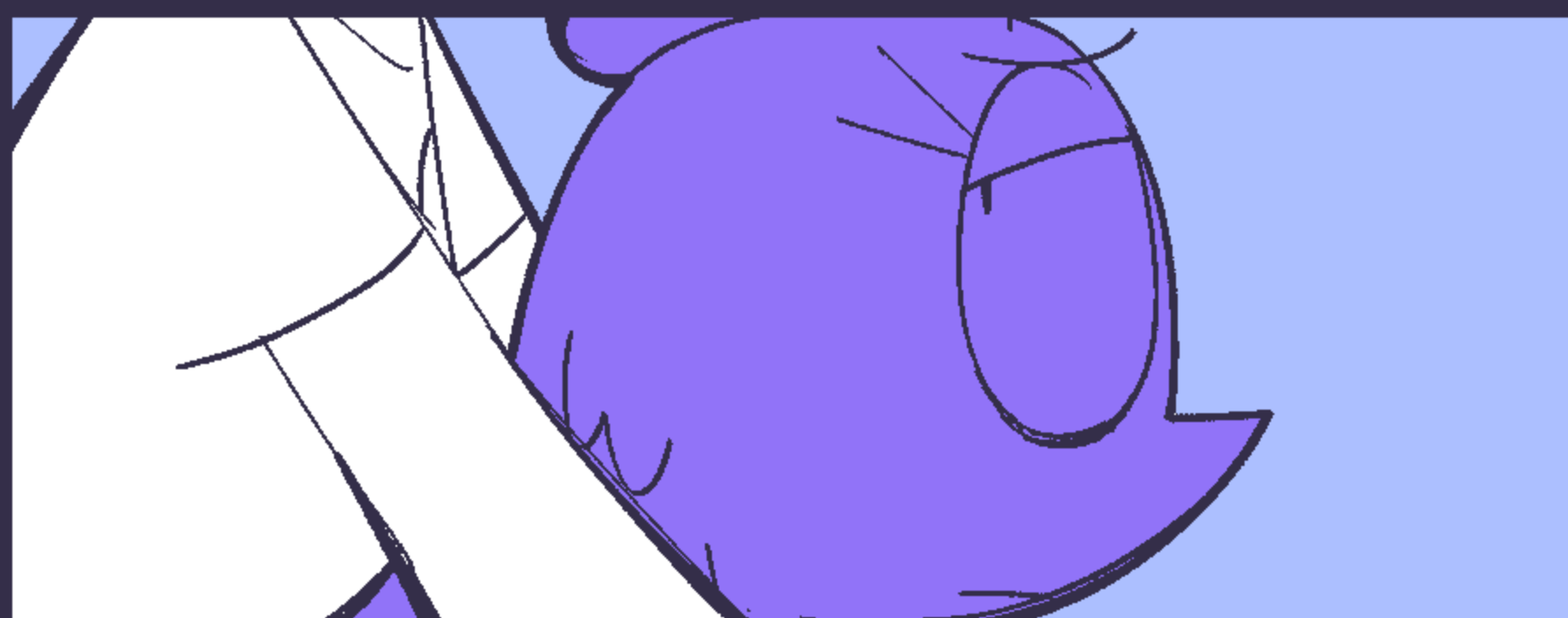
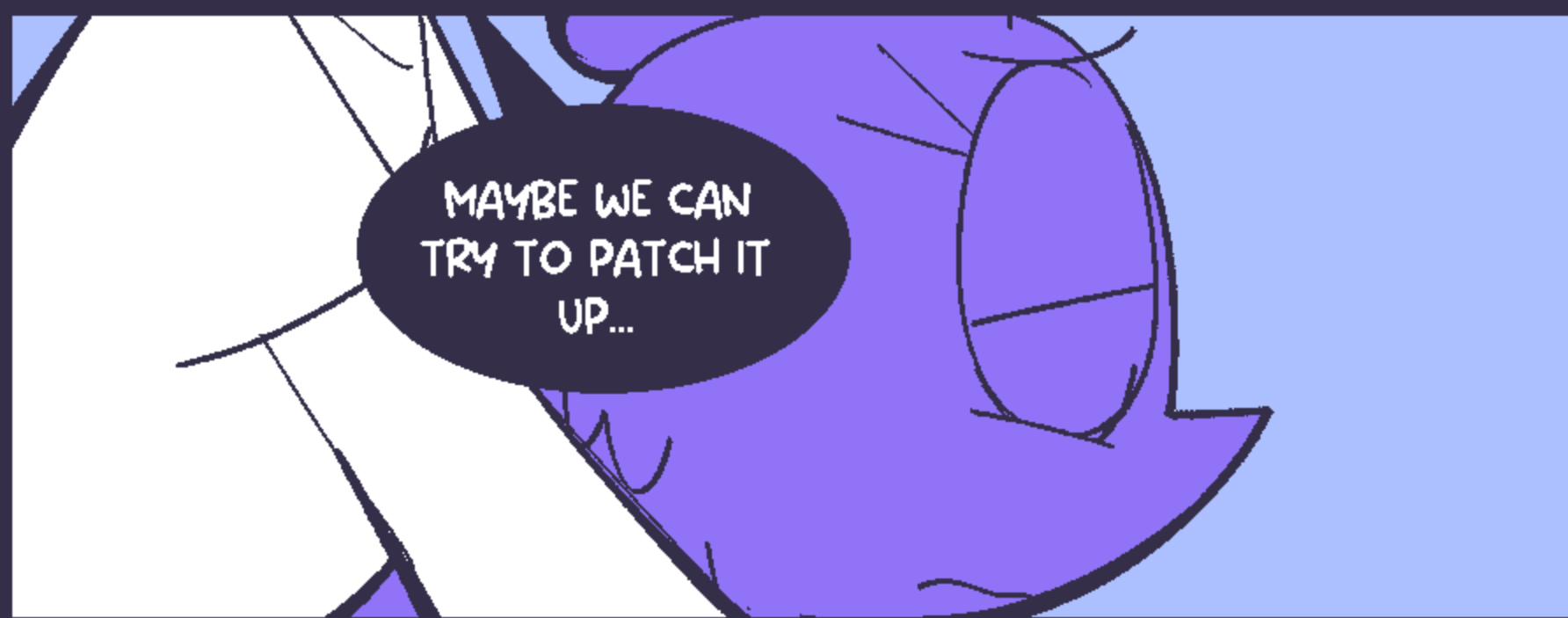
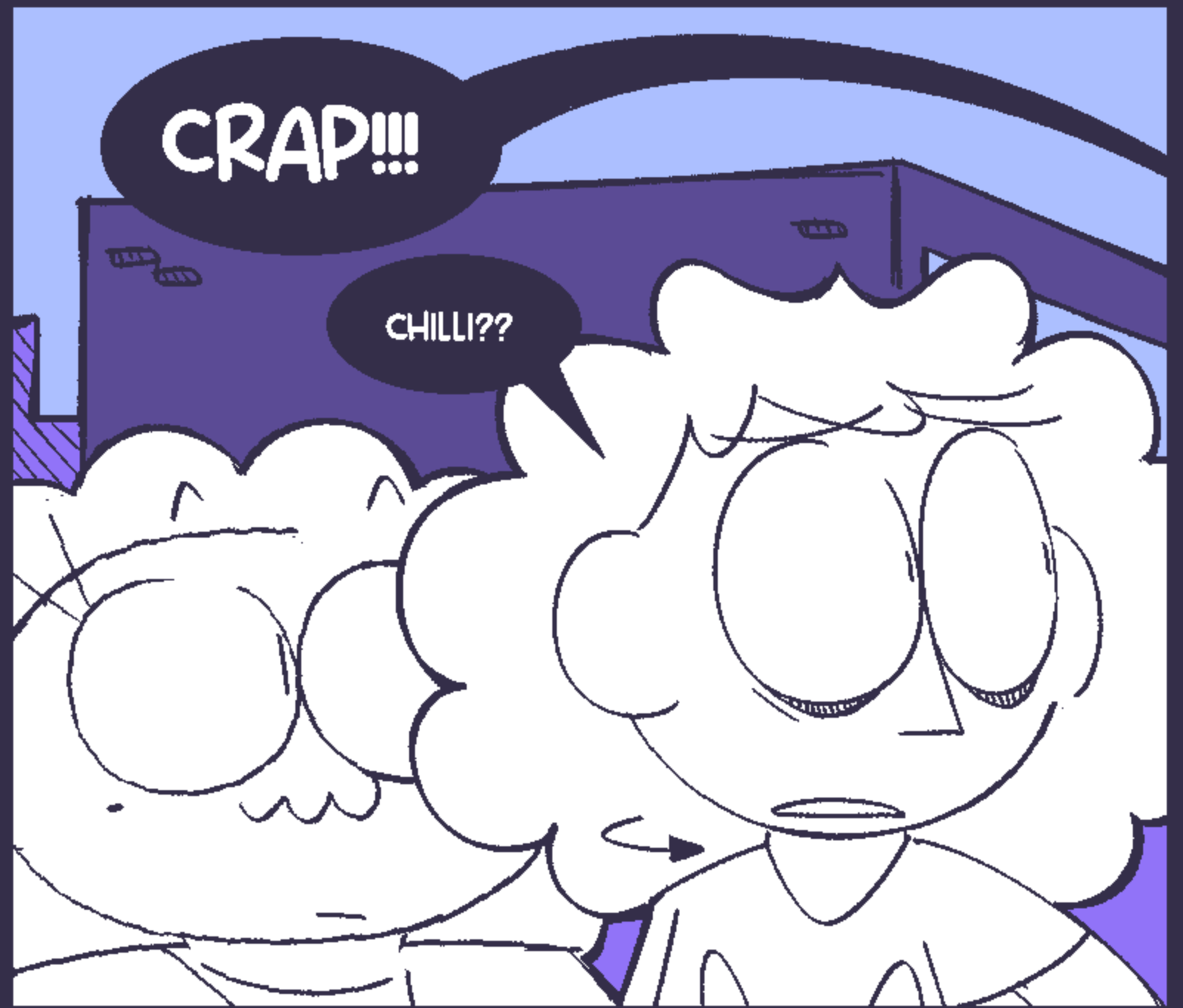
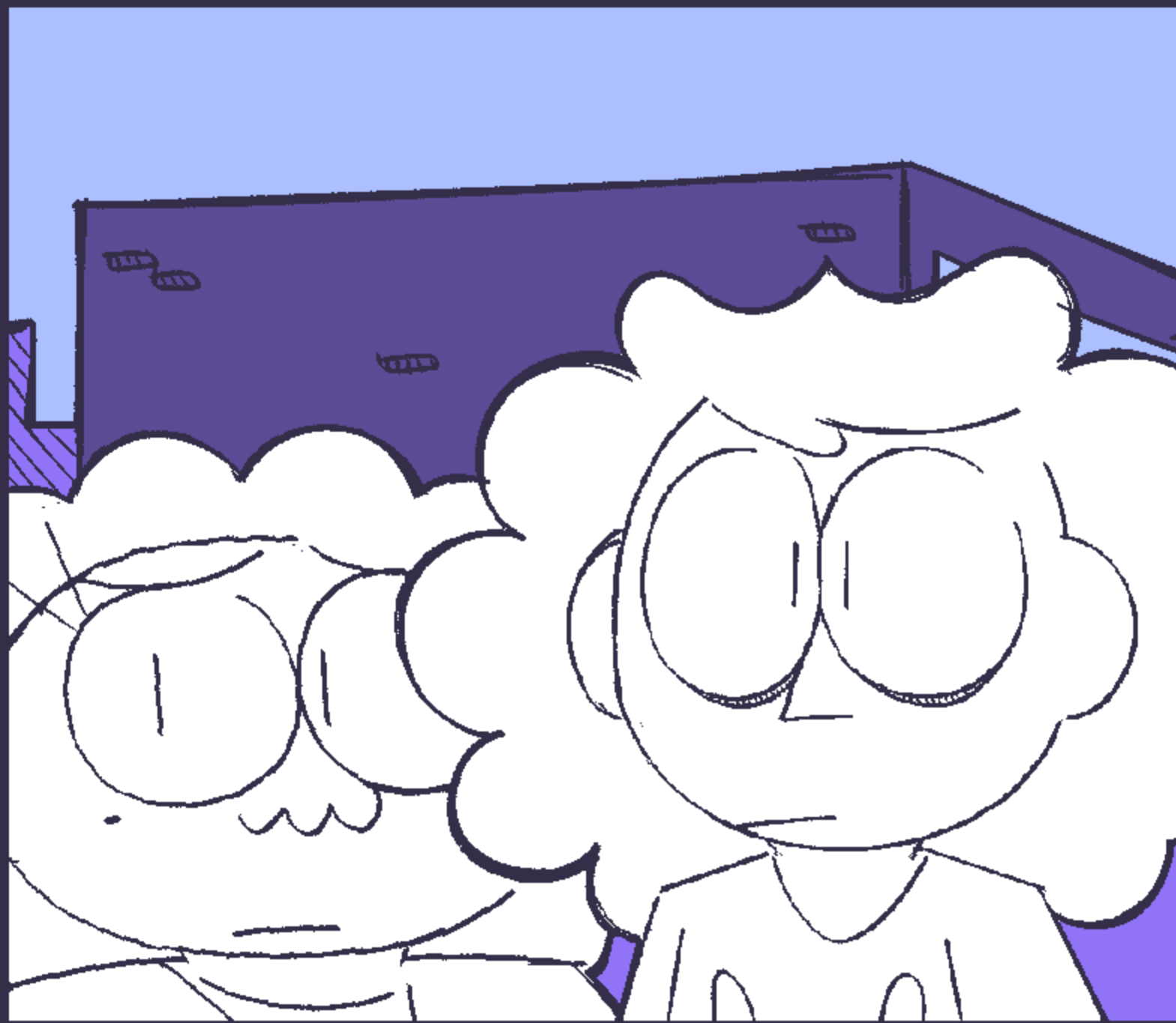
HOW
COME?

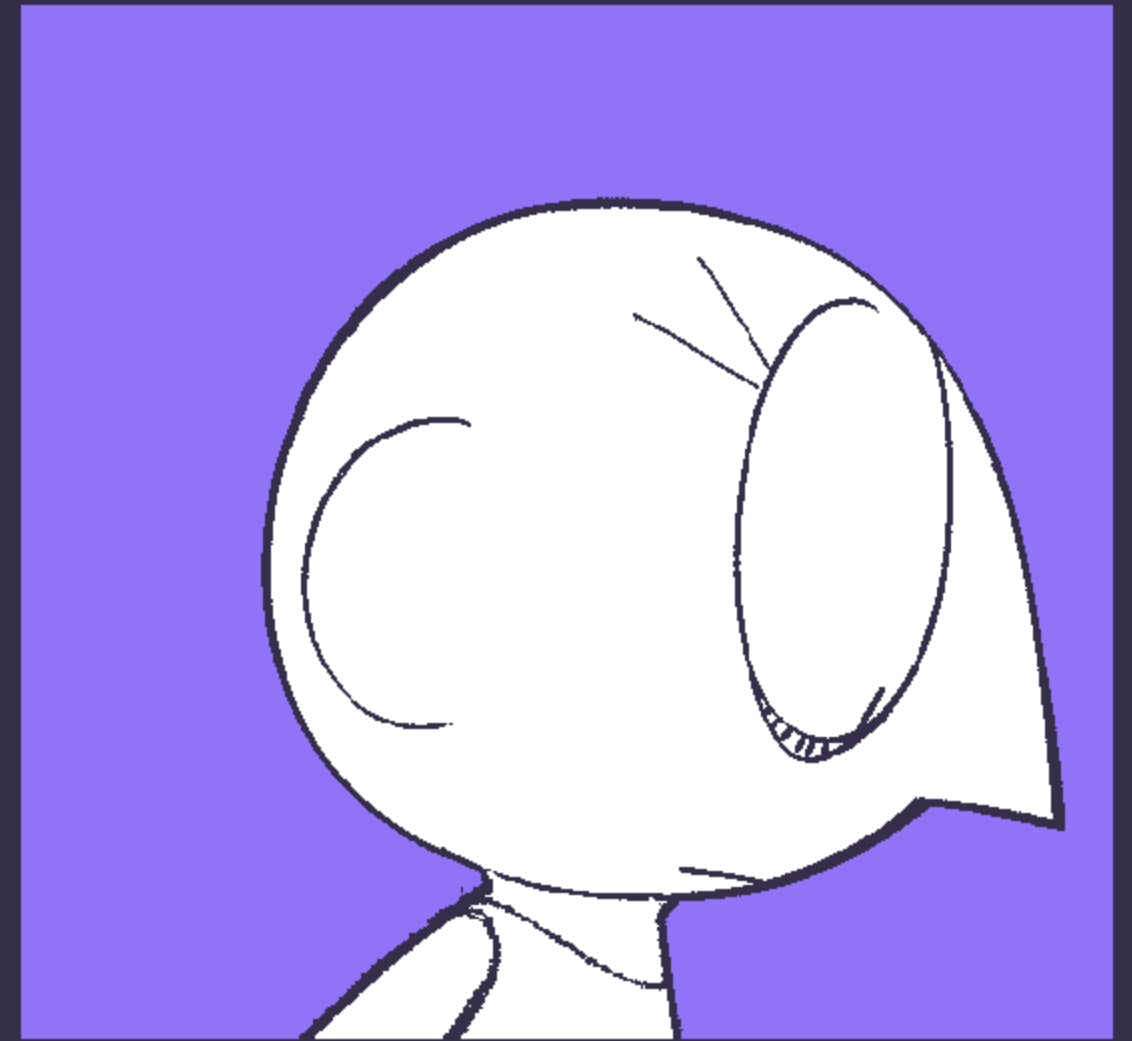
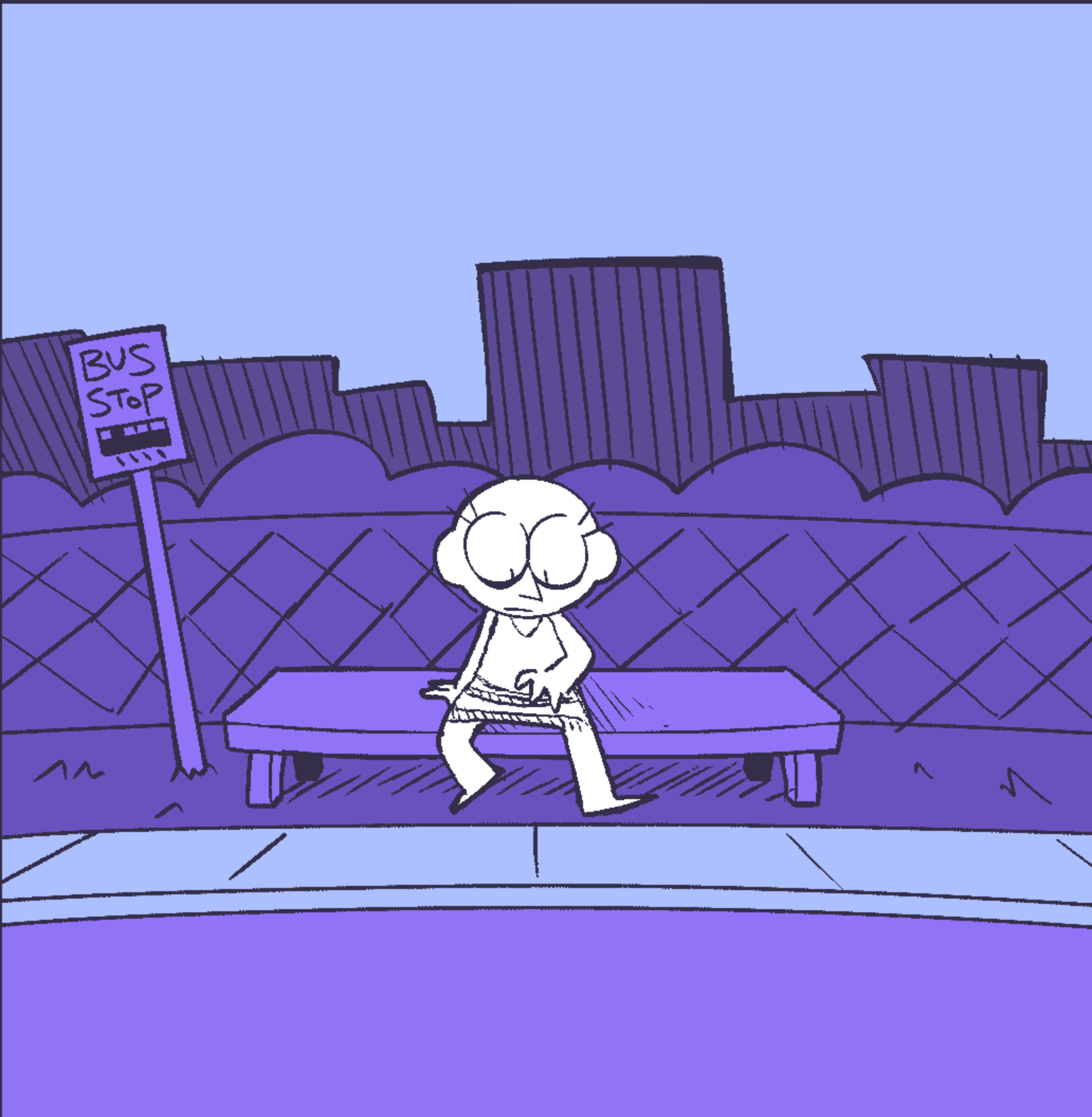
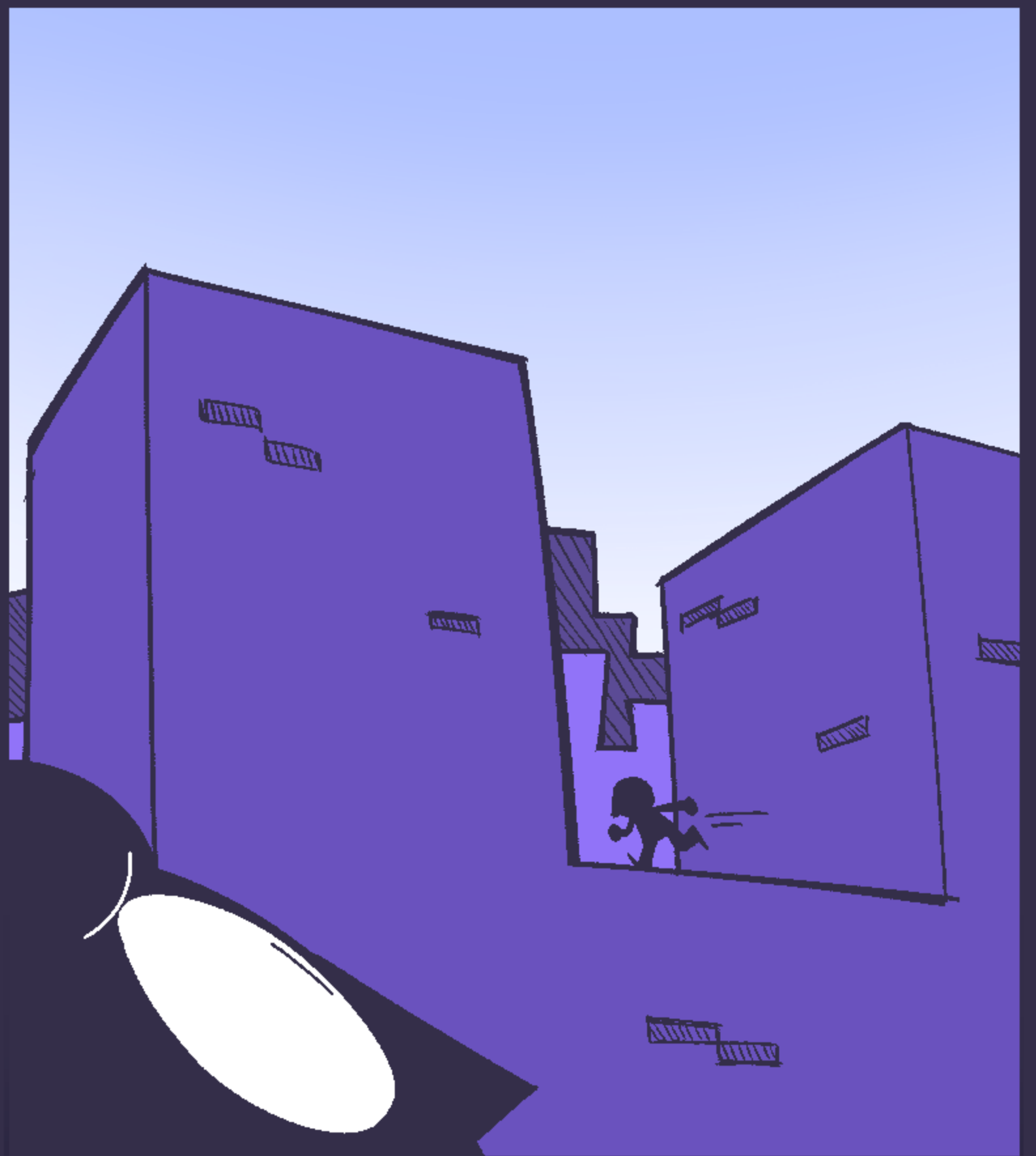
THIS TOWN MAKES ME SAD.
BRINGS UP BAD MEMORIES.

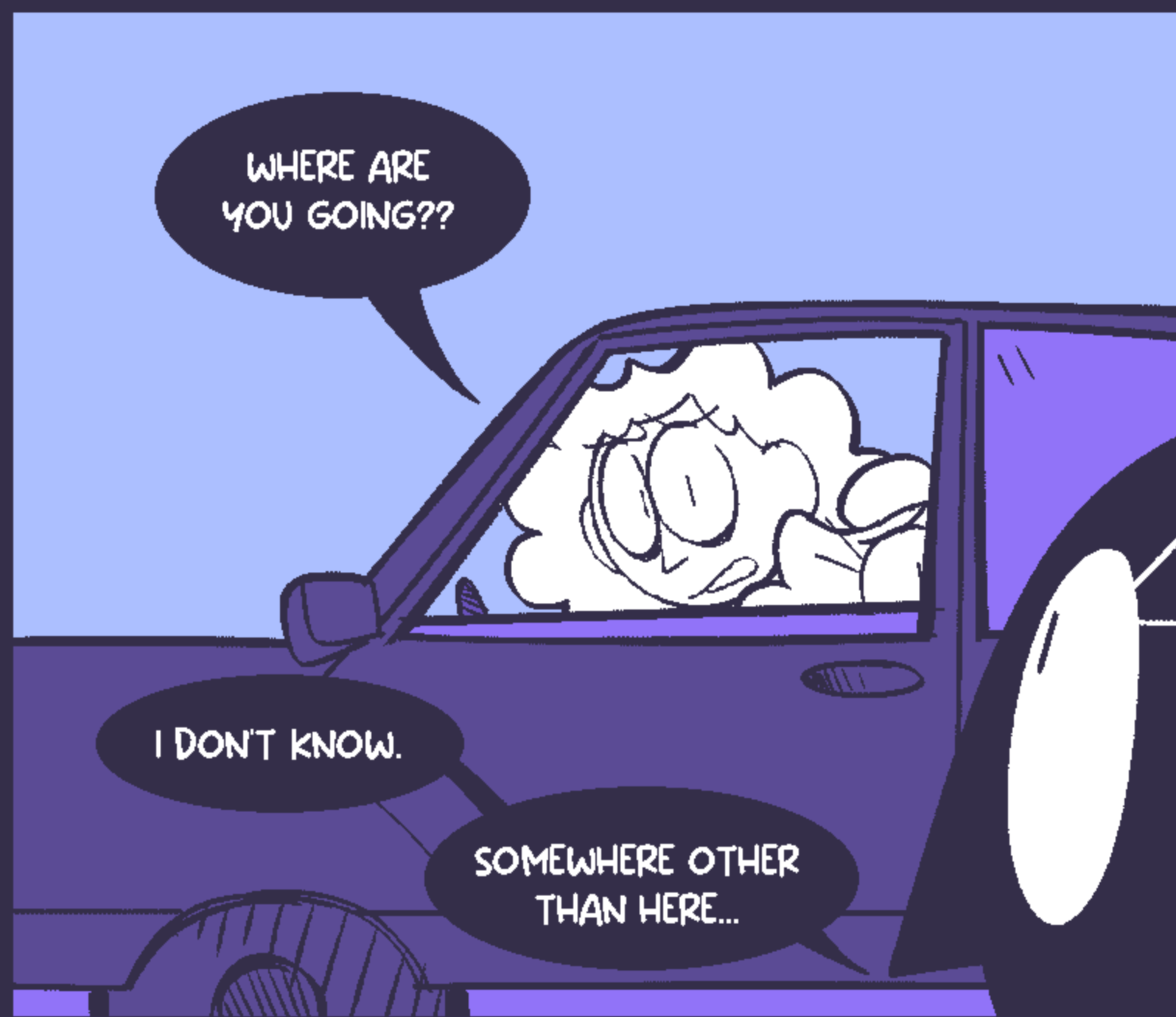


ALSO THE POLICE ARE
CERTAINLY LOOKING FOR ME.

TAKE CARE!







WHERE ARE YOU GOING??

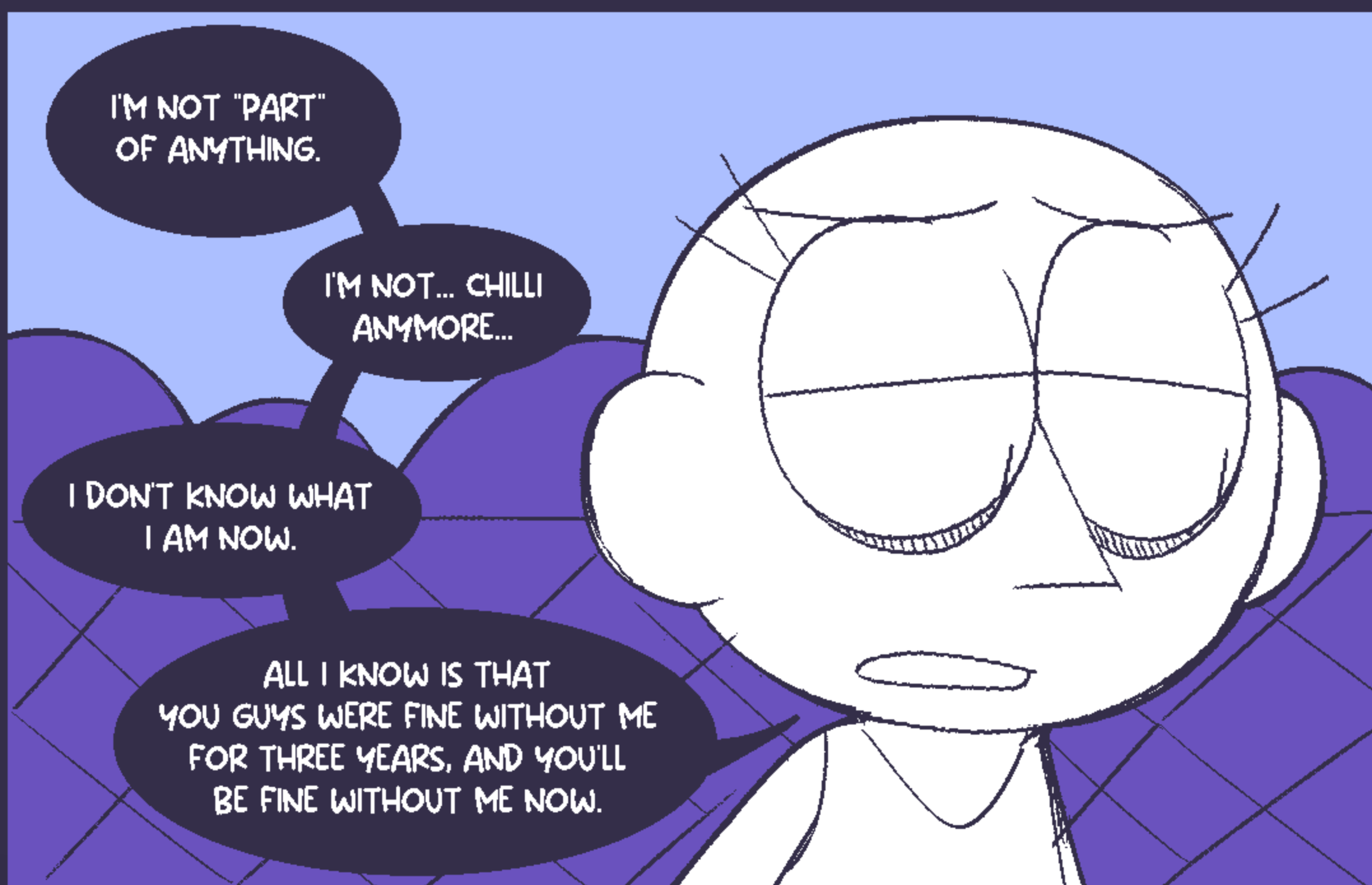
I DON'T KNOW.

SOMEWHERE OTHER THAN HERE...



BUT YOU CAN'T GO! YOU'RE LIKE... A MISSING PIECE OF ME-

I'M NOT A PIECE.



I'M NOT "PART" OF ANYTHING.

I'M NOT... CHILLI ANYMORE...

I DON'T KNOW WHAT I AM NOW.

ALL I KNOW IS THAT YOU GUYS WERE FINE WITHOUT ME FOR THREE YEARS, AND YOU'LL BE FINE WITHOUT ME NOW.



I'LL JUST BE A BURDEN IF I STICK AROUND.

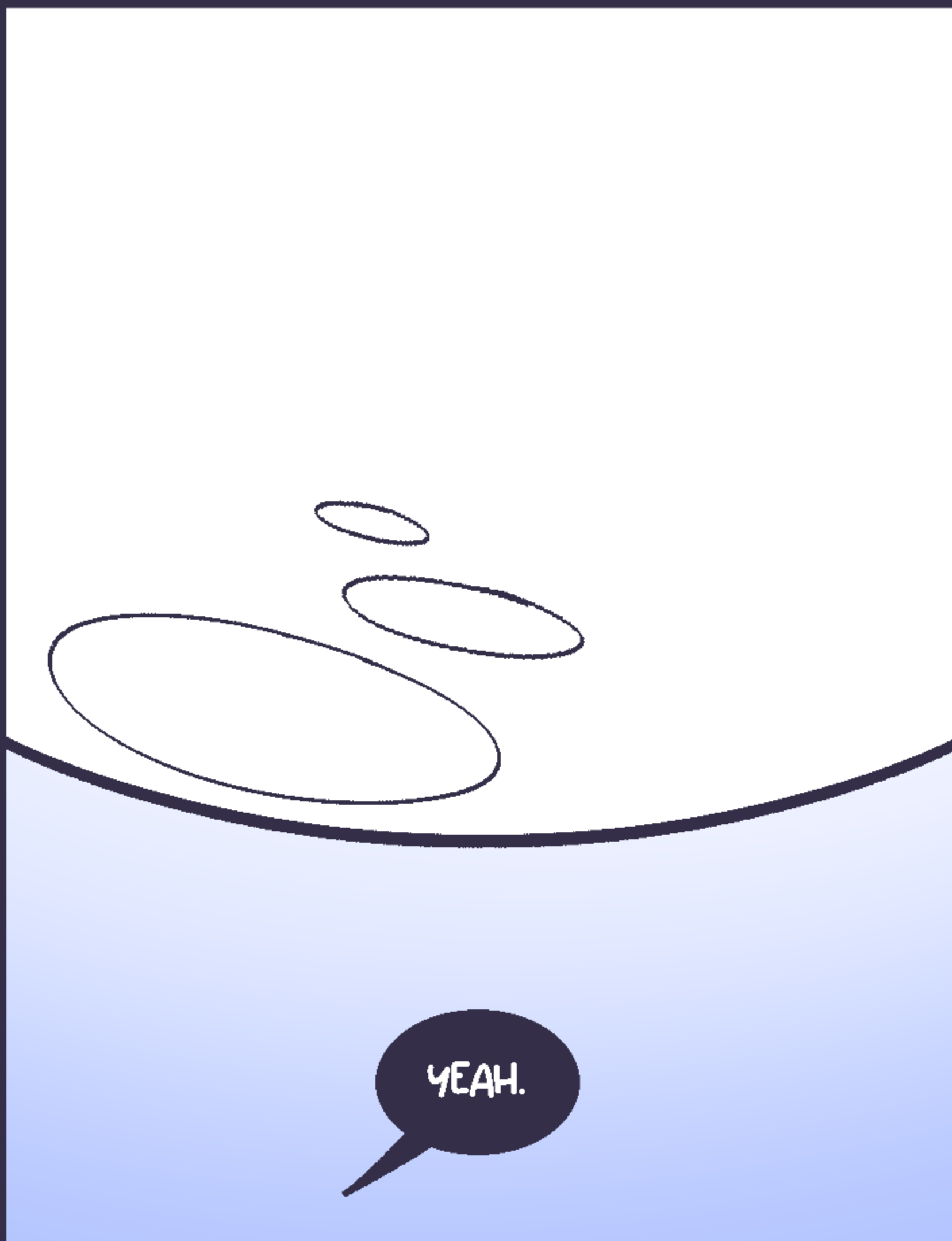
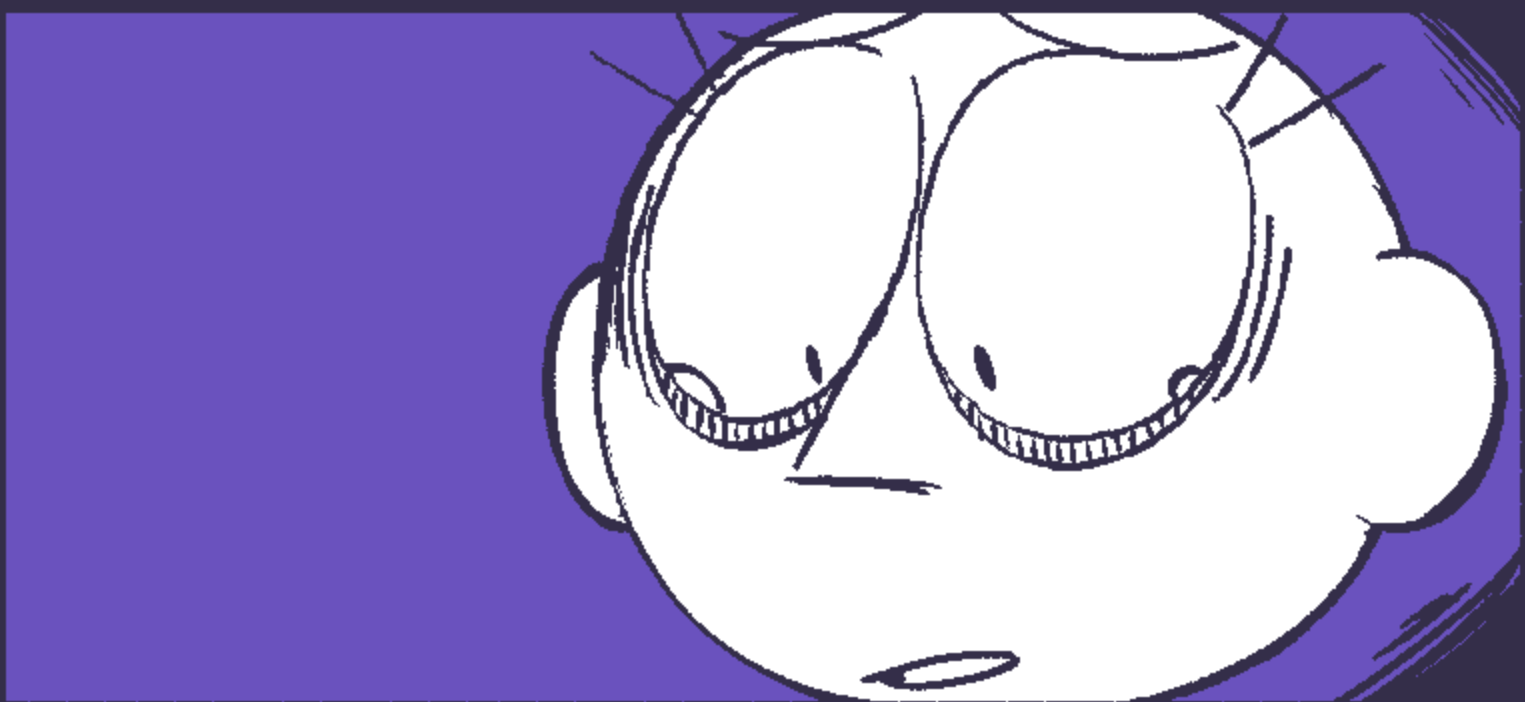
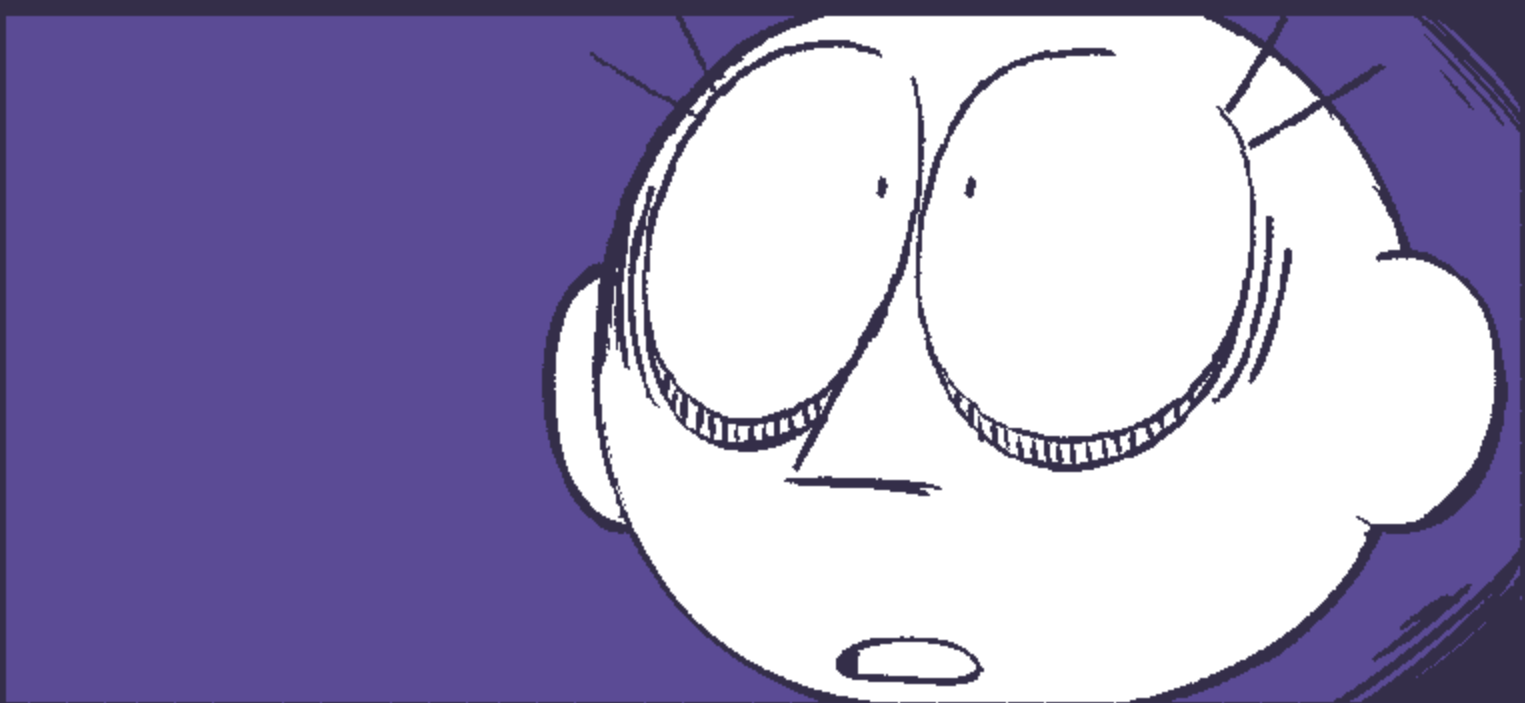
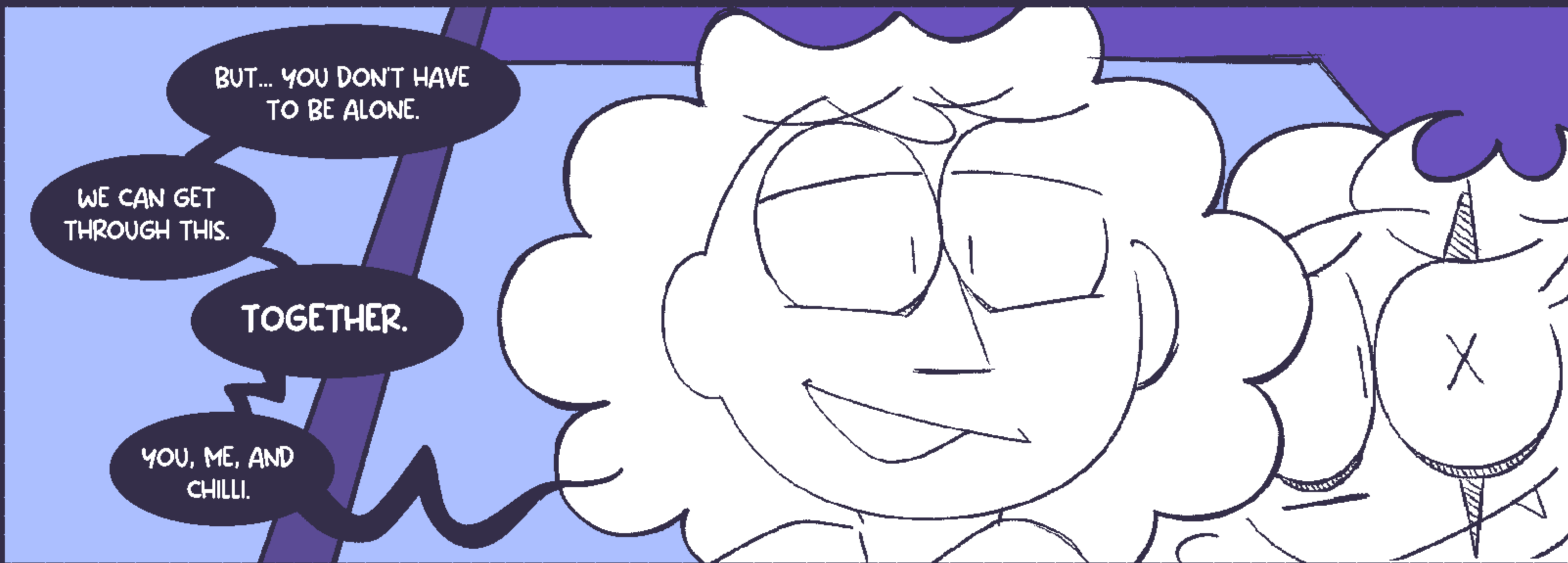
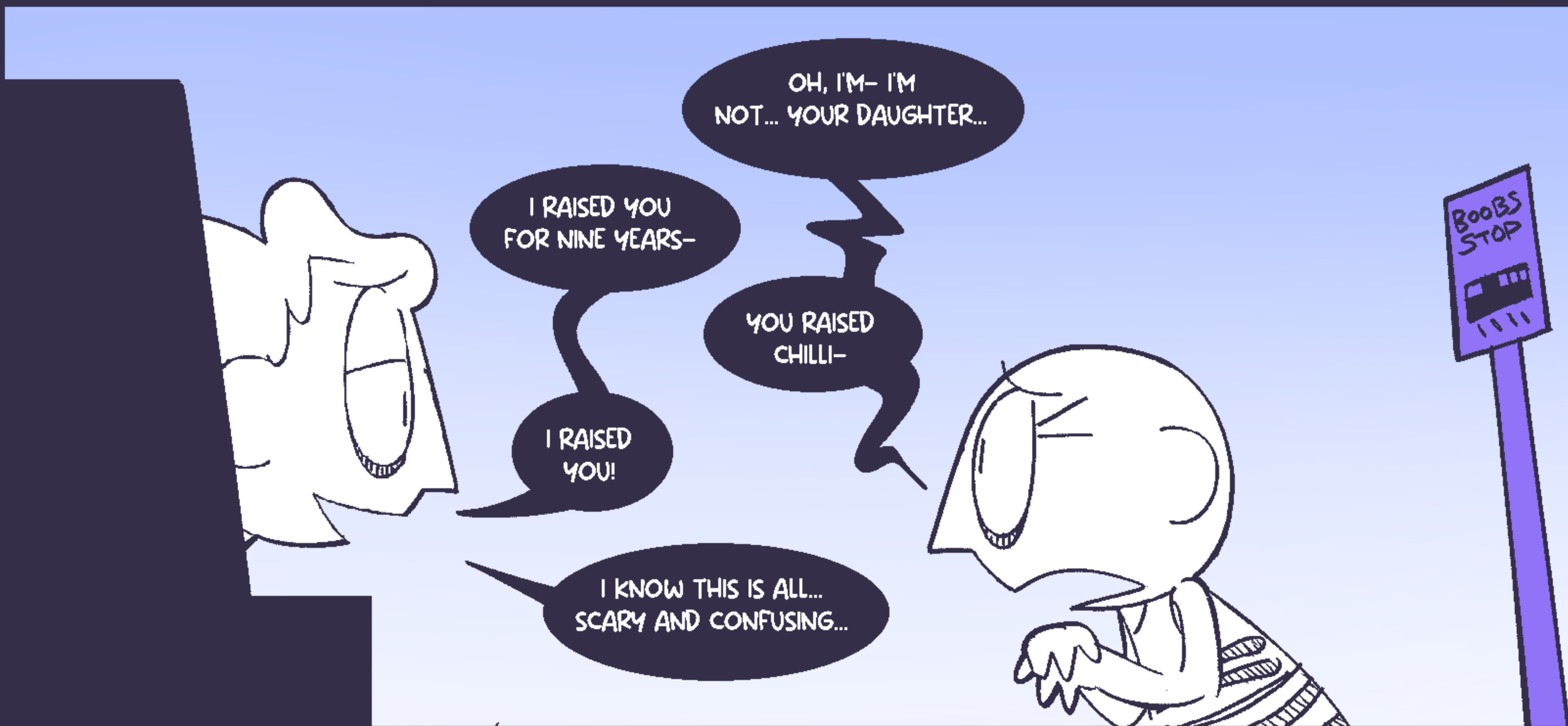


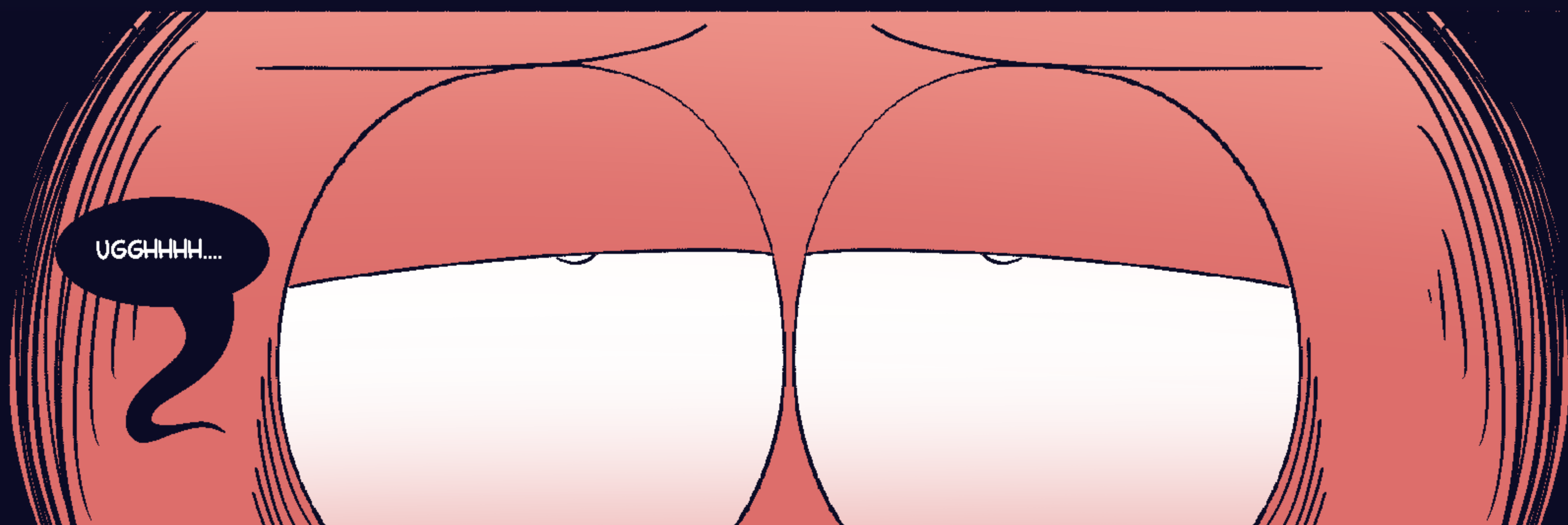
WELL... MAYBE YOU'RE NOT CHILLI...

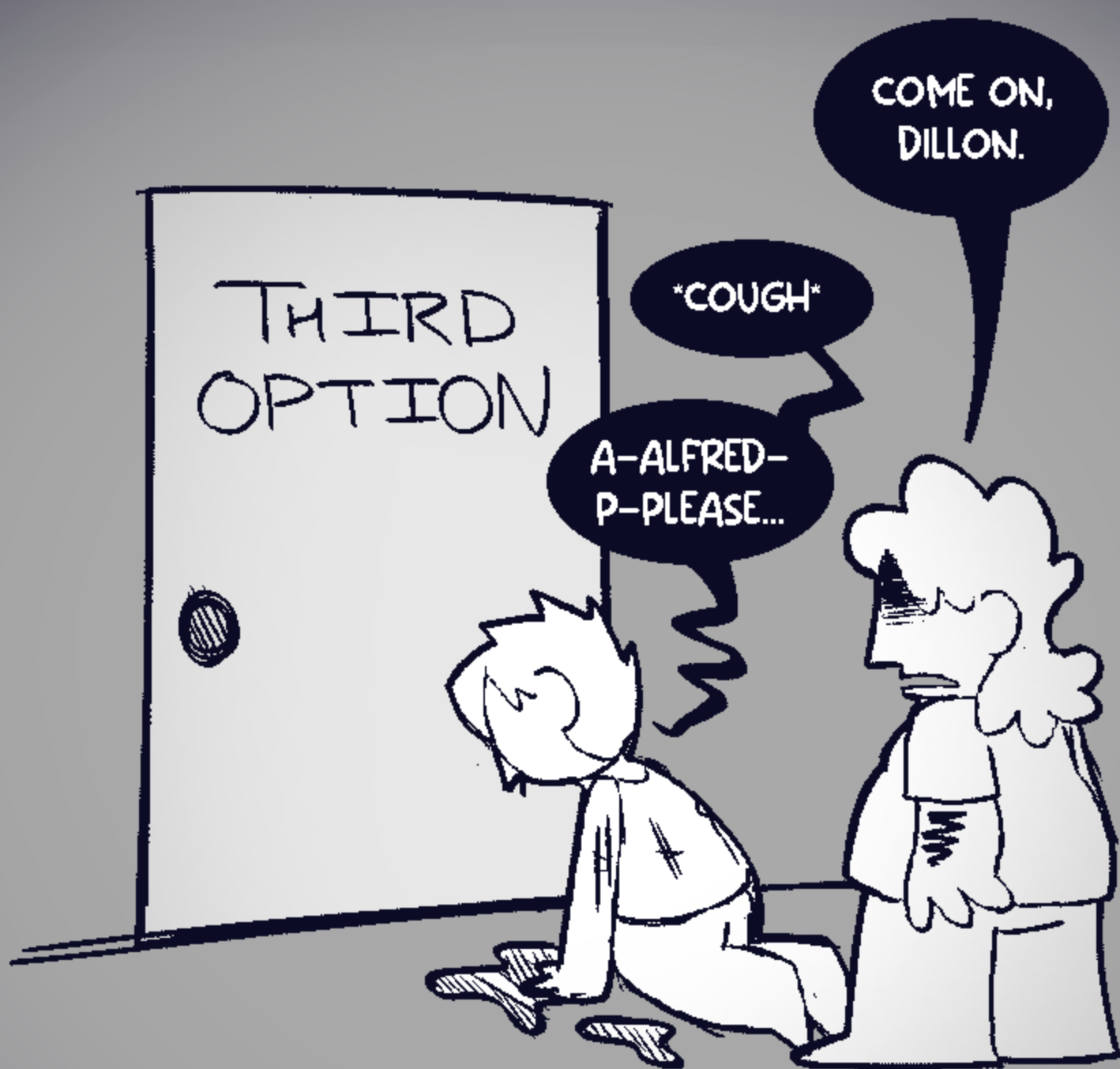
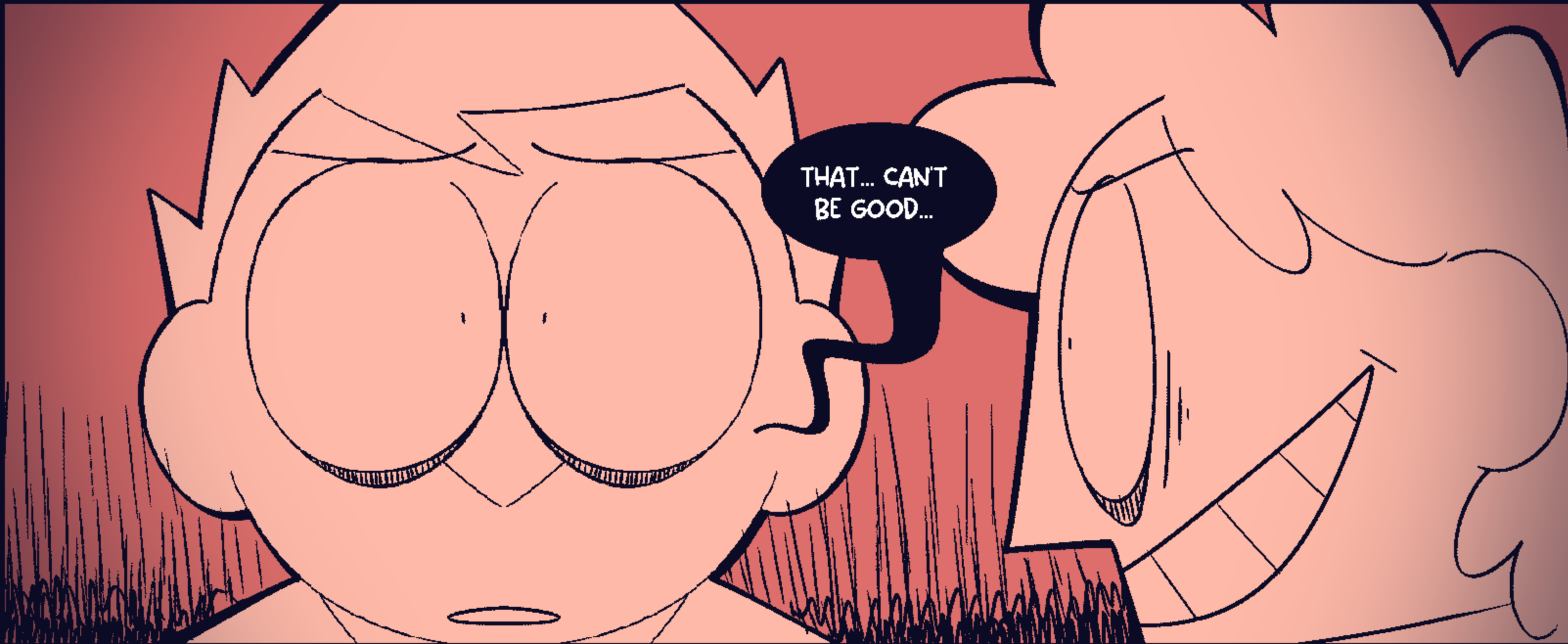


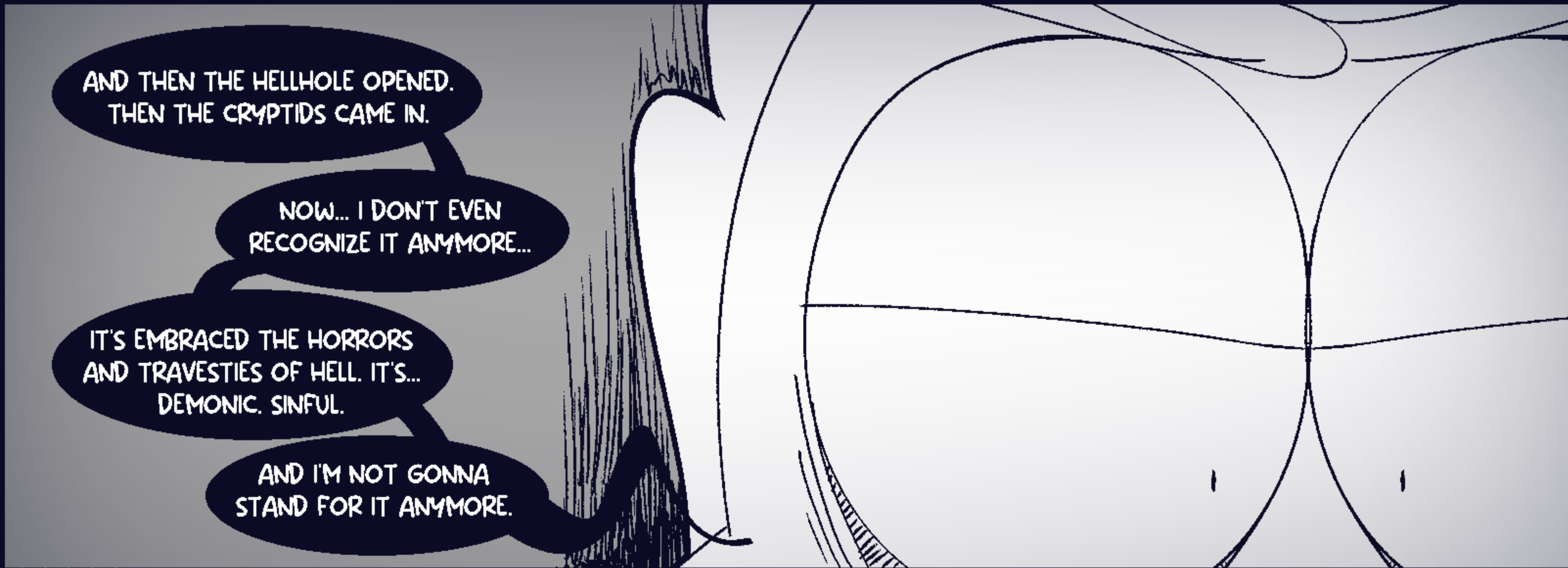
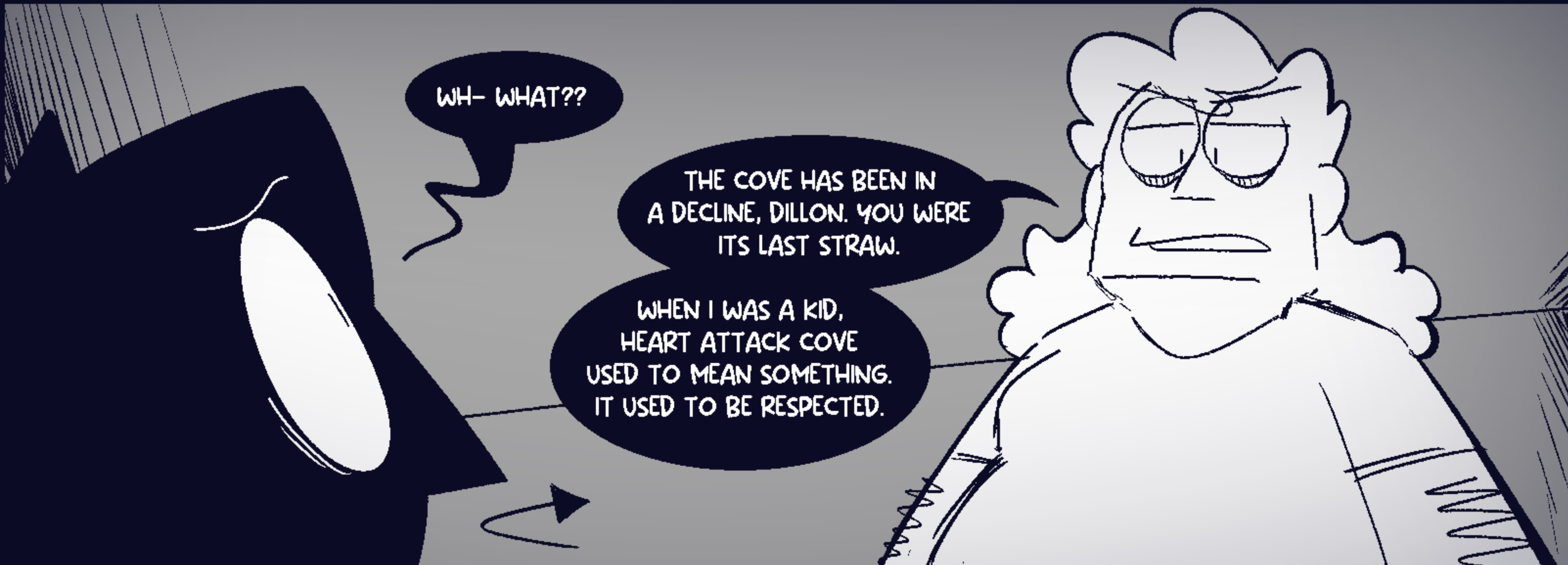
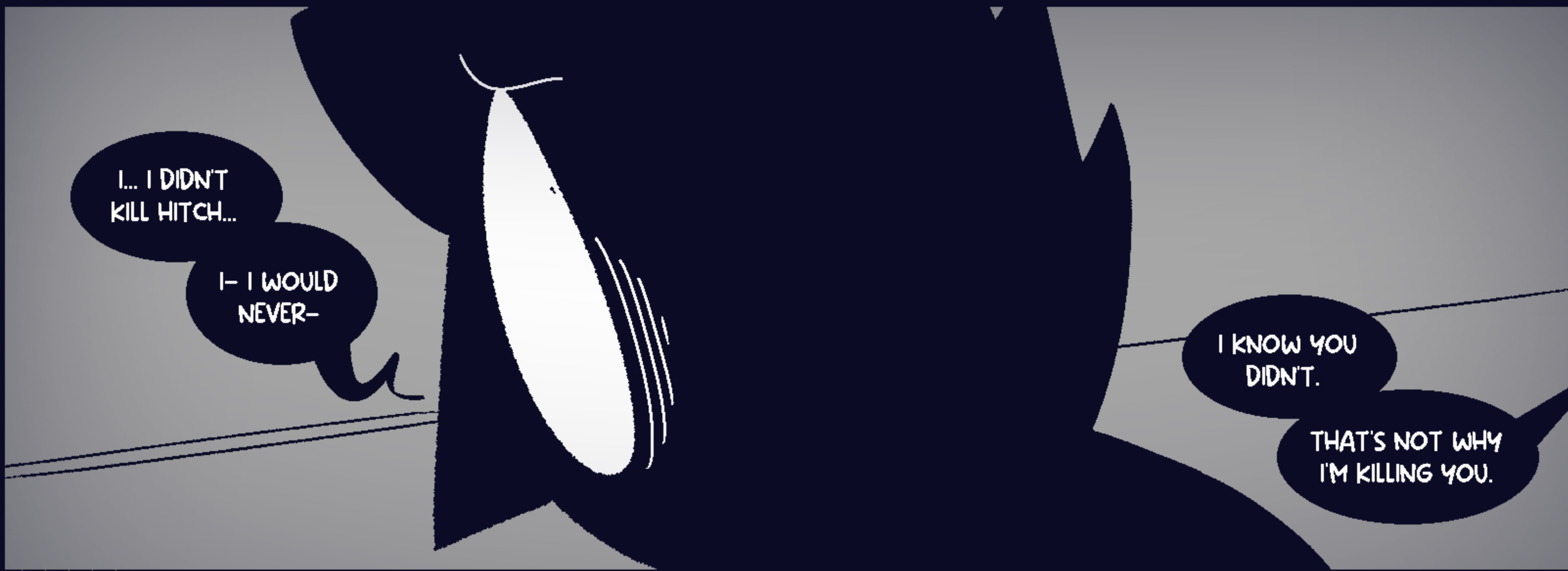
...BUT YOU'RE STILL MY DAUGHTER.

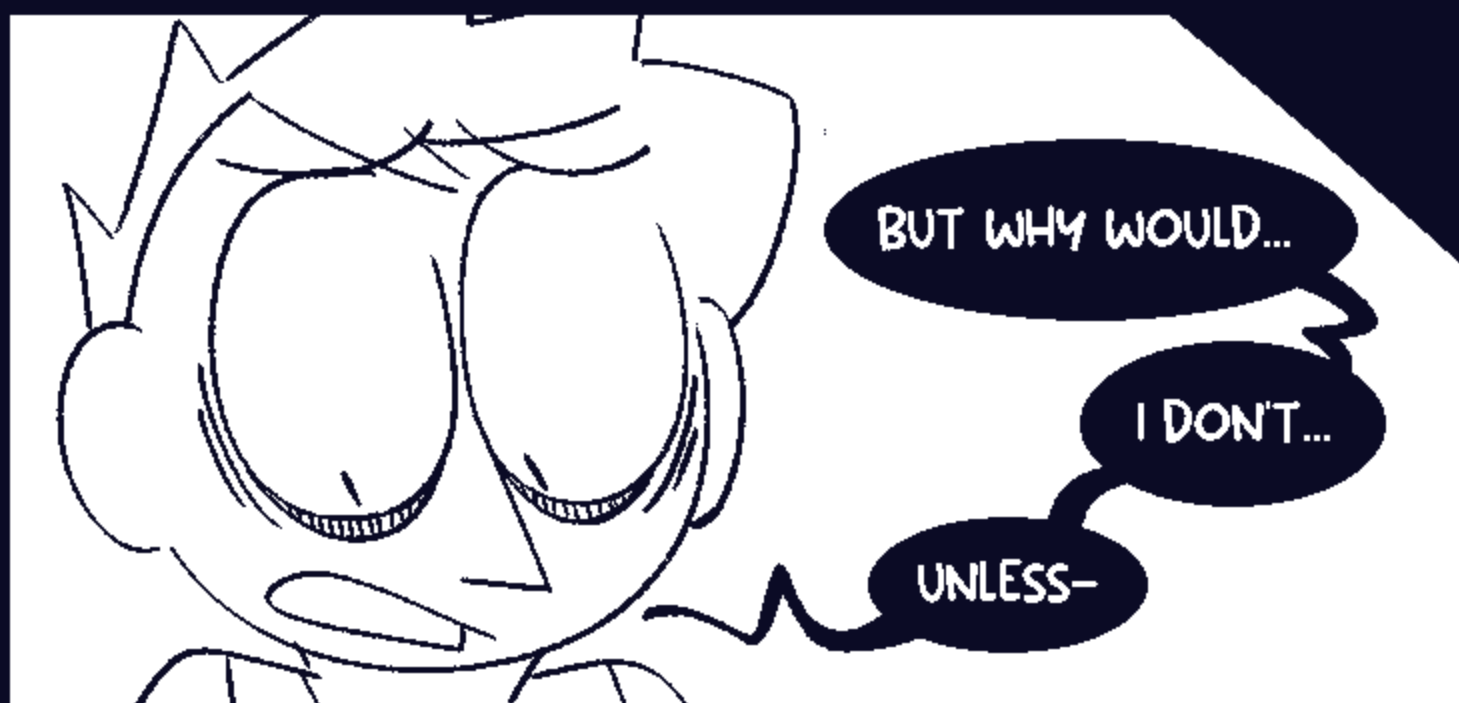
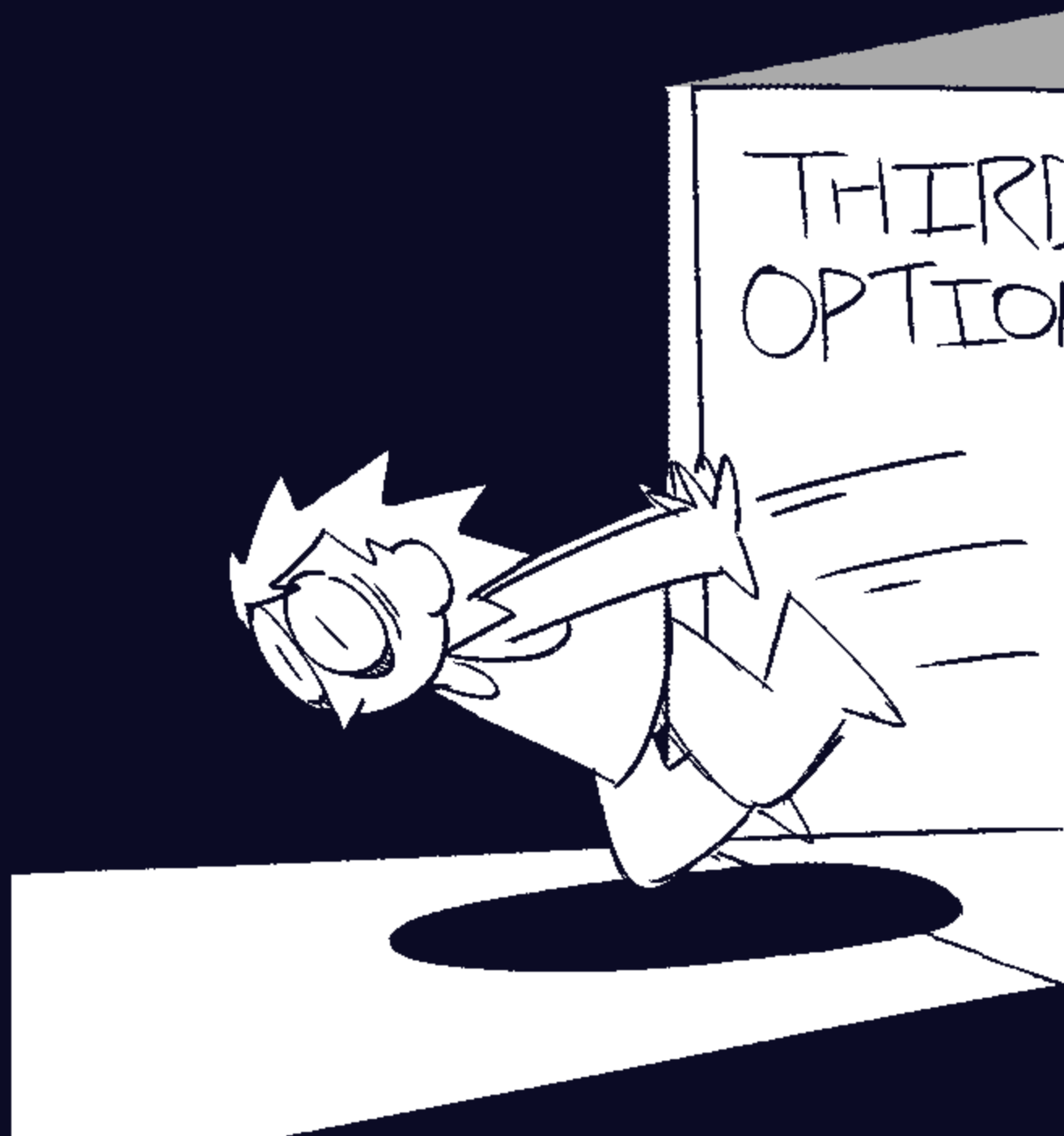
AND I LOVE YOU JUST THE SAME.

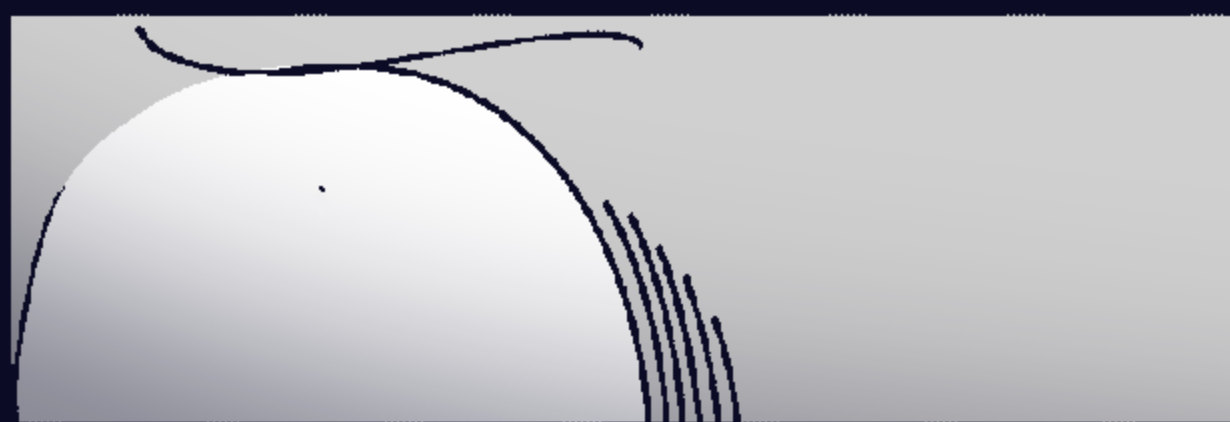
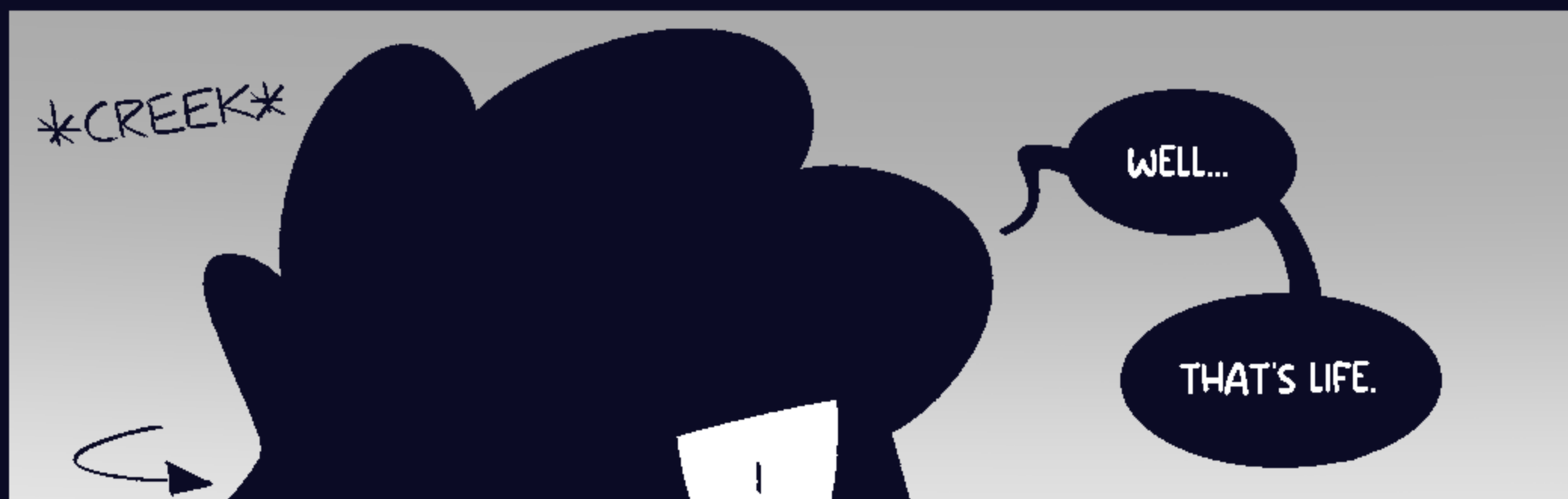
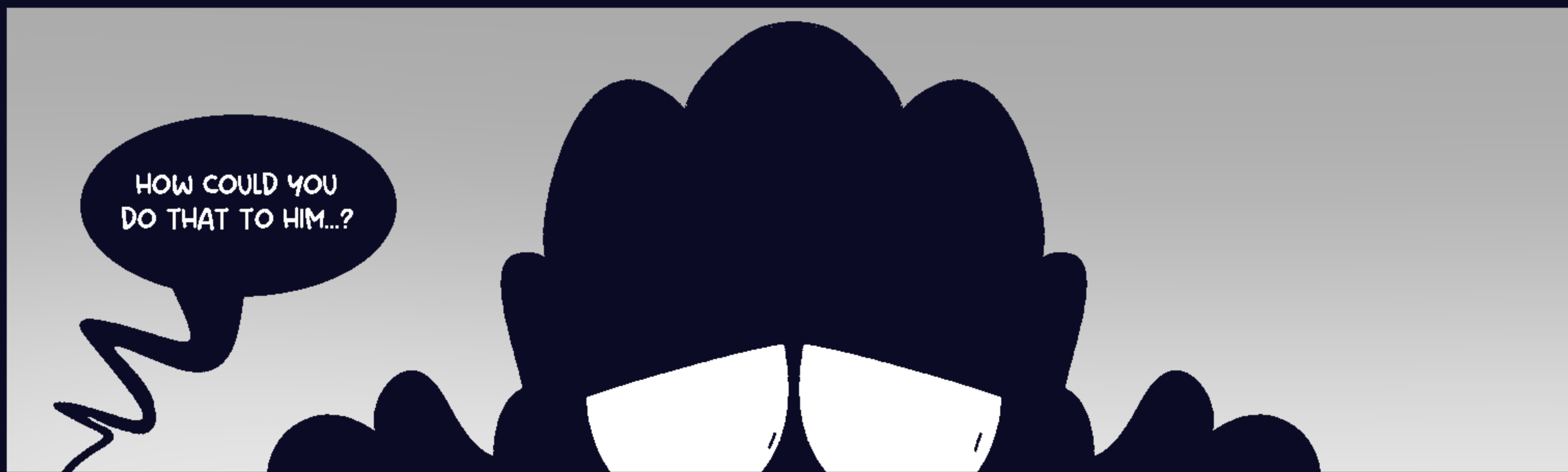
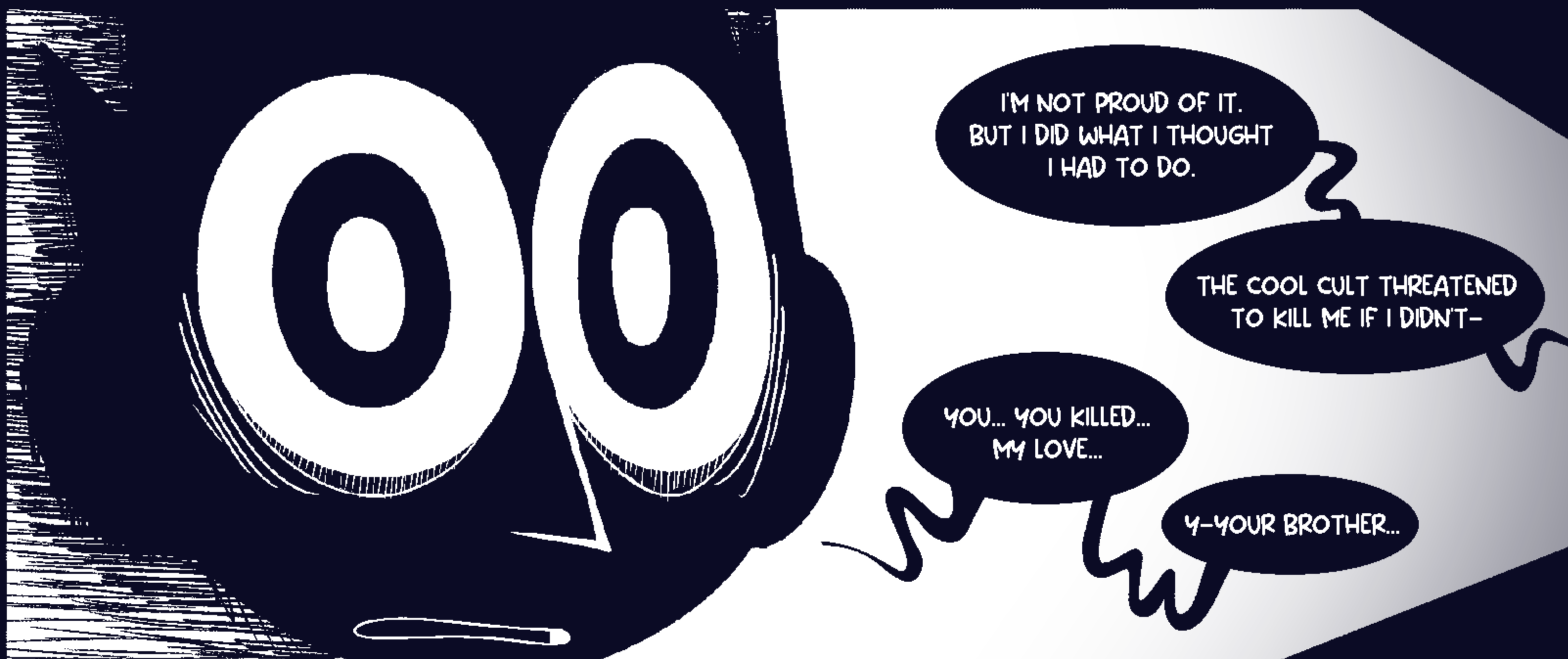




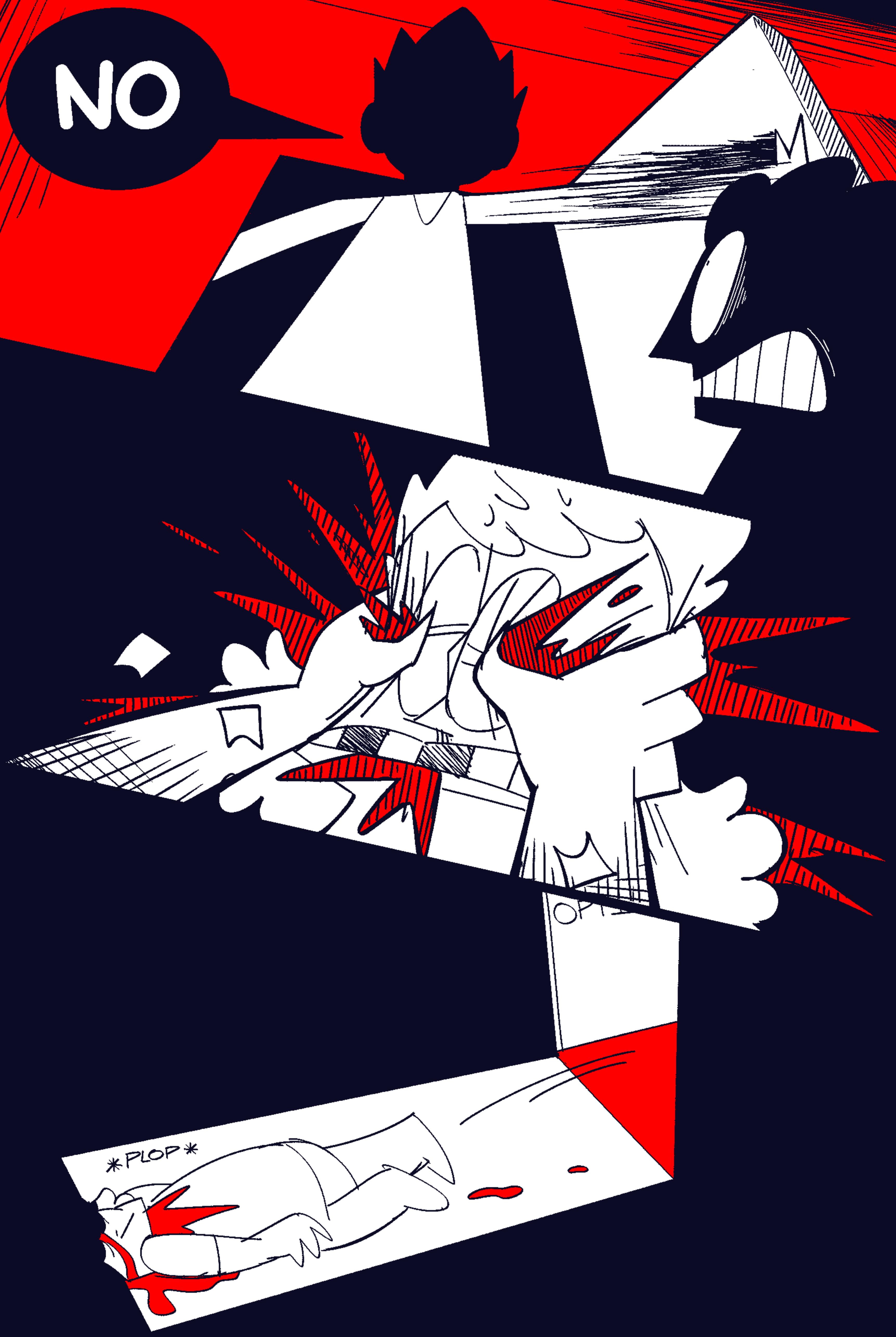


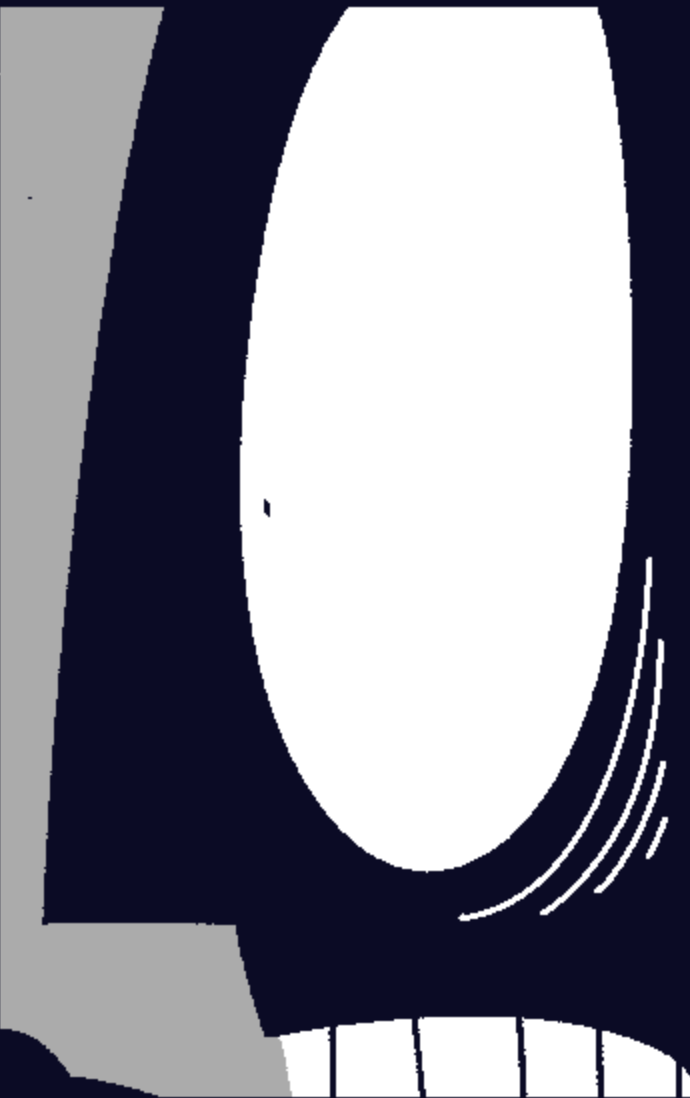
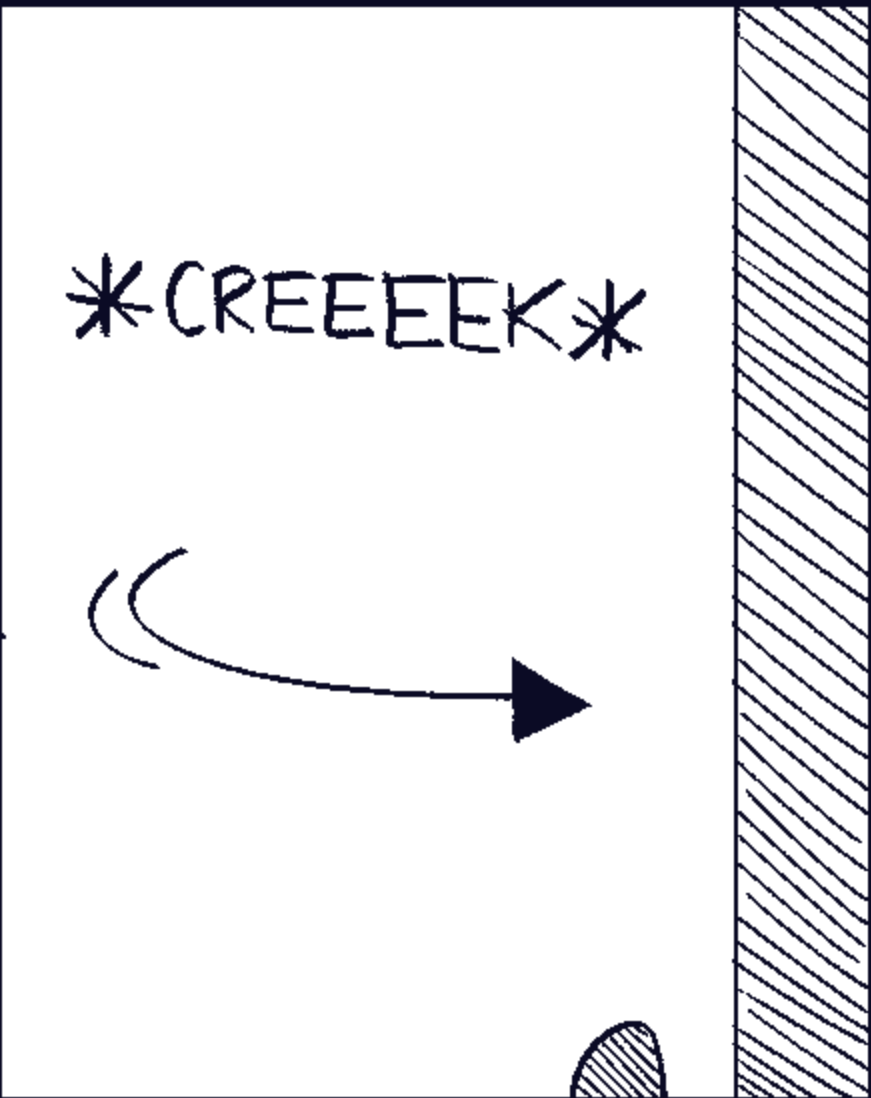
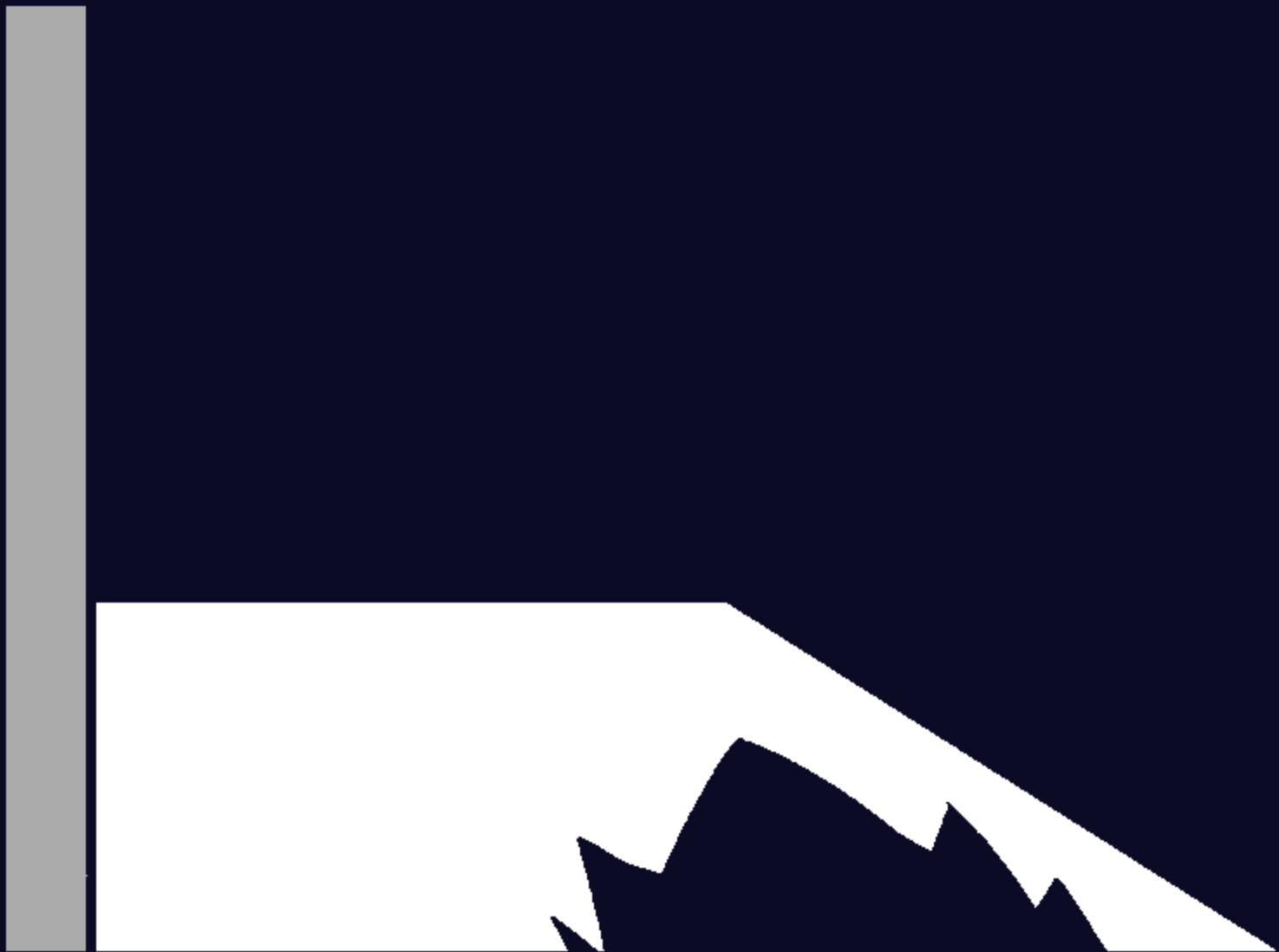
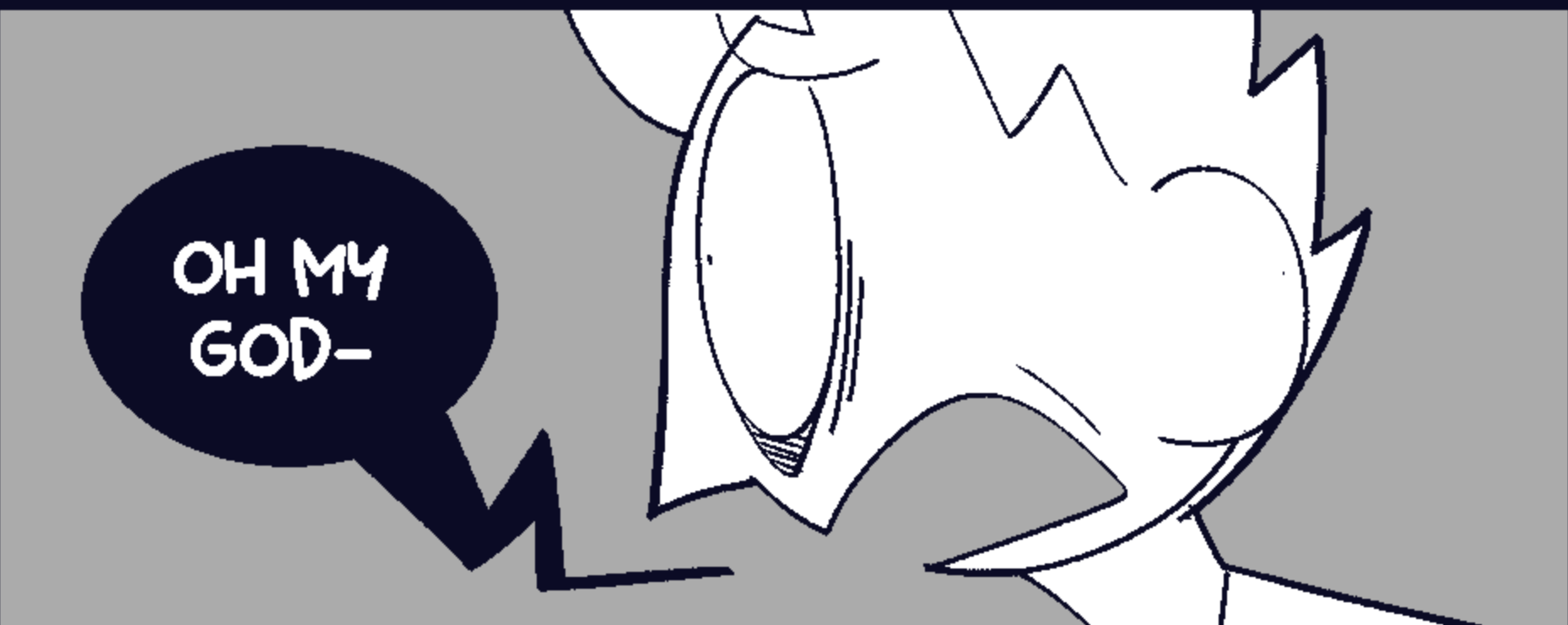
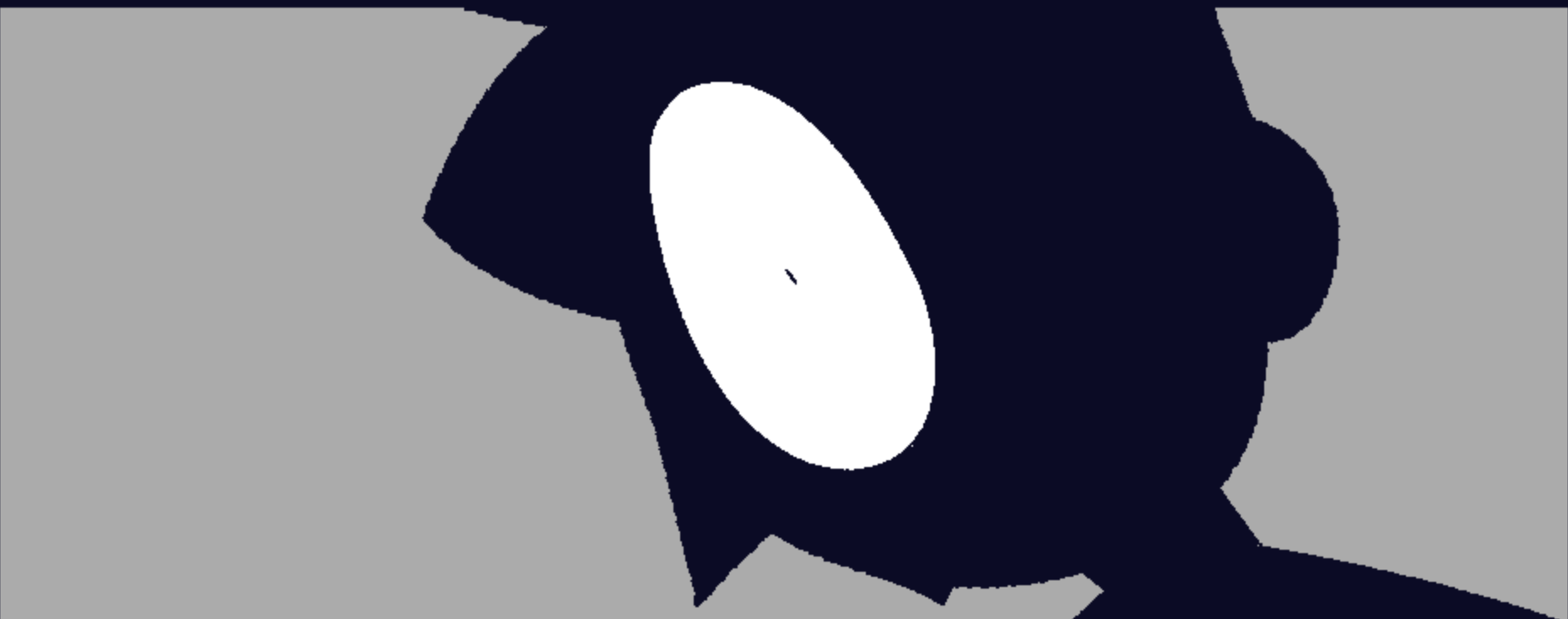


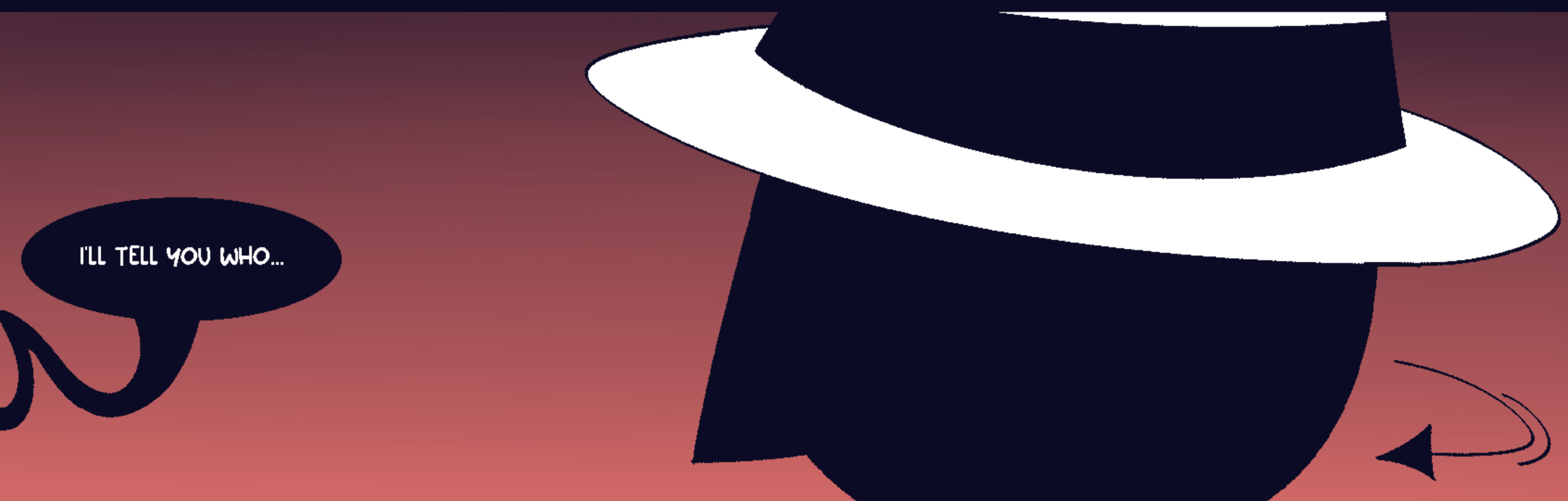
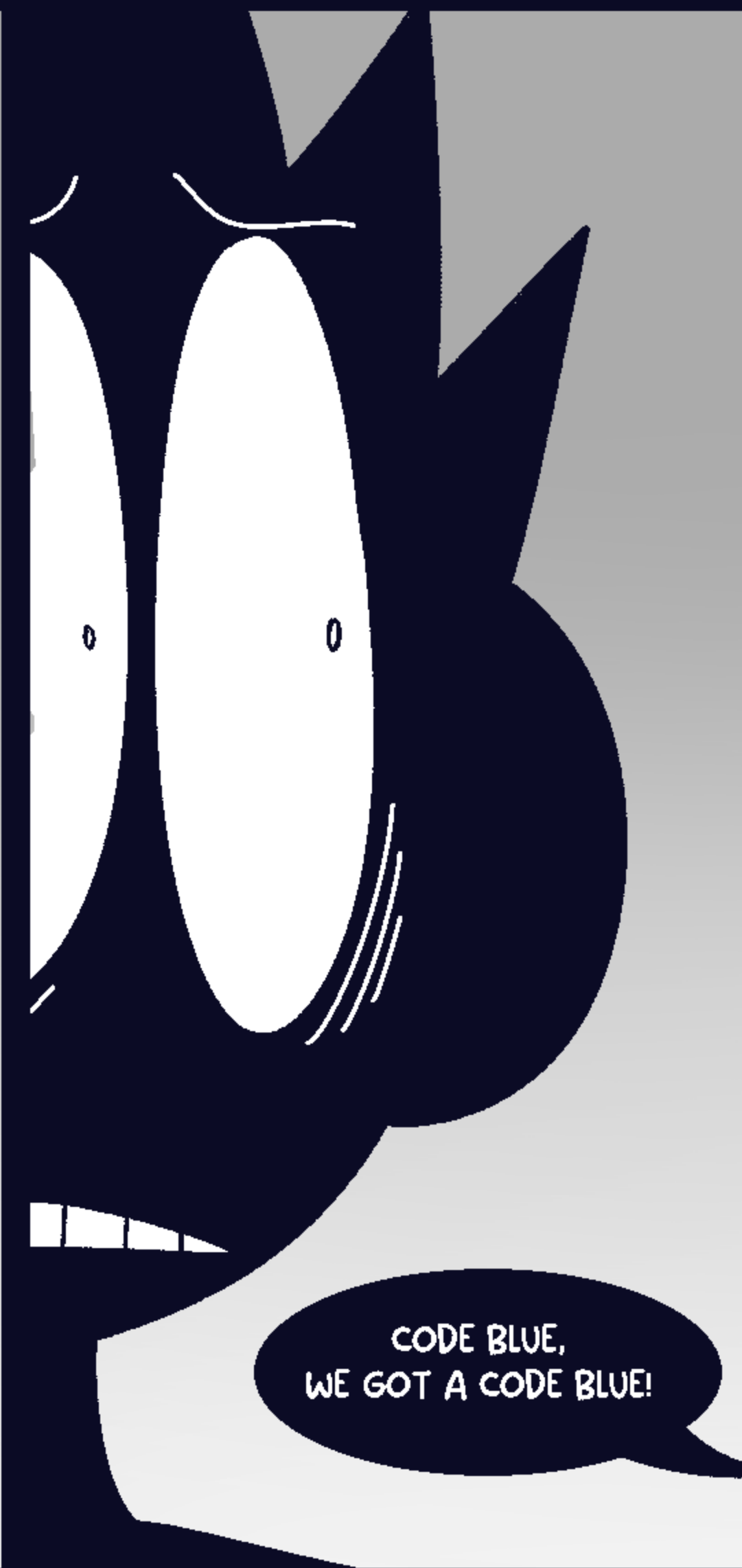
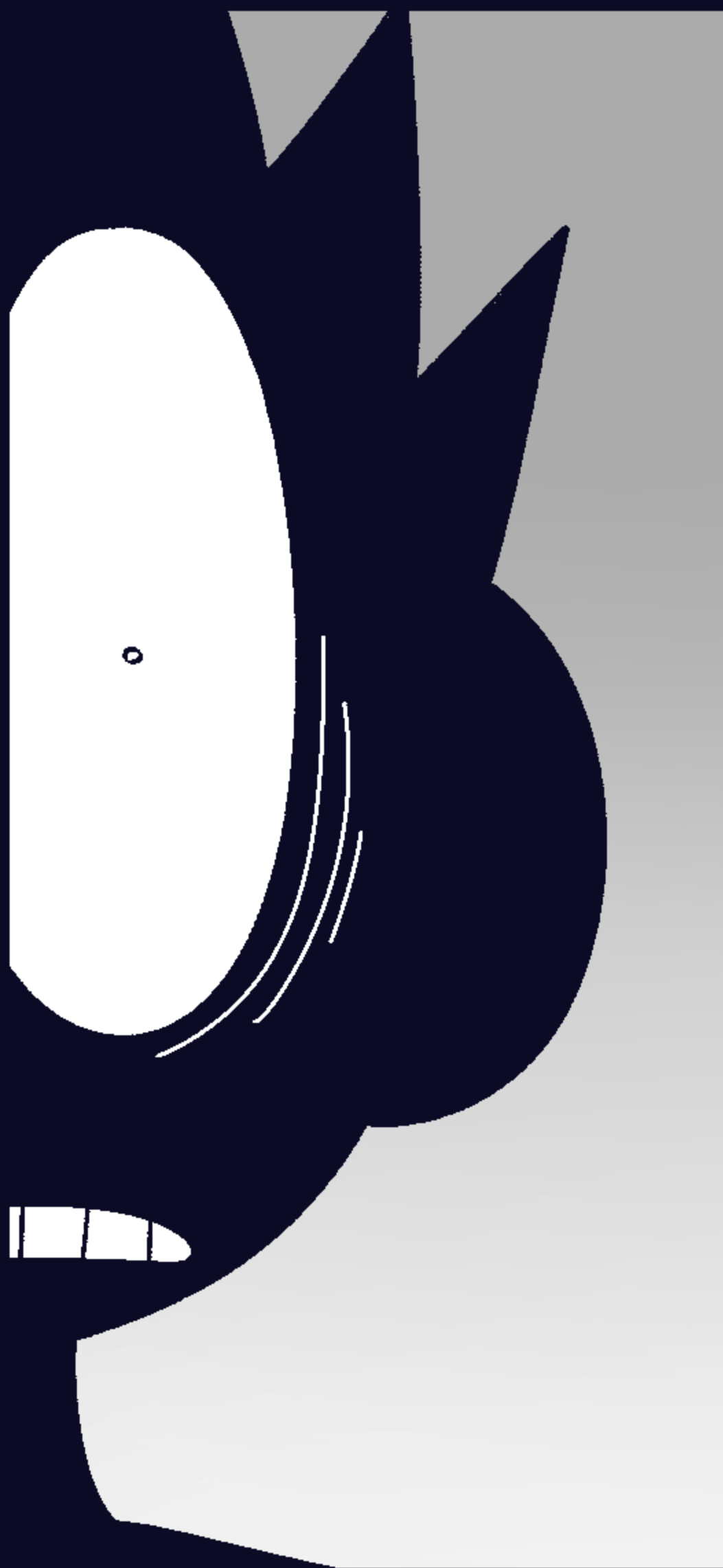




NO









IT WAS DILLON BONES,
A MONSTEROUS, TERRIFYING
SHAPESHIFTER. I SAW HIM
DO IT MYSELF.

HE TOOK OUT A GUN,
AND SHOT THE GUY, POINT BLANK.
HE EVEN ALMOST KILLED ME, THE ONE,
AND ONLY, ALFRED KEYLIME!

BUT I GOT THE
UPPER HAND.

WITH ALL OF MY STRENGTH,
I BEAT HIM TO A BLOODY PULP—

—AND THEN I, ALFRED KEYLIME,
THREW HIM INTO THE
THIRD OPTION.

DILLON BONES... IS DEAD...
AND HE'S NEVER COMING BACK.

END OF SEASON TWO

a salloony co production.

